

Multiculturalism in Modern France

Caroline West 2018-9

Caroline.West@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr [33 \(0\)7 85 56 59 66](tel:332785565966)

Summary

France, like many other European countries, has undergone profound demographic changes since WWII. These changes have altered the image France has of itself, raising questions about how the values of the Republic are to be upheld and how France defines itself as a nation.

This course is designed for students who may not be familiar with the French Republic and how it emerged after the Revolution. The Republic and its laws will be examined from a historical point of view and the importance of certain principles in today's society, such as secularism, will be explained. The history of immigration will be studied in the context of colonialism, but also in relation to France's geographical location within Europe and its industrial history. Grenoble's demographic evolution will be taken as an example to illustrate how different waves of population have influenced the city's development.

The contemporary reality of multiculturalism and integration, and the tensions within French society today, will be examined through a variety of media : video (fiction and non-fiction), audio, newspaper and academic articles.

Course Outline :

Definitions : Republic, Nation, Multiculturalism, France and its colonies
History of immigration in France
Example of Grenoble : Quartiers, architecture, population Integration in the 20th century : example of WWII
Facts and figures : population and integration
Europe and multicultural societies : a comparative study
Secularism in France
Education and integration : the French model
City planning and multiculturalism.
Rising intolerance ? French society and the Front National France Today : a multicultural society ?

Pre-requisites : None

Bibliography : optional readings

Articles made available on the Chamilo platform for the course

Books available in the IEP library :

La diversité en France	Hervé Marchal et al	2010
Enfants issus de l'immigration maghrébine	Frédérique Sicard	2011
La France une et multiculturelle	Edgar Morin, Patrick Singaïny	2012
Immigration et politiques culturelles	Angéline Escafré-Dublet	2013
Le multiculturalisme	Patrick Savidan	2011
Les nouvelles frontières de la société française	sous la direction de Didier Fassin	2010
The ethnicity reader	edited by Montserrat Guibernau and John Rex	2010

Learning outcomes

Acquire knowledge of contemporary French society within a historical context

Ability to compare France and other multicultural societies using an established index

Develop increased understanding of the themes dealt with in the course

Ability to analyse and discuss the material presented in class.

Course evaluation

5 000-word paper of a comparative study of multicultural policies in France and two other countries of the student's choice. (100% of course evaluation)