

University of California, San Diego
Political Science 192 Senior Seminar (1 Credit)

France in Crisis? Parties and Elections 2007

Spring, 2007
Wed: 2:00- 4:00 pm
Rm: SSB-333

Prof. William M. Chandler
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Off.Hrs: Wed. 11-12:00
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General:

This senior seminar examines French politics from the perspective of parties and elections, with particular focus on the current Presidential election of 2007 and recent political developments. It includes analysis of political institutions, ideological traditions, party system change, organized interests and leadership. External relations and issues of European integration constitute additional focal points for our understanding of the crisis in French politics. The seminar will meet 4 times: twice in April and twice in May.

Evaluation:

You may choose a topic that relates to the general themes of this seminar.
Research paper is due on first day of finals week at end of quarter.

Recommended Basic Readings (on Reserve):

Anne Stevens, *Government and Politics of France*, 3rd edition (Palgrave, 2005)
Cole, Le Galès and Levy, eds., *Developments in French Politics 3* (Palgrave 3rd ed. 2005)*
Safran, William, *The French Polity*, 6th ed. (Longmans, 2003)

Seminar #1: 4 April 2007

Institutional and Political Contexts of the Fifth Republic

The Economist, "France faces the future", 1 April 2006.
The Economist, "The Irresistible Rise of Ségolène Royal", April 2006
Thornhill, "Reactionary Revolutionary", *Financial Times*, 4 Dec. 2005

Readings:

Stevens, Chapters 2 -4, 7
Elgie, "The Political Executive", in Cole, chapter 5
Knapp, "Prometheus (Re)bound...Checks on Executive Power" in Cole, chap 6

Graham, "Fear of Change..." *Financial Times*, 1 September 2004.

Elgie and Machin, "France: The Limits of Prime-Ministerial Government in a Semi-Presidential System".

Frears, "The French Parliament: Loyal Workhorse, Poor Watchdog".

Ideological Divisions and Party Politics

- a) France's "political families": Cleavage Bases and Party System,
- b) Factionalism within Parties
- c) Electoral Trends and recent elections 2002, forthcoming 2007
- d) Mass Mobilization and Political Protest

Readings:

Stevens, Chap 8.

Haegel "Parties and organizations" in Cole, chapter 2 ...

Evans and Mayer, "Electoralates", in Cole, chap 3.

Mayer, Nonna, "Les hauts et les bas du vote Le Pen", Tables 1,2,3, 8, 9 (506-8, 517-8).

Le Galès, "Réélection de Jacques Chirac...", Tables, pp. 12, 13, 17, 20, 23 and 30.

Seminar # 2: 11 April 2007

Recent Elections: 2002 to 2007

Readings:

Miguet, "... WEP, 2003

Stevens, Chaps 5 and 9

Safran, Chapter 4

Seminar # 3: 2 May 2007

Parties, Candidates and Issues in the 2007 Campaign

First ballot results

What were the determining factors?

Economic Issues?

Social Issues?

Identity, Immigration and Integration as Issues?

European Issues?

Readings:

Stevens, pp. 269-72

The Economist, "The Irresistible Rise of Ségolène Royal", 10 June 2006
 Guiraudon, "Immigration Politics and Policies" in Cole, Chapter 10
 Scolino, "A maze of identities for the Muslims of France", *NY Times*, April 2003

France in Europe and the World?

Foreign Policy, Supra-nationality and Multi-polarity:

Readings:

Chandler, "....."

Drake, "France: An EU Founder Member Cut Down to Size?", in JEI, March 2006, pp..

Optional:

Smith, "The Europeanization of the French State" in Cole, Chapter 7,

Keiger, "Foreign and Defense Policy ...", in Cole, Chapter 9.

Public Opinion Trends before the First Ballot

Seminar IV: 23 May 2007

Interpreting the Presidential Results of 6 May 2007

What happened between the two Ballots?

The Winner and the Loser: Second Ballot Results and What they mean?

Forthcoming legislative Elections in June 2007.

Comparative Perspectives:

Evaluating French Democracy in the Fifth Republic and within the European Union,
 French Presidentialism compared to American Presidentialism?

Readings:

Stevens, Chap 11.

The Economist, "France faces the future", 1 April 2006.

Pol Sci. 192 Reserve Readings, Spring 2007

Anne Stevens, *Government and Politics of France*, 3rd edition (Palgrave, 2005)

Cole, et al., eds., *Developments in French Politics 3* (Palgrave 2005)

Safran, *The French Polity*, 6th ed (2003)
