

100.302 History of the French-Algerian War, 1954-1962
Spring 2010

Professor Todd Shepard

Course Description

The Algerian Revolution (1954-1962) successfully challenged French claims that Algeria was part of France and led to an independent Algerian Republic. This struggle is often seen as the touchstone anti-colonial struggle as well as the matrix for modern forms of terrorism and state-sponsored torture. We will explore its history.

Readings:

The following required books can be purchased at the Barnes & Noble Johns Hopkins Bookstore; however, I recommend that you look for used copies on-line. For all of these books, any edition is acceptable; if you prefer, all of them exist in French versions:

Albert Camus, *First Man*

Assia Djebar, *Children of the New World: A Novel of the Algerian War*

Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*, with preface by Jean-Paul Sartre (if your copy does not have this preface, let me know)

Mouloud Ferraoun, *Journal, 1955-1962: Reflections on the French-Algerian War*

Henri Alleg, *The Question*

Todd Shepard, *The Invention of Decolonization: The Algerian War and the Remaking of France*

Benjamin Stora, *Algeria, 1830-2000: A Short History*

All asterisked (*) readings are on electronic reserves through the library, which you can access through the university's portal at <http://my.jhu.edu>.

NB: In addition to the scheduled classes, we will arrange to see the following films:

Battle of Algiers, dir. By Gillo Pontecorvo (1965)

Outremer, Brigitte Rouan (1990)

Exils, dir. By Tony Gatlif (2004) or another TBD

Caché, dir by Michael Haneke (2005)

Schedule of Classes

Week 1 (25 January) Introduction

Week 2 (1 February) An Overview

Stora, all

*Aissaoui, Rabah, 'Algerian nationalists in the French political arena and beyond: the Etoile nord-africaine and the Parti du peuple algérien in interwar France', *The Journal of North African Studies*, 15: 1 (2010), 1-12

*Jean-Charles Jauffret, "The origins of the Algerian War: The reaction of France and its army to the two emergencies of 8 May 1945 and 1 November 1954", *The Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*, 21: 3 (1993), 17-29

Week 3 (8 February): Historiographic Debates, France and Algeria

Shepard, introduction

*Omar Carlier, "Scholars and Politicians: An Examination of the Algerian View of Algerian Nationalism," in M. Le Gall and K. Perkins, eds., *The Maghrib in Question: Essays in History and Historiography* (1997), 136-170

*Raphaëlle Branche, « The State, Historians and Memories: The Algerian War in France, 1992-2002 », in H. Jones, K. Ostberg and N. Randerad (eds.), *History on Trial: The Public Use of Contemporary History in Europe since 1989*, Manchester, Manchester University Press, 2007, p.159-173.

*James McDougall, "Martyrdom and Destiny: the Inscription and Imagination of Algerian History," pp. 50-72 in Paul Silverstein and Ussama Makdisi. (eds). *Memory and Violence in the Middle East and North Africa*. Indiana University Press, 2006.

Week 4 (15 February): French Algeria: the Settler Colony

Camus, all

Shepard, 19-54

*David Prochaska, *Making Algeria French: Colonialism in Bône, 1870-1920*, (Cambridge, 1990), pp. 1-28; 206-230

Recommended: *Ali Yedes, "Social dynamics in colonial Algeria. The question of pieds-noirs' identity", in Stovall and Van Den Abbeele, *French Civilization and Its Discontents* (2003), 235-50

Week 5 (22 February): Terrorism

*Alistair Horne, *A Savage War of Peace: Algeria 1954-1962* (New York: NYRB, 2006), pp. 83-104

*Paul Aussaresses, *The Battle of the Casbah: terrorism and counter-terrorism in Algeria 1955-1957* (2005), ch. 8-18, pp. 74-164

*Raphaëlle Branche, "The French State Faced with the Algerian Nationalists (1954-1962): A War against Terrorism?" in Samy Cohen (ed.), *Democracies at war against terrorism*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2008, 59-?

Recommended: *Christopher Craddock and M.L.R. Smith, "'No fixed values': A reinterpretation of the Influence of the Theory of guerre révolutionnaire and the Battle of Algiers, 1956-1957." *Journal of Cold War Studies* 9:4 (Fall 2007): 68-105.

