CIEE Paris, France

Course title: Paris Collage. History, Culture, Architecture (in English)
Course code: FRST 3101 PAFR (ENG)
Programs offering course: Summer in Paris
Open Campus Track: Language, Literature, and Culture
Language of instruction: English
U.S. semester credits: 3.00
Contact hours: 45.00
Term: Summer Session I 2022

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. An electronic reader available on Canvas will provide with an introduction to the Paris Collage lectures, with each “chapter” corresponding to one lecture. The weekly schedule also indicates homework and additional readings. You might not have time to read all these books, but it is highly recommended to skim through the main titles. 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. Homework 10%
2. Mid-term Quiz 15%
3. Final Quiz 15%
4. Field Reports (x3) 30%
5. Presentation 10%
6. Participation 20%
TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

Homework

Homework consists of drawing assignments due at the indicated class session. The purpose of these assignments is to summarize and visualize specific terms necessary in the description and analysis of architecture.

Mid-term Quiz

Final Quiz

The two quizzes cover the material presented and discussed during lectures and outings. They consist of short answers. The final quiz is cumulative.

Field Reports (x3)

During the program each student will write 3 field reports (3 pages each).

Presentation

At the end of the program each student will give a 10-minute oral presentation on a topic subject to the instructor’s approval.

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

To encourage engaged learning, regular class attendance is required throughout the program. This includes any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as internship, service-learning, or other required field placement.

An excused absence in a CIEE course will only be considered if approved by a CIEE Center Director/Academic Director (not the Instructor), and:

- it is a self-certified absence for illness (only once per course, requires formal request before or within 24 hours, cannot miss assessment worth more than 5% of final course grade)
- a doctor’s note from a local medical professional is provided
- evidence of a family emergency is provided
- it is a pre-approved observance of religious holiday

Unexcused absences include personal travel and/or travel delays, as well as missing more than 25% of a single class period (including tardiness and early departure). Assessments missed due to unexcused absences will be marked as zero. Students with over 10% unexcused absences will be contacted by CIEE staff. Students with over 20% unexcused absences will be contacted by CIEE staff, receive a formal warning letter (shared with their home institution) and lose 10% of the final course point total (e.g., a final A grade of 93% will be lowered to a B grade of 83%).

For more detail, please consult your CIEE Academic Manual.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to a positive and inclusive teaching and learning environment. All students are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness, respect, and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking
unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else’s work as your own can result in grade penalties or disciplinary action. See the CIEE Student Academic Manual for further information on academic integrity.

N.B. Course schedule and co-curriculars are subject to change. The final duration and distribution of content and assignments will be determined and presented to students at the onset of the course.

Weekly Schedule
Week 1
Class:   1.1 Guidelines for Architectural & Urban Analysis
Introductory lecture followed by a field study, how to track 2000 years of history in today’s Paris.

Recommended background reading:

Class:   1.2 Medieval Religious Paris
Lecture and field study at the Notre-Dame cathedral.

Recommended background reading:

Week 2
Class:   2.1 Medieval Paris: A Fortified City
A field study at the castle of Vincennes then lecture at CIEE.
Meet at 15 outside Métro 1 château de Vincennes, exit château de Vincennes.

Home-work 1: Draw a Gothic structure in Paris

Recommended background reading:

Class:   2.2 Renaissance Paris
Lecture and field study at the Louvre

Field Report 1 & Home-work 2 and draw a medieval fortification, due.

Recommended background reading:
Mid-term Quiz & The Marais

Mid-term quiz and a field study in the Marais.

*Home-work 3: Draw the five orders*

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**Week 3**

**Class: 3.1  Eighteenth-Century Paris**

Field study at the *Panthéon* then lecture at CIEE.

Meet at 3pm outside métro Odéon (lines 4 and 10).

**Recommended background reading:**


**Class: 3.2 Nineteenth-Century Paris**

Field study at the *Opéra Garnier* then lecture at CIEE.

Meet at 15 on the stairs of the Opéra Garnier Métro 3/7/8 Opéra.

**Field report 2 due**

**Recommended background reading:**


**Class: 3.3 Modern Movements & Post-War Paris**

Lecture and a field study at les Halles and Centre Pompidou

*Home-work 6: draw Haussmann Paris.*

**Recommended background reading:**


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**Week 4**

**Class: 4.1 Western Greater Paris**

Day trip -- field study Maison-Lafitte, Saint-Germain en Laye and La Défense.

**Class: 4.2 Paris Today**

Class and a field study in the districts Bercy and Rive Gauche.

*Home-work 7: Draw a modern movement and a Post-War structure*

**Recommended background reading:**


Class:  4.3  Final Quiz & Paris Tomorrow

**Final quiz, lecture** and field study at Clichy Batignolles.

Class:  4.4  Your Paris Collage

**In class** presentations.

**Field report 3 due**

**Course Materials**

**Readings**

See detailed course outline.