

COURSE DETAIL

PSYCHOLOGY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

Country

France

Host Institution

Accent, Paris

Program(s)

Social Justice and Activism

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Psychology

UCEAP Course Number

146

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

PSYCHOLOGY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

UCEAP Transcript Title

PSYC/SOCIAL JUSTICE

UCEAP Quarter Units

5.00

UCEAP Semester Units

3.30

Course Description

This course introduces students to different psychological perspectives for thinking about social justice, inequality, freedom, and collective life. Drawing on social psychology, cognitive psychology, cultural psychology, affective neuroscience, clinical and abnormal psychology, and selected psychodynamic perspectives, the course examines psychological processes involved in social judgment, prejudice, collective action, mental health, and social change. Rather than approaching social justice as a fixed concept or through a single dimension of analysis, the course considers it as a dynamic, socially and culturally situated construction shaped by how people perceive, interpret, feel, contest, and organize around questions of fairness, exclusion, autonomy, and belonging. Anchored in Paris, and in a context where *liberté, égalité, fraternité* remains both an aspiration and a point of tension, the course also introduces students to French traditions that continue to inform clinical psychology and the human sciences. Through readings, guest lectures, and site visits, students encounter ideas that may offer complementary lenses for contemporary psychology. This comparative approach allows students to place U.S.-style psychological frameworks in dialogue with French ways of thinking about the psyche, society, language, power, and institutions. Field-based learning plays an important role in the course. At La Salpêtrière Hospital, students visit a historically significant site for the development of psychology, psychiatry, neurology, clinical observation, and institutional care in France. The visit to the Paris Commune offers a different kind of historical case study, focused on collective action, social identity, political imagination, and struggles over equality, while also allowing students to discover another facet of historic Montmartre. Guest speakers, including clinical psychologists working in France, help students connect these historical and theoretical questions to contemporary issues in mental health, liberty, autonomy, social inclusion, and public care. Together, these experiences invite students to expand psychological concepts with complementary analytical tools drawn from French theory, cultivating a critical perspective on the psychology of social justice in a French context.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number**Host Institution Course Title**

PSYCHOLOGY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

Host Institution Course Details

<https://uceap.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/DocumentLibrary/IQDX3j-i-A9aQ7GEfWefL4LUASII...>

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

2026-2027

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