Week 6 (1 March): Torture

Alleg, all.

*Martin Evans, *The memory of resistance: French opposition to the Algerian War (1954-1962)* (1997), 73-137

*Marie-Pierre Ullou, "Memory and Continuity: The Resistance, the Algerian War, and the Jeanson Network," in Memory, empire, and postcolonialism: legacies of French colonialism," in Alec G. Hargreaves, ed., *Memory, Empire and Postcolonialism: Legacies of French Colonialism* (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2005), pp. 112-124

*Joshua Cole, "Intimate Acts and Unspeakable Relations: Remembering Torture and the War for Algerian Independence," in Alec G. Hargreaves, ed., *Memory, Empire and Postcolonialism: Legacies of French Colonialism* (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2005), pp. 125-141.

Week 7 (8 March) In-Class Presentation of Topics

BREAK

Week 8 (22 March): Algerian Elites and France

Ferraoun, ix-xiii; xl-xlv; 11-153; 248-52; 275-315.

*Fanny Colonna "Educating Conformity in French Colonial Algeria," in Frederick Cooper and Ann Laura Stoler eds., *Tensions of Empire Colonial Cultures in a Bourgeois World*, editors, (Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1997), pp. 346-370

*Stephen Tyre, 'From Algérie Française to France Musulmane: Jacques Soustelle and the Myths and Realities of "Integration"', *French History* 20 (2006), 276-296

Week 9 (29 March): Colonized vs. Colonizer: the Algerian Revolution

Shepard, 55-81

Fanon, all, including Jean-Paul Sartre, "Introduction"

Week 10 (5 April): Children of the New World

Djebar, all

Week 11 (12 April): de Gaulle, the Algerian War, and the International Stage

Connelly, 'A Diplomatic Revolution,' 3-13; 119-141; 173-214

Shepard, 82-135

*Michel Winock, "De Gaulle and the Algerian Crisis, 1958-1962," in *De Gaulle and Twentieth-Century France*, ed. Hugh Gough and John Horne

Recommended: *Martin S. Alexander, "Seeing France's 'Lost Soldiers': Reflections on the French Military Crisis in Algeria," in Kenneth Mouré and Martin S. Alexander, eds., *Crisis and renewal in France, 1918-1962* (New York: Berghahn, 2002), 242-266

*Stephen Tyre, "The Gaullist, the French Army and Algeria before 1958: Common Cause or Marriage of Convenience?" in Martin S. Alexander, John F. V. Keiger, eds., *France and the Algerian War, 1954-62: strategy, operations and diplomacy* (2002), 97-117,

*Irwin Wall, "De Gaulle, the 'Anglo-Saxons' and the Algerian War," in Martin S. Alexander, John F. V. Keiger, eds., *France and the Algerian War, 1954-62: strategy, operations and diplomacy* (2002), 118-137

Week 12 (19 April) Women, the Veil, and Algeria's Future

Shepard, 183-204

*Frantz Fanon, "Algeria Unveiled," in Fanon, *A Dying Colonialism* (1965), 35-68

*Raphaelle Branche, "Sexual Violence in the Algerian War" in Dagmar Herzog (ed.), *Brutality and Desire: War and Sexuality in Europe's Twentieth Century*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2008, p. 247-260.

Ryme Seferdjeli, "French 'reforms' and Muslim women's emancipation during the Algerian war," *The Journal of North African Studies* 9: 4 (Winter 2004), 19-61

Recommended: *Helie-Lucas, "Women, Nationalism and Religion in the Algerian Liberation Struggle," in Miriam Cooke and Margot Badran (Eds.), *Opening the Gates: An Anthology of Arab Feminist Writing* (Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 2004), pp. 105-114
Marnia Lazreg, *The Eloquence of Silence: Algerian Women in Question*, (NY: Routledge, 1994)

Week 13 (26 April): The Battle of Paris and the Forgetting of French Algeria

*Joshua Cole, “Remembering the Battle of Paris: 17 October 1961 in French and Algerian Memory,” *French Politics, Culture & Society* 21, 3 (Fall 2003).

