CIEE Paris, France

Course title: Paris Collage. History, Culture, Architecture
Course code: FRST 3101 PAFR
Programs offering course: Paris Open Campus Block
Open Campus Track: Language, Literature, and Culture
Language of instruction: English
U.S. semester credits: 3
Contact hours: 45
Term: Spring Block I 2020

Course Description

This course is a multi-faceted and multi-disciplinary approach to the evolution of the city of Paris, with an emphasis on the impact of cultural, social and political forces on the city's built environment. We will study how construction and urban planning activities on various scales negotiate demands for respecting and protecting the city's architectural heritage, on the one hand, and preserving Paris' role as a center of architectural/cultural innovation and avant-gardist experiments, on the other. We will analyze aesthetic and functional aspects of urban structures and individual buildings, learn about different architectural styles and urban planning approaches and how these have been shaped by given geographic and climatic factors as well as by contingent cultural movements and political ambition.

Beside theoretical lectures, the making of Paris is studied in the city itself through excursions that will take us to numerous places ranging from the Gallo-Roman forum to contemporary urban designs. These field trips will not only allow us to see Paris' major landmarks and gain insight into their history, but also to apply the architectural and urban planning vocabulary studied in class, and to recognize and classify different styles, symbols and materials. The course will involve a lot of walking: while comfortable and wear-resistant shoes will be most crucial, an umbrella or raincoat and a water bottle should likewise be part of your outfit.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:
• Gain an in-depth understanding of the historical, political, and socio-cultural factors at play in the construction of the city of Paris.
• Have the capacity to identify different architectural styles and their historical grounding throughout the city.
• Sharpen their skills of perception relating to architecture and urban design in general.

Course Prerequisites

None

Methods of Instruction

This course is taught through lectures, discussion of the assigned readings, and the study of images as well as architectural and urban plans. Excursions will offer the opportunity to visit some of the most significant Parisian buildings, squares, and parks from various historical periods. Student responses to readings and sites contribute significantly to discussion.

Excursion dates and locations are in the updated weekly schedule on Canvas. These are required elements of the course.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Drawings 10%
2. Quiz 1 10%
3. Quiz 2 10%
4. Three Individual Field Reports 30%
5. Peer Review of Individual Reports 10%
6. Group Presentation 10%
7. Class Participation 20%
   TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

Drawings

The purpose of these assignments is to summarize and visualize specific terms necessary in the description and analysis of architecture.
Quiz 1
Quiz 2

Quiz 1 covers vocabulary learnt during the first three weeks of class.

Quiz 2 involves identifying, dating and characterizing a number of selected sites and buildings visited during the field studies.

Three Individual Field Reports
Peer Review of Individual Reports

Students will choose three individual/independent field studies, or one every two weeks. For each of them, a 750-word written report will be submitted on Canvas.

For the second field report, a first version is submitted for peer review. The assigned reviewer will provide constructive criticism, based in part on areas mentioned by the writer as needing improvement (content, format…). The writer’s final report will take this into account as much as possible and where relevant; the final report should be publishable on-line and understandable by non-specialists, but it should also be interesting to those with insights on the subject.

Group Presentation

Students will be divided in groups. Each group will define a collective subject connected to the course and prepare a group presentation of 20 minutes (all students will participate in an active way during the preparations and the presentation). Presentations will take place in the classroom during our last session, with each group choosing an appropriate format adapted to the subject of their choice. Groups will be defined at the end of the second week of classes and each group’s subject submitted before the end of the fourth week of classes.

Class Participation

Participation is valued as meaningful contribution in the digital and tangible classroom, utilizing the resources and materials presented to students as part of the course. Meaningful contribution requires students to be prepared in advance of each class session and to have regular attendance. Students must clearly demonstrate
they have engaged with the materials as directed, for example, through classroom discussions, online discussion boards, peer-to-peer feedback (after presentations), interaction with guest speakers, and attentiveness on co-curricular and outside-of-classroom activities.

