

University of California, San Diego  
Political Science 120C

*Politics in France*

Winter 2001  
MWF: 11:15 -12:05 –  
Rm: Peterson 104

Prof. William M. Chandler  
SSB 385 /Ext. 21734  
Off. Hrs: M-W, 1:30-2:30pm

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**General:** This course examines the development and functioning of the French political system with particular focus on the Fifth Republic. It includes analysis of political institutions, ideological traditions, party system, organized interests and leadership. External relations and issues of European integration constitute additional focal points for understanding French politics.

**Evaluation:**

The final grade will be based on a **Mid-Term (40%)** and a **Final Examination (60%)**. The Mid-term is tentatively scheduled for **Monday, February 5, 2001**. The final exam is scheduled for **March 22, 2001 at 11:30 am**.

**Basic Readings:** (available in Bookstore):

William Safran, *The French Polity*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition 1998 (Longmans)

William Chandler, ed., *State and Society in France* (Coursepack 2001 available from URPS)

**I. Political Traditions: Louis XIV to Jacques Chirac**

**Readings:**

Safran, chapters 1,2

Anne Stevens, "The Impact of the French Revolution".

Michael Marrus, "En Famille: the Dreyfus Affair and its Myths".

Charles Cogan, *Charles de Gaulle* (1996), pp.. 26-35, 41-55.

Roger Cohen, "The French Memory and the War", 1997.

## ***II. Political Institutions and Elites***

### ***Readings:***

- Safran, Chapters 6, 7, and 8  
 Elgie and Machin 1991 "France: The Limits of Prime-Ministerial Government in a Semi-Presidential System".  
 A. Cole 1993 "The Presidential Party in the Fifth Republic".  
 John Frears 1990, "The French Parliament: Loyal Workhorse, Poor Watchdog".  
 A. Stone 1992 "Where Judicial Politics Are Legislative Politics; The French Constitutional Council" CP.  
 Robert Graham, "Lie back and think of France" 1998.  
**"Splits emerge as France alters its constitution", *Financial Times*, 14 June 2000.**

### ***Optional :***

- Dogan, M., "How to Become a Cabinet Minister in France", *Comparative Politics* (1979)  
 Wright and Mény, *Centre-Periphery Relations in Western Europe*.  
 Suleiman, "Presidential Government in France" in Rose and Suleiman, pp. 94-138

## ***III. Ideological Divisions and Party Politics***

- a) Cleavage Bases in the French Party System,
- b) Electoral Trends
- c) Mass Mobilization and Political Protest, Electoral trends

### ***Readings:***

- Safran, chapters 3,4,  
 Nonna Mayer 1995, "Elections and the Left-Right Division in France".  
 Michael Lewis-Beck, "Class, Religion, and the French Voter: A 'Stalled' Electorate?"  
 Pascal Perrineau 1995 "Election Cycles and Changing Patterns of Political Behavior in France".  
 Frank L. Wilson 1998, "The French Right in Search of Itself".  
 Pascal Perrineau and Colette Ysmal, *Le Vote Surprise*, TABLES/ MAPS on 1997 Legislative elections.  
***Le Monde* 3 June 1999, "Un vote sanction pur et dur", (8 Tables)**

### ***Optional :***

- Wiley, *Village in the Vaucluse*.

**MID-TERM EXAMINATION: Monday, February 5, 2001**

## ***IV. Elites and the Governing Process***

### ***Readings:***

- A. Knapp 1991, "The Cumul des Mandats...in France".  
 Andrew Jack, 1997, "Crème de la crème, sans MBA".  
 "Lionel Jospin ..." *Economist*, 15 Jan 2000.  
 "Jacques Chirac ..." *Economist*, 31 July 1999.  
*Economist*, "Shenanigans in France", 4 Nov 2000, pp. 53-4.

## ***V. Organized Interests and Protest Politics***

### ***Readings:***

- Safran, Chapter 5  
 Labbé 1994, "Trade Unionism in France since the Second World War".  
 Owen and Buchan, "The French Way", *Financial Times*, 9 Sept 2000.  
 "Tear Gas used on protesting farmers", *Financial Times*, 23 Feb 1999.  
 "France passes law to restrict hunting", *Financial Times*, 5 April 2000.  
 "Workers hold river Meuse ...", *Financial Times*, 19 July 2000.  
 "Fuel Shortages Grow as Truckers' Strike Spreads in France", *New York Times*, 8 Sept 2000.

## ***VI. State, Economy and Society***

Social and economic change and policy development,  
 Elites, parties and pressure groups in the policy process  
 The Citizen and the State

### ***Readings:***

- Safran, Chapters 9, 10, review 2.  
 Vivian Schmidt, 1999, "The Changing Dynamics of State-Society Relations in the Fifth Republic".  
*Economist*, "Is France still exceptional?" 1997.  
 Martin Wolf, "L'Etat, c'est quoi?", 1999.  
 Martin Schain, "Ordinary Politics: Immigrants, Direct Action ...".  
*Economist*, "How Racist is France?", 18 July 1998, p 43-4.  
 Lionel Barber, "Changing Places", *Financial Times*, 23 Feb 2000.  
 Dominique Moisi, "France's Quiet Revolution", *Financial Times*, 23 Aug. 1999.

### ***Optional***

- Suleiman, *Elites in French Society*, Chapters 4, 6-9.

## **VII. France in Europe**

Foreign Policy and Supra-nationality - the EU, NATO, and the Franco-German relationship.

### **Readings:**

George Ross, "Europe Becomes French Domestic Politics", in M. Lewis-Beck, ed., *How France Votes*, 87-114.

Safran, pp. 348-53

Dominique Moisi "A Union of Two Nations".

Craig Whitney, "The French Aren't Alone in Having Gall," *NY Times* , 6 Dec 1998.

Lionel Barber, "France against the world", *Financial Times* , 25 July 2000.

## **VIII. Comparative Perspectives: France in the New World Order**

Evaluating the Fifth Republic,

### **Readings:**

Safran, pp. 342-356.

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**FINAL EXAMINATION: March 22 at 11:30 am.**

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### **120 C Reserve Readings Winter, 2001**

Suleiman, Ezra, *Elites in French Society* (Princeton UP)

Flynn, Greg, ed., *Reshaping the Hexagon, The New France in the New Europe* (Westview)

Lewis-Beck, Michael, ed., *How France Votes* (NY: Chatham House, 2000)

Wilson, Frank I., *The European Center-Right at the End of the Twentieth Century* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1998)

Hollifield, James, *Immigrants, Markets and States* (Harvard UP)

Wiley, *Village in the Vaucluse*.

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