This course will explore French politics, society and culture in the contemporary period. This semester, the course focus will be on the social, cultural and urban history of the city of Paris, from the eighteenth century to the present. Paris will be studied in comparison with other European and North American cities, through readings of memoirs, short primary documents, historical scholarship and viewing of video lectures and films.

The course will consist of weekly discussions based upon assigned readings. It is imperative that all students prepare the reading prior to the date indicated on the syllabus; this means you should have read the assigned pages and prepared topics for discussion: questions, items of interest, points for debate. Bring your questions, items and points to class in written form to ensure we have a lively discussion each class.

In addition, students will write four short papers (3 – 5 pages each) based upon the assigned readings; no additional research will be required for these papers (though students interested in research should consult the instructor to arrange bibliography and topics for such a project in lieu of one or more of the assigned papers.) Each paper will account for 20% of the semester grade, and class participation will account for 20%.

Required reading (books are available in UNLV bookstore)

- Colin Jones, *Paris: The Biography of a City*
- Gregor Dallas, *Metro Stop Paris: An Underground History of the City of Light*
- Alistair Horne, *The Fall of Paris: The Siege and the Commune 1870-1871*
- Stanley Karnow, *Paris in the Fifties*

This course will conform to all UNLV policies concerning student conduct, instructor responsibility and related matters, as outlined in the Provost’s Memo for Spring 2010 [http://provost.unlv.edu/downloads/UNLV_POLICIES_EVPP.pdf](http://provost.unlv.edu/downloads/UNLV_POLICIES_EVPP.pdf) and all policies outlined in that memo are considered to be part of this syllabus.
1 Jan 12 - 14  Introduction  Jones, xxi – xxv  
    Dallas 1 – 6  
    Rise of the French state  Jones, 1 – 130 (optional)  
    Jones, 132 – 172  
2 Jan 19 – 21  Enlightenment Paris  Jones, 173 – 214  
    Mercier, 23 – 68  
3 Jan 26 – 28  Old Regime Paris  Mercier, 69 – 230 (selection)  
4 Feb 2 – 4  Revolutionary Paris  Jones, 215 - 262  
5 Feb 9 – 11  Between the Empires  Jones, 263 – 298  
  First Essay due, Tuesday February 9  
6 Feb 16 - 18  Haussman and Modern Urbanism  
    Jones, 299 – 343  
7 Feb 23 – 25  Siege and Commune  Horne (selection)  
8 Mar 2 – 4  “Urban Revolution”  Horne (selection)  
9 Mar 9 – 11  “Lost Illusions” : The Belle Epoque and the Great War  
    Jones, 344 – 384  
  Second Essay Due Tuesday March 9  
10 Mar 16 – 18  Occupation  Cultural Civil War: Popular Front Years and the  
    Jones, 385 -425  
11 Mar 30 – Apr 2  Paris in the 50s  Karnow (selection)  
12 Apr 7 – 9  The Quiet Revolution  Jones, 426 - 474  
  Third Essay Due Thursday April 9  
13 Apr 14 – 16  Sites of Memory in Paris  Dallas, 7 - 132  
14 Apr 21 – 23  Sites of Memory (II)  Dallas, 132 - 240  
15 Apr 28 – 30  Final Review  
  Final Essay Due Thursday May 7