

COURSE DETAIL

CONFRONTING INJUSTICE

Country

France

Host Institution

UC Center, Paris

Program(s)

Social Justice and Activism

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Sociology Political Science History French

UCEAP Course Number

150

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

CONFRONTING INJUSTICE

UCEAP Transcript Title

CONFRONTG INJUSTICE

UCEAP Quarter Units

5.00

UCEAP Semester Units

3.30

Course Description

One of the oldest traditions in France has been *la contestation*: a word that can be translated as questioning, entering into a dispute, confronting, protesting, or simply contesting. French history has consequently borne the imprint of this long and lively history. More often than not these movements have been led by the youth, for whom protest was a means to bring about change and right what they viewed as wrong. This course journeys through a number of such movements and investigates what was being contested and why, what was being proposed in its place and why, and what was achieved as a result. The course begins with the French Revolution of 1789. In the 19th century, the course visits the barricades of 1848 and the Paris Commune, where the youth often paid with their lives for their ideals. It analyzes the texts of the thinkers and intellectuals who gave the youth the tools to question the status quo. Following these upheavals, the course continues into the 20th century, when the youth were faced with two cataclysmic wars in which their contestation became synonymous with choice, freedom, and resistance. The course then concentrates on the movement that culminated in the year 1968, when the streets of Paris and other major cities witnessed an unprecedented level of contestation, challenging the all-powerful government of General de Gaulle. Here, too, the course studies the texts that questioned authority. It ends with a glance at the beginning of the 21st century, where the youth—faced with the consequences of globalization, ecological concerns, unemployment at home, and wars beyond their borders leading to major waves of migration—continue to confront and question what they view as unfair and unjust.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

Host Institution Course Title

CONFRONTING INJUSTICE

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus

UC Center, Paris

Host Institution Faculty**Host Institution Degree****Host Institution Department****Course Last Reviewed**

2024-2025

[Print](#)