MAYMESTER TRAVELING SEMINAR
THE MANY FACES OF FRANCE:
Aix-en-Provence, Marseille, Lyon, Strasbourg, Paris
Cities from above, cities from below

FRE/CUL 345/545
HIS/ART 375/575
3 CREDITS (45 CONTACT HOURS)
May, 17th - June, 2nd

PROFESSORS:
Aurore Guitry, coordinator, center of French studies, Professor, aurore.guitry@iau.edu
Suzanne Canessa, Professor, suzanne.canessa@iau.edu

PROGRAM WEBSITE: https://iau.edu/maymester

**Important Notice:** One of the goals of IAU/ACM traveling seminars is to provide students with access to multiple cities in order for them to gain as great a perspective as possible related to the course content. The travel aspect of the program is critical to its success, but can also sometimes pose logistical challenges. Therefore, due to issues related to global security, industry-related strikes, inflated travel costs, and health and well-being issues that are specific to regions in which the seminars are scheduled to take place, IAU/ACM reserves the right to modify the itinerary accordingly and will communicate any changes to the students as soon as they are known.

I. ACADEMIC & PROGRAM OVERVIEW
IAU/ACM’s Maymester Traveling Seminar is designed for students interested in academic and cultural experience throughout various regions of France. Students explore major cities and cultural sites across the country focusing on cultural heritage and the diversity of the backgrounds as a guide to better understanding the complexity of France. Through lectures, readings, media studies, and creative writing, students will experience and reflect on portraits of France that might not always seem apparent from a distance. Site visits and guided tours will allow students to experience each city’s visible and hidden faces. The students will experience the historical, artistic literary foundations at the heart of France’s cultural and linguistic variety. Entitled Cities from above, Cities from below, this maymester will allow students to learn from and exchange their observation with experts from IAU/ACM as well as will distinguished on-site scholars, artists, and local guides in order to frame their own perception of France’s roots, identities and margins.

II. CONTACT HOURS
This course carries 3 credits or 45 contact hours. Students complete readings prior to the program and finalize their assignments after departure, which extends the academics of the component past the on-site components. Lectures and site-visits are conducted 7-days per week throughout the Maymester.

III. PARTICIPATION
- Open to undergraduate study abroad students seeking a short-term experience abroad. For the courses taught in French, a minimum of four semesters of college French is required.
ACM’s MAIR and MAFS students are required as part of their program to participate. First-year MFA students may choose to participate in this Maymester program or in next year’s January Term program. BA students are invited to participate in this Maymester program.

IV. MAYMESTER OBJECTIVES
- Through lectures, in-class discussions, site visits and student presentations, develop both a broad and accurate view through detailed, hands-on experience.
- Synthesize the site visits with the course material in order to experience high-impact learning.
- Develop an ongoing thread that ties together the various different aspects studied and the regions, cities and specific sites visited.

V. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES
- Site visits
- Seminars and Lectures
- Discussions/Reading Assignments for each place visited
- Student Presentations and/or written/cinematic analyses
- Creative writing

VI. COURSES

○ Course linguistic objectives
  - Students will improve their language skills (competency in French and lexical repertoire) through the discovery of French sites, texts and during the discussions on sites.
  - Students will learn to shed light on official history through unofficial history.
  - This maymester will provide an understanding of France through its arts, monuments, great artists.
  - Students will study French history, from Antiquity to the end of 20th century by visiting monuments, museum, and through lectures and personal readings.
  - Students will also discover marginal and unusual places.
  - The maymester offers a multidisciplinary and varied education, as evidenced by the sites chosen.

Course cultural objectives:
Students will:
- Better understand and thus clearly articulate the history and geography of France, and embrace its identities by using a variety of medias (theater, poetry, works of art, movies, essays, etc.)
- Articulate the official History with the unofficial one.
  - Be able to distinguish the obvious and the hidden aspects of a city or a work.
  - Contrast and Measure these French Cultural particularities with their own experience and cultural background
- Describe and analyse the monuments and engage those monuments in dialogue with literary texts or documents provided by the professors.
- Write an analysis of the sites in the journal along with a creative text so to reveal the cities from above and from below.
FRE/HIS/ ART 375/575: The Cultural and Artistic Roots of the French Identities (in French)

- **Primary Sources:** Book chapters, press and academic articles, video interviews, movies and documentaries will be made available through a reader and an online learning platform for this course (MS TEAMS). Among them:
  - **Aix-en-Provence, Marseille, and Provence**
    - Médée, Euripide.
    - “D’Aqua Sextiae à Aix”, revue Histoire Antique
    - “La Provence aux XVIe-XVIIIe siècles”, revue Historia
  - **Lyon**
    - Médée, Sénèque.
    - "Lyon médiévale, moderne et contemporaine”, site du Grand Espace Historique Urbain de Lyon.
    - Daniel Cordier (résistant et secrétaire de Jean Moulin): "Nous n’étions pas des résistants, nous étions des soldats”, vidéo / interview disponible sur France Culture.
    - Maurice Scève, Saône et Rhône.
    - Les confessions d’un enfant du siècle, Alfred de Musset.
    - « Prière aux vivants pour leur pardonner d’être vivants » Charlotte Delbo.
    - L’Incroyable histoire du Facteur Cheval film réalisé par Niels Tavernier.
    - « Vous, tireailleurs sénégalais », Léopold Sedar Senghor.
  - **Strasbourg**
    - Goethe, Poésie et vérité, souvenirs de ma vie.
    - Usages de la propagande, Sébastien le Pajolec, Nouveau Monde éditions, Sociétés et représentations.
  - **Paris**
    - Journal d’un Voyageur, Georges Sand.
    - Incipit de L’Etranger de Camus et de Meursault contre-enquête de Kamel Daoud.
    - Extrait du livre Premier des Misérables de Victor Hugo.

