

COURSE DETAIL

PARIS UNDERGROUND

Country

France

Host Institution

UC Center, Paris (Multi-Site)

Program(s)

Global Cities Urban Realities, Social Justice and Activism

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Urban Studies History Comparative Literature

UCEAP Course Number

170

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

PARIS UNDERGROUND

UCEAP Transcript Title

PARIS UNDERGROUND

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

The 19th century saw the reinvention of the subterranean. From the sewers in Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables* to the striking miners of Émile Zola's *Germinal*, novelists began exploring the space beneath their feet. By the turn of the century, the opening of the Paris catacombs to the public and the construction of the metro system fueled the collective imagination, while the hidden strata of history and consciousness were being charted by the developing fields of archaeology and psychoanalysis. In the early to mid-20th century, the subterranean was as much a metaphor as it was a reality, with artists and philosophers drawing inspiration from newly discovered prehistoric cave paintings and the French Resistance returning once again to Hugo's sewers. This class follows modernity as it goes underground. This course discusses topics including French and Parisian history and culture, urban text and its expressions in literature and film, and historical events and reinterpreting them in the context of their reliance on hidden historical and cultural undercurrents.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

Host Institution Course Title

PARIS UNDERGROUND

Host Institution Campus

UC Center, Paris

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

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