COURSE INFORMATION

- Course number and section?
- Course Title: French and Expatriate Literature
- Course Description

This course explores the connections between major French and American expatriate writings of the Modernist period and beyond. As the site of unprecedented cosmopolitanism and creativity, early 20th-century Paris saw the emergence of artistic and intellectual movements that were to have a considerable impact on Western culture to this day. The texts we will be looking at (memoir, autobiography, novel, poem, and essay) reflect a shared sense of inner and outer exile inherent in the modern condition. They deal explicitly with the experience of living and writing on the margins, of belonging or not belonging, of otherness and estrangement in relation to class, gender, sexuality, language, and to Paris as a specific urban environment.

- Co-requisite or prerequisite?
- Class meeting days and times: Tues/Thurs 9:00-10:30
- Class room number?

COURSE OVERVIEW AND GOALS

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

- Explore the impact of a specific time, place, and culture on writing
- Be familiar with a variety of modes and styles of writing around characteristically 20th-century themes and issues
- Be able to formulate relevant questions and hold multiple perspectives
- Develop and refine analytical skills through the practice of close reading and commentary, but also through a broadening of connections and perspectives

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance, Preparation and Participation

Includes abiding by NYU Attendance Policy (see below), being up to date with the assigned reading, preparing each class in advance, and catching up in case of a missed class. It involves engaging in class discussions through direct participation, and presenting at least one 10-minute oral presentation on an excerpt or a prompt. The student’s command of the material will be evaluated, together with the logic of his or her argument (distinguishing between personal feeling and intellectual grasp), as well as the contribution of his or her comments to the group’s continuing dialogue: making points that build on what has preceded them, being willing to consider new evidence, modifying an earlier position when warranted, and being capable of justifying one’s own (or others’) tangential points if the discussion is re-directed or deviated, making sure the connections are still clear.

Oral Presentations provide the opportunity to practise in the classroom the 2 types of assignments for this course – the close reading and the critical essay.
Attendance and participation include 2 mandatory outings during class time, directly related to the content of the course.

**Assignment 1**
In-class assignment (close reading of an excerpt; essay outline or introduction; specific questions on the day’s reading), and take-home paper (2-3 single-spaced pages – close reading of an excerpt and/or critical essay), **graded for feedback only**.

**Commentary (close reading of a selected excerpt)**
Involves reading an excerpt closely on both the level of content and form; identifying what is characteristic and what may be specific to it; and organising the points according to a clear analytical progression, avoiding simple plot description. Students are also expected to turn in a separate summary of the main argument (maximum 6 sentences).

**Critical essay (from a prompt)**
Comparing and contrasting texts or issues discussed in class. Involves rephrasing the prompt and identifying underlying assumptions; organising main points according to a clear analytical progression, using relevant examples and citations and avoiding simple plot summary; defending multiple perspectives; formulating relevant questions or hypotheses, and making further connections. Students are also expected to turn in a separate summary of the main argument (maximum 6 sentences).

Internet: Students using critical material not included in the Reader will be expected to provide exact references (in footnotes, endnotes, or brackets), and any internet material (background information, reviews, article) must be printed out and turned in with the paper.

**Assignment 2**
In-class assignment: close reading of an excerpt; essay outline or introduction; specific questions on the day’s reading (handwritten)

**Assignment 3**
Take-home paper: 2-3 single-spaced pages – close reading of an excerpt or critical essay

**Assignment 4**
In-class assignment: close reading of an excerpt; essay outline or introduction; specific questions on the day’s reading (handwritten)

**Assignment 5**
Take-home paper: 2-3 single-spaced pages – close reading of an excerpt or critical essay

**Assignment 6**
Final, longer take-home paper (3-4 single-spaced pages), combined with a final, longer in-class assignment

**Assigned Readings?**

**Grading of Assignments**
Attendance, Preparation and Participation = 30%
Take-home paper #1 = 15%
Take-home paper #2 = 15%
In-class assignment#1 = 10%
In-class assignment#2 = 10%
Final take-home paper + final in-class assignment = 20%
LETTER GRADES