*Jim House and Neil MacMaster, “Une journée portée disparue. The Paris Massacre of 1961 and Memory,” in Kenneth Mouré and Martin S. Alexander, eds., *Crisis and renewal in France, 1918-1962* (New York: Berghahn, 2002), 267-90.
Shepard, 207-272

We will meet an additional time, so that you can present your work and findings.

Further Information

Class meets M 1:30pm - 3:45pm in Dunning Hall 408

Contact information for Dr. Shepard: Office hours are T, 12:15-1:30 pm, or by appointment, in Suite 1401 Office B, Dell House, 2850 N. George St.; can be reached at (410)516-8512, or tshep75@jhu.edu (**FYI: I do not guarantee that emails will receive quick responses and I rarely check my phone messages between Wednesday and Monday mornings.**)

Course Policies

You are expected to attend class regularly, to do all required reading, and to be prepared to participate very actively in class discussion. It is expected that you will ask questions when you do not understand or agree with what is being said in class or is in the reading. It is required that you show respect for the questions, viewpoints, and opinions that your fellow students offer in class, although it is in no way expected that you will necessarily agree with them, or with the instructor.

Academic and Personal Integrity and Honesty

The strength of the university depends on academic and personal integrity. In this course, you must be honest and truthful. Ethical violations include plagiarism, reuse of assignments, improper use of the Internet and electronic devices, unauthorized collaboration, alteration of graded assignments, forgery and falsification, lying, facilitating academic dishonesty, and unfair competition.

Report any violations you witness to the instructor. You may consult the associate dean of students and/or the chairman of the Ethics Board beforehand. See the guide on “Academic Ethics for Undergraduates” and the Ethics Board web site (<http://ethics.jhu.edu>) for more information.

Plagiarism: Violations of the following principles in students’ completed work constitutes plagiarism, which is normally considered a major offense.

1. All written work submitted for credit is accepted as your own work. It may not have been composed, wholly or partially, by another person.
2. I encourage you to incorporate ideas from books and essays in your work as starting points, governing issues, illustrations, and the like, but in each case the source must be cited.
3. The wording of written work is taken as your own. Scholarly work, almost by definition, will include other writers’ phrases, sentences, or paragraphs. All of these—even if its only a

key word or several words--must be presented as quotations and with the source acknowledged. Thus you may not submit work that has been copied, wholly or partially, from a book, article, essay, newspaper, another student's paper or notebook, internet site, or any other written or printed media source **unless** you use *proper citation*.

4. The ideas, arguments, and conclusions of written work are accepted as originating with you, the writer. Written work that paraphrases any written or printed media material without explicit acknowledgement (N.B.: even if the source is cited in a footnote) may not be submitted for credit.

5. Remember that any on-line materials you use to gather information for a paper are also governed by rules about plagiarism, so you need to learn to cite electronic sources as well as printed and other sources.

5. You may correct and revise your writing with the aid of reference books and other sources. You may also discuss your writing with peer writing groups, peer tutors, other professors, or other people more generally. However, you may not submit writing that has been revised substantially by another.

Controversial Subject Matter: Be aware that several of the **required** readings deal with religious and sexual themes in ways that some may find controversial or even offensive. If you are unwilling to risk this, do not take the class.

Course Grade consists of the following components, weighted roughly* as follows:

I/Presentation: See Explanatory Hand-Out: **20%** (includes Written Presentation)

II/Writing Assignments:

A. Five Short Essays

1/Written Class Presentation

2/Two (2) Reaction Papers 15%

3/Two (2) Expository Analysis Papers 25%

B. Term Paper (We will go over this assignment in class during Week 2):

1/Bibliographic Essay 10%: due 8 March

2/Term Paper 30%

You are **encouraged** to submit revised versions of the short essays (with potential grade revision), no later than one week after the original is handed back. There will be no quizzes or exams.

If you miss more than two classes, you will need to withdraw.

N.B.: I will determine your final grade. While I will rely heavily on the numerical grades you have received, the final grade will not be solely a question of mathematics: my assessment of your overall performance will affect it.