

Paris: Modernity Today

Last Updated: Sun, 12/28/2025

Course prefix: FREN

Course number: 3017

Section: A

CRN (you may add up to five):
93660

Instructor First Name: Jean

Instructor Last Name: Ippolito

Semester: Fall

Academic year: 2025

Course description:

This course will explore contemporary Paris and its representations in light of its modern history and culture.

Course learning outcomes:

This course will invite students to

- explore the city as a center of cultural productions (art, architecture, literature, cinema...)
- study a metropolis (urbanism and socio-political perspectives)
- study the evolution of modernity and post-modernity in context (concepts)
- develop their abilities in French (contextual references, language styles)
- prepare for travel (include study abroad programs in Paris (intercultural objective))

Required course materials:

Freely available on Canvas and online.

Grading policy:

Weekly Postings on Canvas [20% of final grade];

2 Mini-Presentations in class based on your 2 essays [20% of final grade, 10% each].

2 Essays (40% of final grade, 20% each);

Active participation (20% of final grade)

A: 90-100 / **Superior performance.**

B: 80-89 / **Above-average, high-quality performance.**

C: 70-79 / **Average performance.**

D: 60-69 / **Below-average performance.** Needs substantive work.

F: 0-59 / **Unacceptable performance.**

Attendance policy:

Attendance is required (it is essential for your learning). Be on time as well as attendance will be taken at the beginning of each session (being late twice = 1 absence). You may have 2 unexcused absences maximum. I take attendance in class. An absence is excused if a) you are required to participate in an official GT activity (documentation required) b) you are under a doctor's care or scheduled an emergency doctor appointment (documentation required) c) you are granted a leave of absence from GT for reasonable cause by an academic dean (documentation required) d) documented illness or a significant life-event prevents you from attending class e) you are observing a major religious holiday f) going to a job/internship interview (documentation required).

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Writing area. Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question: How do I interpret the human experience through creative, linguistic, and philosophical works? Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome: Students will effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance, and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts or of works in the visual/performing arts.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies: Ethical Reasoning / Information Literacy / Intercultural Competence