

# POLI 4076

## Politics in France and Francophone Areas

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Instructor: Dr. Leonard Ray  
Semester: Fall 2020  
Office: 208C Subbs Hall (tel: 578-2550)  
Time/location: Online asynchronous course  
Office Hours: by appointment.  
Email: [lray2@lsu.edu](mailto:lray2@lsu.edu)

### Course Description

This course will introduce students to the political institutions, forces, and debates in contemporary France. We will review the history of the French Republic, from the French Revolution to the events surrounding the creation of the Fifth Republic. The design and function of these institutions will be discussed along with recent reforms to the constitutional structure of the Fifth Republic. We will conclude our coverage of France with an overview of important issues facing French domestic politics and foreign policy.

### Required Reading

The following books are required for Poli 4076, and are available as electronic books from the LSU Library

Jeremy Popkin, *A History of Modern France, Fifth Edition*, Routledge (2020), ISBN 978-1-38-557192.

Link = [ebook A History of Modern France](#)

Andrew Knapp and Vincent Wright, *The Government and Politics of France and Francophone Areas*, 2004

Link = [ebook The Government and Politics of France](#)

Other readings will be made available online through Moodle

### About the readings

This semester I have replaced required textbooks used in earlier semesters with books available from the LSU library, and added several online readings instead. In addition to lowering your textbook costs, the online readings will introduce you to a variety of French intellectuals and political actors in their own words.

## Course Requirements and Grading

Graded work includes online discussions, short written assignments, a presentation, and midterm and final exams. Assignments are weighted as follows:

30% Participation in weekly ~~dine~~ discussion assignments

30% 3 Short writing assignments 3 to 5 pages (10% each)

10% 1 Short video/powerpoint presentation (5 minutes) on a historical or contemporary French leader

10% Mid Term Exam 1

10% Mid Term Exam 2

10% Final Exam

Short writing assignments:

Three

cover the institutions of the fifth republic, and the final will be cumulative, but with an emphasis on the issues described in the third section of the course.

### Grading Scale

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### Schedule

#### Part I

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Part II

Institutions

~~Week 7~~

Week 7

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Week 8

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Week 9

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French Political Parties

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Part II

Issues

~~Week 9~~

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