

Resistance and Revolution

Class 1: January 24th The Spanish Civil War

Brief Description: In this session we will examine three key aspects that help to explain why the Spanish Civil War still matters today. The first are the causes that led to the war and the effects of a fratricidal conflict on civil society. The second is the how the war plays out in an international context and what factors are important in this complex dynamic. The third is the interconnection between socio-political conflicts and cultural production, especially the important role writers, film makers and painters play in defining the process.

Required or suggested readings:

Francisco Ayala "The return" Distributed as PDF

Rafael Alberti, Pablo Neruda, Cesar Vallejo, selected poems Distributed as PDF

Adelaida Garcia Morales "The South" Distributed as PDF

Malcolm Alan Compitello is Professor of Spanish and Head of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. He is the Program Director of the Humanities Seminars Program. He has been teaching and writing about the Spanish Civil War for more than forty years.

Class 2: January 31th "War and Revolution in the Films of Jean Renoir (1930s)"

Brief description: This class examines the themes of war and revolution in the three Jean Renoir's film masterpieces of the late 1930s: *La Grande Illusion*, *La Marseillaise*, and *La Règle du jeu*. We will pay close attention to Renoir's treatment of such themes as well as to how Renoir himself *revolutionized* French cinema for the years to come.

Suggested Films and Readings*

- *La Grande Illusion* [Grand Illusion], 1937
- *La Marseillaise*, 1938
- *La Règle du jeu* [The Rules of the Game], 1939
- André Bazin. *Jean Renoir*. 1974. New York: Da Capo P, 1992.
- André Bazin. *What Is Cinema?* Vols. 1 & 2. 1958-1962. Berkeley: U of California P, 2004.
- Alexander Sesonske. *Jean Renoir. The French Films, 1924-1939*. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1980.
- Eugen Weber. *The Hollow Years. France in the 1930s*. New York: Norton, 1994.

***While students may still enjoy the class without watching/reading any of the above, they will get more from the class if they watch all the films and read at least Sesonske prior to coming to class.**

The three films listed above are available with English subtitles at the University of Arizona's libraries and on Amazon streaming online video or for purchase on Amazon. Both Grand Illusion and Rules of the Games are available for rent at Casa Video in Tucson. Rules of the Game is available at the Pima County Public Library.

Alain-Philippe Durand is Dean of the College of Humanities and Professor of French at the University of Arizona. He is the author and editor of four books: *Black, Blanc, Beur. Rap Music and Hip-Hop Culture in the Francophone World* (Scarecrow, 2002); *Un Monde techno. Nouveaux espaces électroniques dans le roman français des années 1980 et 1990* (préface by Marc Augé) (Weidler, 2004); *Novels of the Contemporary Extreme* (co-edited with Naomi Mandel) (Continuum, 2006), and *Frédéric Beigbeder et ses doubles* (Rodopi, 2008).

Class 3: February 7th “The Structure of Chinese Revolutions: Patterns in Dynastic Upheaval”

Brief description: China lays claim to the longest continuous history, covering over 4000 years. Such a long legacy of revolutions (24 official dynasties!) presents both challenges and opportunities. The expanse of Chinese history and its long record of revolutions offer us a vantage from which to ask questions not simply about specific revolutions, but the nature of revolution itself, and why some revolutions are truly game-changing, while others pass with little impact.

Suggested readings*

- Columbia University. “Timeline of Chinese History and Dynasties.” *Asia for Educators*. http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/timelines/china_timeline.htm (accessed November 13, 2017).
- Ulrich Theobald. “Chinese History.” *ChinaKnowledge.de - An Encyclopaedia on Chinese History, Literature and Art*. <http://www.chinaknowledge.de/History/history.html> (accessed November 13, 2017).
- Roger Baker. “China’s Dynastic Cycle.” *Stratfor Worldview*, 2017. <https://worldview.stratfor.com/article/chinas-dynastic-cycle> (accessed November 13, 2017).
- Jacques Gernet. *A History of Chinese Civilization*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1972. Reprinted in 1989 by Cambridge University Press.
- Mark Elvin. *The Pattern of the Chinese Past*. Palo Alto: Stanford University press, 1973.

* Students are advised to familiarize themselves with the broad spectrum of Chinese dynasties through Columbia University’s “Timeline of Chinese History and Dynasties,” Ulrich Theobald’s “Chinese History,” and Roger Baker’s brief video “China’s Dynastic Cycle,” which are available through the online links provided. Those interested in more detailed treatments may wish to consult the volumes by Gernet and/or Elvin.

Albert Welter is Professor and Head of the Department of East Asian Studies, and Associate Director of the School of International Languages, Literatures and Cultures at the University of Arizona. His expertise lies in East Asian (especially Chinese) Buddhism and intellectual history. He is author of *Monks, Rulers, and Literati: The Political Ascendancy of Chan Buddhism* (Oxford, 2006), *The Linji lu and the Creation of Chan Orthodoxy* (Oxford, 2008), *Yongming Yanshou’s Conception of Chan in the Zongjing lu: A Special Transmission within the Scriptures* (Oxford, 2011), and a co-edited volume (with Jeffrey Newmark), *Religion, Culture, and the Public Sphere in China and Japan* (Palgrave-Macmillan, 2017). His project on the social and institutional history of Buddhism, *The Administration of Buddhism in China: A Study and Translation of Zanning’s Topical History of the Buddhist Order in China* will be published by Cambria Press in 2018. He recently received funding from the Khyentse Foundation for a project on “The Hangzhou Region and the Creation of East Asian Buddhism.”