A (16-20 points) Outstanding
A- (15 points) Excellent
B+ (14 points) Very Good
B (13 points) Good
B- (12 points) Satisfactory
C+ (11 points) Above Average
C (10 points) Average
C- (9 points) Below Average
D+ (8 points) Unsatisfactory
D (7 points) Low Pass
D- (6 points) Low Pass
F (5 points) Fail

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1
Tues 4 Sept Introductions
Thurs 6 Sept Hemingway, A Moveable Feast (1), Chapters 1-16

Week 2
Tues 11 Sept A Moveable Feast (2), Chapters 17-19
Thurs 13 Sept In-class assignment #0 (graded for feedback) on the “Additional Paris Sketches” (pp. 169-225), the "Fragments" (pp. 229-236), and the Introduction by Sean Hemingway, pp. 1-13 + Discussion.

Week 3
Tues 18 Sept Fitzgerald, Tender is the Night, Book 1, Chapters 1-25
Thurs 20 Sept Tender is the Night, Book 2, Chapters 1-13. Prompts for take-home Paper#1, due on Thurs 27 Sept.

Week 4
Tues 25 Sept Tender is the Night, Book 2, Chapters 14-23.
Thurs 27 Sept Take-home paper #0 due (graded for feedback) + Discussion of Tender is the Night (4), Book 3 (Chapters 1-13)

Week 5
Tues 2 Oct Gertrude Stein, Paris France (1), Parts I-III
Thurs 4 Oct Paris France (2), In-Class assignment #1, including the excerpt on Hemingway and Fitzgerald from The Autobiography of Alice B.Toklas (pp. 229-238), and Adam Gopnik's Introduction to Stein (pp. i-xiv)
Week 6
Tues 9 Oct OUTING (Hemingway and Stein’s homes in Paris)

Week 7
Tues 16 Oct Discussion of George Steiner’s “Extraterritorial”, Edward Saïd’s “Reflections on Exile”, and Kennedy’s “Modernism as Exile”;

Week 8

Week 9
Tues 30 Oct Stein on Apollinaire, in The Autobiography…, and Apollinaire poem: Zone (1913) (comparative translations)
Thurs 1 Nov NO CLASS

Week 10
Tues 6 Nov Proust (1) The Way by Swann’s, Excerpt 1 from The Way by Swann’s, pp. 7-10 (beginning of the novel).
Thurs 8 Nov Proust (2), Excerpts 2 (pp.85-88) and 3 (pp. 57-61).
Fri 9 Nov (make-up class) In-Class assignment #2 on Proust (3), Excerpt 4 (pp. 120-30) , the General Editor’s Preface (Prendergast), and the translator’s Introduction (Lydia Davis)

Week 11
Tues 13 Nov Aragon, Paris Peasant (1) Beginning of The Passage de l’Opéra, pp. 21-23

Week 12
Tues 20 Nov Introduction to Surrealism, Simon Watson Taylor on Paris Peasant + “Preface to a Modern Mythology” by Aragon
Thurs 22 Nov Take-home Paper#2 due + OUTING (Cubists and Surrealists at the Pompidou Centre)

Week 13
Thurs 29 Nov The Outsider (2), Part II, pp. 62-94

Week 14
Tues 4 Dec Existentialism; The Absurd; Sartre, “An Explication of the Stranger”, pp.i-ix.
Thurs 6 Dec Existentialism, Feminism, and Beauvoir’s The Second Sex.