**Attendance**

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program, and all absences will result in a lower participation grade for any affected CIEE course. Due to the intensive schedules for Open Campus and Short Term programs, absences that constitute more than 10% of the total course will result in a written warning.

Students who transfer from one CIEE class to another during the add/drop period will not be considered absent from the first session(s) of their new class, provided they were marked present for the first session(s) of their original class. Otherwise, the absence(s) from the original class carry over to the new class and count against the grade in that class.

For CIEE classes, excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students must be marked absent.

Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as to any required field placement. Students may not miss placement/work hours at an internship or service learning site unless approved in advance by the Academic Director and placement supervisor. All students must complete all of the requisite 100 minimum work hours on site at the internship or service learning placement to be eligible for academic credit.

Students who miss class for personal travel, including unforeseen delays that arise as a result of personal travel, will be marked as absent. No make-up or re-sit opportunity will be provided.

Attendance policies also apply to any required class excursion, with the exception that some class excursions cannot accommodate any tardiness, and students risk being marked as absent if they fail to be present at the appointed time.

Absences for classes will lead to the following penalties:
N.B. Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, or local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Class 1.1 Guidelines for Architectural & Urban Analysis

Introductory lecture: “How to track 2000 years of history in today’s Paris”

Recommended background reading:


P. Simon, Paris Visite Guidée.

D. Busson, Paris, a Roman city, archaeological guides to France.

Class 1.2 Medieval Religious Paris

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Total Course Hours Missed</th>
<th>Minimum Penalty</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 10%</td>
<td>Participation graded as per class requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 – 20%</td>
<td>Participation graded as per class requirements, 3% grade penalty &amp; written warning</td>
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<tr>
<td>More than 20%</td>
<td>Automatic course failure, and possible expulsion</td>
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Lecture at CIEE and field study at Notre-Dame cathedral.

Recommended background reading:


Week 2
Class  2.1  Medieval Paris, a Fortified City

Lecture at CIEE and field study at the Castle of Vincennes.

Drawing 1 due: draw a Gothic structure in Paris.

Recommended background reading:


M. Fleury, V. Kruta, The Castle of the Louvre.

Class  2.2  Renaissance Paris

Lecture at CIEE and field study at the Louvre.

Drawing 2 due: draw a medieval fortification system.

Recommended background reading:


Week 3
Class  3.1  Towards a Modernization of Paris
Lecture at CIEE and field study in the Marais.

Drawing 3: draw the five orders.

Field report 1: submission on Canvas.

Class 3.2 17th Century Paris

Lecture at CIEE and field study at the Hôtel des Invalides.

Recommended background reading:

A. Ayers, The Architecture of Paris, p. 44; 56; 112-115; 122-124; 143-146;
177-178; 201; 333-348; 368-373.


Class 3.3 The Panthéon

Quiz 1 Lecture at CIEE and field study at the Panthéon.

Review vocabulary learnt in class.

Recommended background reading:


Week 4

Class 4.1 19th Century Bourgeois Paris

Lecture at CIEE and field study at the Opéra Garnier.

Recommended background reading:


Field report 2: published on Canvas for peer review.
Class  4.2  19th Century Working Class Paris

Lecture at CIEE and field study in the parc des Buttes-Chaumont.
Field report 2: peer review due on Canvas.

Class  4.3  Modern Movements

Lecture at CIEE and field study in the World Fair’s area.
Field report 2: final submission online.

Week 5

Class  5.1  Post-war Paris

Lecture at CIEE and field study at the Halles and the Centre Pompidou.
Group presentation: submit a 1-page written proposal (subject and format).

Recommended background reading:


Class  5.2  Today’s Paris I

Lecture at CIEE and field study at La Défense.

Recommended background reading:


Class  5.3  Today’s Paris II
Lecture at CIEE and field study in the Bercy / Rive Gauche districts.

Week 6

Class 6.1 Paris Tomorrow

Lecture at CIEE and field study at Clichy-Batignolles.

Class 6.2 Your Paris Collage: Group Presentations

Field report 3: submission on Canvas.

Class 6.3 Quiz 2

Course Materials

Readings