

The University of Western Ontario
Department of French Studies
FR2121B Taking it to the Streets : Public Manifestations in the French-Speaking World
Winter 2023

Instructor : Mario Longtin
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Office: UC4122
Office Hours: Tuesday mornings

Prerequisite: None

Course description: It is widely believed in the English world that French people are unlikely to remain inactive when confronted with situations they deem unacceptable; that they would undoubtedly take their grievances to the streets. It is also a cliché that French go on strike too often for the liking of tourists who wish to experience a Paris free of social unrest. What makes the French more likely to take to the streets; to disobey, to rebel against authority? This course will offer ways to engage and think "la différence française". We will reflect on what it means to challenge authority, what are the reasons to challenge it, and what form the "contestation" can take. We have chosen to explore 8 moments of French history. Each period of unrest will be explained in a 100 minute lecture format followed by a 50 minute workshop investigating an important document (archives, painting, film, newspaper clipping, etc.).

Book to buy: (available at the Bookstore)

Traverso, Enzo, *Revolution. An Intellectual History*, Verso, New York, 2021, 480p.

OWL

Students are responsible for checking the course OWL site (<http://owl.uwo.ca>) on a regular basis for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class (<http://owl.uwo.ca>).

Learning Outcomes / Course Objectives

- * Enable students to analyse and critically approach social movements in France
- * Provide an interdisciplinary understanding of French social conflicts and their resolutions
- * Develop an understanding of French history and culture
- * Develop critical thinking, and analytical oral and writing skills

Methods of Evaluation

Tests X 2 (15)	30%
Take home	25%

Oral Presentation	15%
Biases Exposed	
Final Exam	30%

Course Schedule

See online OWL site

Important Sessional Dates

Test: are made up of 10 questions about material cover in class and concept taken from Traverso's book *Revolution*. **Test 1 (Feb. 2nd); Test 2 (March 2nd)**

Take Home: Question: Where have you or would you demonstrate? And how would that compare to what you've learn so far about demonstration in France? **Due on February 28th**

Oral Presentation: Students choose a newspaper article written in English or in French about an event, a political decision, a social movement that brought the French to "take it to the streets". Student will discuss the biases of the article in class. **From February 28th to April 6th**

Final Exam: Essay questions on concepts we covered during term and shorter answer question on selected Oral Presentation in class. (3 hours)

Contingency plan for an in-person class pivoting to 100% online learning

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, affected course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

Course Policies

Participation and Attendance: Students are expected to attend both weekly lectures and come prepared to discuss the week's readings. Should a student need to miss class, a courtesy explanatory email is appreciated.

NOTE: If a student misses 2 weeks of classes without a proper reason (e.g. illness, bereavement), they will receive a zero grade for Presence and Participation.

Correspondence Statement: Emails to the instructor will be responded within 48 hours.

Late Assignments: Late assignments will only be accepted without penalty if a prior agreement with the instructor has been made, or if a valid medical certificate is provided. In the event that a student is unable to meet a deadline, for medical or other reasons, it is the student's responsibility to negotiate an alternate deadline with the instructor, prior to the original assignment deadline. Revised deadlines will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Students who submit late assignments without making a prior agreement with the instructor will be penalized 5% for every 24-hour period after the assignment due date. The 5% penalty also applies to students who fail to submit an assignment on the agreed upon alternate date.

Scholastic Offences: Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2009/pg113.html>.

Plagiarism: "Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see the 'Scholastic Offense Policy' in the Western Academic Calendar). Plagiarism checking: The University of Western Ontario uses software for plagiarism checking. Students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form for plagiarism checking." - U.W.O. Senate statement on plagiarism.

Support Services

Academic Counselling: Your Home Faculty's Academic Counselling or Academic Advising Office will support or refer whenever you have an issue that is affecting your studies, including information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters. Do not hesitate to reach out to them if you are struggling and unsure where to go for help. Contact info for all Faculties is here:

https://registrar.uwo.ca/faculty_academic_counselling.html

Mental Health Support: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<https://uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Statement of Recognition: "Western University is situated on the traditional land of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Lenape and Attawandaron peoples who have

longstanding relationships to the region of southwestern Ontario and the City of London. In close proximity to Western, there are 3 local First Nations communities: the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, and Munsee Delaware Nation. In the region of southwestern Ontario, there are 9 First Nations and a growing Indigenous urban population. Western recognizes the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original peoples of Turtle Island (North America) to the development of Canada.”