Class 4: February 14th “Performing Liberation: The Theater of Resistance and Revolution in Apartheid South Africa”

Brief Description:

“It is generally in culture that the seed of protest, leading to the emergence and development of the liberation movement, is found.” Amilcar Cabral (1977)

In this class, we will examine how theater and performance in apartheid South Africa not only functioned as vital components of cultural resistance, but also contributed directly to the political struggle. Besides demonstrating theater’s capacity for resistance and revolution, the secondary focus of this class will be on the literary and *aesthetic strategies that enabled theater artists used to resist and critique the apartheid system in face of overwhelming power*.

Primary Readings:

Mtwa Percy, Ngema Mbongeni and Simon Barney. *Woza Albert* (1981). Required play-text distributed as a PDF.

Ngema Mbongeni. *Sarafina* (1988) Required play-text distributed as a PDF.

Secondary Readings:

Roger B. Beck. *A History of South Africa* (2000). Read the Following Chapters that will be distributed as PDF files.

“White Union and Black Segregation: Preparing for Apartheid, 1910-1948”

“The Apartheid Years, 1948-1973.”

“The Final Years of White Domination, 1973-1994.”

Praise Zenenga is Associate Professor and Director of the Africana Studies Program. He is a theater historian and dramatic literature specialist whose research and teaching focus on interdisciplinary approaches to understanding issues of identity, race, aesthetics, politics, censorship, social change and social justice in the literature and performance of Africa and African Diaspora communities. His articles and book chapters have appeared in internationally renowned journals and University Presses like Oxford, Cambridge and Duke.

Class 5: February 21th “Sex Workers, Gigolos, and Jihadis in the Francophone World.”

Brief Description: In this session, we will read about issues of gender and sexual dissent in the Maghreb (North Africa), France, and the French-speaking diaspora in the contemporary era. We will explore how these issues can serve as tools of revolt and revolution for women and LGBT individuals on the one hand and for male members of organized terrorism on the other. Whether these individuals seek secular integration or divine recognition, both trajectories lead to new forms of martyrdom and transcendence.

Required readings (provided as PDF):

Taïa, Abdellah. *Infidels*. Seven Stories Press, 2017.

https://www.amazon.com/Infidels-Novel-Abdellah-Taïa/dp/1609808061/ref=sr_1_3?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1510586498&sr=1-3&keywords=infidels

https://www.amazon.com/Infidels-Novel-Abdellah-Taïa/dp/1609808061/ref=sr_1_3?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1510586498&sr=1-3&keywords=infidels

(Will be provided as PDF) Hargreaves, “French Muslims and the Middle East.” *Contemporary French Civilization*. 40.2 (2015): 235-254.

Recommended film:

Available through Netflix or Hulu: Ayoun, Nabil. *Horses of God/ Les Chevaux de Dieu*.

http://www.imdb.com/title/tt2369047/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Denis. M. Provencher is Professor and Head of the Department of French and Italian. He is the author of *Queer French: Globalization, Language, and Sexual Citizenship* (Ashgate/Routledge, 2007) and *Queer Maghrebi French: Language, Temporalities, and Transfiliations* (Liverpool, 2017). He is also editor-in-chief of the international journal *Contemporary French Civilization* published quarterly by Liverpool University press.

Class 6: February 28th “Why Did Evangelical Christians Vote for Donald Trump? The Political Revolution of the Christian Right”

Brief description: Polls have shown that an overwhelming majority of white evangelical voters supported Donald Trump for U.S. President throughout the 2016 Republican primaries, voted for him as a block in the November 2016 presidential election, and continue to be strong advocates of the Trump presidency. Media outlets have widely pointed out the apparent incongruity that “family values” voters have rallied behind the thrice-married real estate and casino mogul. While the motivations of evangelical Trump voters are complex and varied, a significant factor in their political decision-making is their commitment to a Republican Party Platform that conservative Christians have helped to shape over the past half century—including proposed restrictions on abortion and marriage, as well as GOP fiscal priorities related to taxes and deregulation. This lecture will examine the migration of conservative white Christians from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party in the 1970s and 1980s, and how both conservative American Christian subcultures and the Republican Party have been transformed in the process.

Recommended Reading:

Williams, Daniel K. *God's Own Party: The Making of the Christian Right*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010.

Karen Seat specializes in U.S. religious history, American evangelicalism, and gender studies. In 2012, Dr. Seat began serving as director of the Religious Studies Program, and in 2015 she was appointed head of the Department of [Religious Studies](#) and [Classics](#). In addition, she serves as the Director of the [School of International Languages, Literatures, and Cultures](#) (SILLC). Her publications include *“Providence Has Freed Our Hands”: Women’s Missions and the American Encounter with Japan* (Syracuse University Press), on nineteenth-century Protestant women's mission movements and their impact on American ideologies regarding gender, race, Christianity, and civilization. Her current research focuses on conservative Christians' engagement with American politics in modern American history. She is co-editor, with Elizabeth Flowers, of the forthcoming volume *Reimagining Southern Baptists: Women, Gender, and the Politics of the Past* (University of Tennessee Press). Her current book project is titled *Free Market Family Values: The Rise of Neoliberal Christianity in the United States*. She teaches courses on American religious history and gender studies in religion.