

**HIST 2991b/4991b: France and the Mediterranean World**  
**Summer 2019, Glories of France**

Monday – Thursday 1:00pm-3:00pm (Class period 3)

Instructor: Charles Chamberlain, History Department, UNO

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Montpellier's location offers a firsthand opportunity to experience the South of France's rich Mediterranean history and culture in this class, which examines the ancient and modern legacies of colonialism, immigration, and assimilation. In-class lectures provide content and preparation, but the learning experience emphasizes walking tours and day trips to local ancient historic sites and museums, North African markets, and other nearby sites.

**Course Description:**

**HIST 2991/4991: France and Mediterranean World** is an overview of South of France history and an introduction to public history theory, practices, and evolution as applied in the South of France. The course has two main aims:

- 1) To explore the South of France's historic and cultural connections to the Mediterranean Basin both historically and in the modern period.
- 2) The help students to develop the basic techniques of understanding the process of historical scholarship, and creating history. Emphasis will be placed on the use of public space for historical interpretation and celebration, as well as the role of religious, regional, and national identity in the urban landscape of Montpellier.

**Grading:** will be assigned based on the following percentages for levels 2991 and 4991:

**HIST 2991:**

Mid-term exam: 25%    Final Exam: 25%    Class participation: 25%  
Presentation: 25%

**HIST 4991:**

Mid-term exam: 25%    Final Exam: 25%    Class Participation: 25%  
Final Presentation and Research Paper: 25%

**Academic Integrity:** Honesty and respect for your work and for the work of others are essential to your success in this course and in university life in general. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. This includes cheating and plagiarism. Proper social science citation methods will be required on essays. For further details on academic integrity, see the UNO Judicial Code, available at: <http://www.uno.edu/student-affairs/documents/Student-Code-of-Conduct-rev-2018.pdf>

**Attendance is mandatory.** Except for severe emergencies, more than one absence will reduce your grade significantly. You are expected to be in class on time each day, ready to engage and be an active participant.

**Disabilities:** I will do my best to accommodate the needs of students with disabilities. Please feel free to contact me about your needs. **If you have a disability, please contact the Program Coordinator, Robyn White ([RLWhite3@uno.edu](mailto:RLWhite3@uno.edu)) as soon as possible so that we can best accommodate you.**

### **Required Readings:**

Gustaf Sobin, *Luminous Debris: Reflecting on Vestige in Provence and Languedoc* (1999)

Edwin Mullins, *The Roman Provence Guide* (2012)

David Abulafia, ed., *The Mediterranean in History* (2003) (excerpts)

### **Additional Readings of interest:**

Miriam Cook and Erdag Goknar, eds., *Mediterranean Passages: Readings from From Dido to Derrida* (2012)

John Julius Norwich, *Middle Sea: A History of the Mediterranean* (2007)

Elizabeth Fraser, *Mediterranean Encounters: Artists between Europe and the Ottoman Empire, 1774-1839* (2017)

Patricia M.E. Lorcin and Todd Shepard: *French Mediterraneans: Transnational and Imperial Histories* (2016)

Gavin Murray, *The Cult of the Modern: Trans-Mediterranean France and the Construction of French Modernity* (2017)

Todd Shepard, *The Invention of Decolonization: The Algerian War and the Remaking of France* (2006)

Christophe Picard, *Sea of the Caliphs: The Mediterranean in the Medieval Islamic World* (2017)

Gillian Weiss, *Captives and Corsairs: France and Slavery in the Early Modern Mediterranean* (2013)

## **Class Schedule:**

### **Week One (July 1 – July 7):**

- 7/2: Orientation / 30 min. class meeting & course overview
- 7/3: Introduction to Course Themes  
Overview of France and Mediterranean geography, language, culture, religion and identity – excerpts from David Abulafia *The Mediterranean in History*: “*What is the Mediterranean?*” and “*A Globalized Mediterranean*”
- 7/4: Prep for Paris: Overview of Paris geography and historic sites  
Sobin: Part 1                      Mullins: Intro-5
- 7/5: Depart Early – arrival in Paris
- 7/6: Paris Museums: Musée d’Orsay  
Suggested: Musée National de l’Histoire d’Immigration (National Museum of Immigration History) and the Quai Branly Museum
- 7/7: Return from Paris

### **Week Two (July 8-11):**

- 7/8: Roman Gaul and the Mediterranean World  
Sobin: Part II                      Mullins 6-8
- 7/9: Walking Tour of Roman Montpellier: Jardin du Champ de Mars, Place de la Comédie, Eglise Saint-Roch, Notre Dame des Tables de Montpellier, Musées Languedocien and Vieux Montpellier
- 7/10: Pavalas Les Flots - Beach Trip in the afternoon
- 7/11: Review of Site Archéologique Lattara, Lattes and other Pre-Roman sites  
Mullins: 9-Epilogue

### **Week Three (July 15 – July 18)**

- 7/15: Medieval Islam and the French Mediterranean
- 7/16: Prep for Arles:  
Sobin: Parts III & IV
- 7/17: Arles Field Trip

7/18: No Class – Mid-term due

**Week Four** (July 22- July 25)

7/22 Virtual Field Trip to Nimes: Musée de la Romanité (opened 2018), Arene de Nimes, Maison Carrée

7/23: Modern Colonialism: Immigration and Identity in the South of France  
Prep for St. Guilhem-le-Désert Trip  
Afternoon Field Trip Musée Fabre

7/24: St. Guilhem-le-Désert Trip

7/25: Walking Tour: Gambetta

**Week Five** (July 29-Aug. 1)

7/29: Final Presentations

7/30: Final Presentations

7/31 Final Exam Due (for all students) / Research Paper (for 4991 students)