- **Course Learning Outcomes:** Each region / city covered will be the occasion to study and discuss a major aspect of French History, in all its components: the Provencal region will be related to the Greco-Roman Heritage, Lyon to WW2, the resistance and the Senegalese Tirailleurs, Strasbourg to France in the 2nd half of the 19th cent., the Franco-Prussian war of 1870 and the evolution of the relations between France and Germany until the creation of the ECSC (1951) and the EEC (1957). Paris will be connected to the medieval period and French Revolution (1789-1804) and its aftermaths. Based on this, the students will:
  - Demonstrate understanding of the major historical and cultural steps which led to the birth of France as a Modern State.
• Appraise and Question how these cultural steps turned into values and cultural components and how they integrate (or not) Modern French Society.

• Sharpen and value their understanding of urban landscape, visual art and French literature.
• Develop skills and analytical methods for synthesizing hands-on experience and documentary research.

VII. EVALUATION AND GRADING

• **Participation and Attendance (20%)**
  The primary requirements are that you attend each and every class and activity, keep up with the reading, and participate in class discussion. While never impossible, the reading assignments are sometimes long and always challenging, so allow ample time to complete them. This is not a lecture course, and its success very much depends on everyone present, prepared, curious, and open to debate. This is an active seminar, requiring active participation in the dialogue, curiosity and committed note-taking.

• **Presentation (20%)**
  In Strasbourg, the students will chose and visit a museum or an important monument related to the maymester’s theme “City from above, city from below” that they will present in French to their classmates. The professors will provide the students with a “presentation guide” to know exactly what is expected from them.

• **Journal (60%)**
  Students will have to write a journal with two entries for every day of visit. The first entry will be factual. (1 page minimum for the undergraduates/ 2 pages minimum for the masters). They will record what they have discovered, learned, what they have found surprising, interesting etc... and how they relate all this to their specialties.
  The second entry will be more creative and will rely on the instructions given by the professor at the end of each day.
  Journals have to be sent to the corresponding professors according to this schedule:

  - **Sat, May 21st (for the Provencal part):** Suzanne Canessa (suzanne.canessa@iau.edu) (written in French).
  - **Wed, May 26th (for Lyon):** Suzanne Canessa (suzanne.canessa@iau.edu) (written in French).
  - **Sun, May 29th (for Strasbourg):** Aurore Guitry (aurore.guitry@iau.edu) (written in French),
  - **Wed, June 8th (For Paris):** Aurore Guitry (aurore.guitry@iau.edu) (written in French),

  **Format of the journal for each part:** 2,000 – 2,500 words (approx. 4 to 8 pages), Times, 12, single space. It corresponds approx. to 500 - 750 words per entry.
Grading Scale:

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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>95-100%</td>
<td>17/20 and more</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>90-94%</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>89%-88%</td>
<td>15/20</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84-87%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-83%</td>
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<td>F</td>
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<td>6/20 and less</td>
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Attendance:
Students are required to attend all classes, site visits, and class activities barring serious illness or an emergency.

Plagiarism:
Submitting material that in part or in whole is not entirely one’s own work without attributing those same portions to their correct source is prohibited and grounds for failure.

Accommodations:
It is IAU-ACM’s goal to provide reasonable accommodations for students with a documented disability. If students need accommodations to fully participate in this class, they should contact enroll@iau.edu right away.

VIII. OTHER INFORMATION

General Travel Advisory: This trip is a serious one, both academically and culturally. Students are expected to be prepared for intellectual, linguistic, social, and travel challenges. We are traveling as a team, and each member must be prepared, punctual, cautious, and professional. With those important caveats, the trip promises to be an incredible experience, including fun and adventure. That said, be always aware of your surroundings, keeping your valuables close to you. Do not leave smartphones, cameras, etc. unattended. Travel as lightly as possible. Report any suspicious behavior to program supervisors.

Pre-Departure: Leading up to departure, be sure to check your email diligently so we can get in touch with you should there be any adjustments to the program.
IX. ITINERARY

Please note that this is subject to change.

Tuesday, May 17 - Thursday, May, 19th = Aix en Provence/ Marseille

May, 17th: Arrival/// Orientation.
May, 19th: Aix en Provence by the Masters./// train to Lyon.

Friday, May 20th – Monday, May 23rd = Lyon

May 20th: Sous-terrain de Fort de Vaise /// Fourvière
May 21th: Musée des tata sénégalais/ Centre résistance/ déportation
May 22nd: Free day
May, 23rd: Palais du facteur cheval/ Train to Strasbourg

Tuesday, May 24th – Friday, May 27th: Strasbourg

May, 24th: Free morning/// Musée d’art moderne et contemporain de Strasbourg
May, 25th, Musée Ungerer/// Free Afternoon.
May 26th: Quartier européen/// quartier allemande

May 27th Petite France/// Train to Paris

Saturday, May 28th - Thursday, June 2nd

May, 28th: Musée de Cluny /// Institut du monde arabe/// Catacombes
May, 29th : Versailles (Jardins, château, Trianon).
May, 30th : Free day
May, 31st: Le Musée d’Art modern/// La maison de Victor Hugo.
June, 1st : Le musée Jacquemart André///Le musée d’Orsay
June, 2nd: Departure according to individual schedules