Week 15
Tues 11 Final paper due + Final in-class assignment
**COURSE MATERIALS**

**Required Textbooks & Materials**

Books to be purchased from the Eyrolles bookstore:


**Fitzgerald**, Francis Scott Fitzgerald, *Tender is the Night* (1934/Arcturus Publishing, 2016)


**Reader**


**Gopnik**, Adam, Introduction to Gertrude Stein’s *Paris France*


**White**, Edmund, Chapter One of *The Flâneur: A Stroll through the Paradoxes of Paris* (Bloomsbury, 2001)

**Optional Textbooks & Materials** (Reader)


Young, Iris Marion, “City Life as a Normative Ideal” (1990) in: Sharon Meagher (ed), *Philosophy and the City: Classic to Contemporary Writings* (State University of New York Press, 2008)

Further Suggested Reading (some of which is available in my Reserve at the library)
Breton, André, *Manifestoes of Surrealism*, transl. Seaver & Lane (Ann Arbor, 1972)
Deutsch, Lorant, *Metronome, A History of Paris from the Underground* (St Martin’s Griffin, 2010)/ *Métronome*
Kristeva, Julia, *Strangers to Ourselves* (Columbia University Press, 1994)/ *Étrangers à nous-mêmes*
Robinson, Marc (Ed), *Altogether Elsewhere: Writers in Exile* (Faber and Faber, 1994)

Resources
- Access your course materials: [NYU Classes](nyu.edu/its/classes)
- Databases, journal articles, and more: [Bobst Library](library.nyu.edu)
- Assistance with strengthening your writing: [NYU Writing Center](nyu.mywconline.com)
- Obtain 24/7 technology assistance: [IT Help Desk](nyu.edu/it/servicedesk)

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance and Tardiness
- Study abroad at Global Academic Centers is an academically intensive and immersive experience in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. And since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance at the
centers is mandatory, and unexcused absences will be penalized with a two percent deduction from the student’s final course grade for every week's worth of classes missed. Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to absence. Repeated absences in a course may result in harsher penalties including failure.

- Unexcused absences affect students’ grades: unexcused absences will be penalized with a 2% deduction from the students' final course grade.
- Absences are excused only for illness, religious observance, and emergencies.

**Illness:** For a single absence, students may be required to provide a doctor’s note, at the discretion of the Associate Director of Academics. In the case of two consecutive absences, students must provide a doctor’s note. Exams, quizzes, and presentations will not be made up without a doctor’s note.

**Religious Observance:** Students observing a religious holiday during regularly scheduled class time are entitled to miss class without any penalty to their grade. This is for the holiday only and does not include the days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday. Students must notify their instructor and the Academic Office in writing via email one week in advance before being absent for this purpose. If exams, quizzes, and presentations are scheduled on a holiday a student will observe, the Associate Director, in coordination with the instructor, will reschedule them.

**Please note:** if you are unable to attend class, you are required to email your professors directly to notify them.

**Late Assignment**
Late submission or work will be accepted only with justifiable reasons of health or family emergency.

**Academic Honesty/Plagiarism**
At NYU, a commitment to excellence, fairness, honesty, and respect within and outside the classroom is essential to maintaining the integrity of our community.

**Plagiarism:** presenting others' work without adequate acknowledgement of its source, as though it were one’s own. Plagiarism is a form of fraud. We all stand on the shoulders of others, and we must give credit to the creators of the works that we incorporate into products that we call our own. Some examples of plagiarism:

- a sequence of words incorporated without quotation marks
- an unacknowledged passage paraphrased from another's work
- the use of ideas, sound recordings, computer data or images created by others as though it were one’s own
- submitting evaluations of group members’ work for an assigned group project which misrepresent the work that was performed by another group member
- altering or forging academic documents, including but not limited to admissions materials, academic records, grade reports, add/drop forms, course registration forms, etc.

For further information, students are encouraged to check www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/academic-integrity-for-students-at-nyu.html

**Disability Disclosure Statement**
Academic accommodations are available for students with disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities (212-998-4980 or mosescsd@nyu.edu) for further information. Students who are requesting academic accommodations are advised to reach out to the Moses Center as early as possible in the semester for assistance.

Instructor Bio

- [Insert relevant biographical information]