This course includes an overview of some important periods and characters of French History, combined with an analysis of the political and sociological trends of today’s France in a modern perspective of Europe.

Methodology:
Daily classes, visits (Grenoble, the old city, Musée des beaux Arts, Musée de la Résistance, Vizille, Musée de la Révolution Française) and field trips (Chartreuse, Vercors, Lyon, Annecy)

Reading:
Magazines and daily newspapers.
French News on the radio and on TV.

Grading Criteria:
Two quizzes : on the material covered in class 30%
Oral Presentation : in French, 5 minutes (minimum and maximum) about an aspect of French Civilization you particularly noticed, liked, or disliked. Props welcome. 20%
Final exam: Comprehensive, the last day of class. 30%
Attendance, participation and effort 20%

Chronology

jeudi 10 juin Introduction to the course. Presentation of France, Geography, trends and myths(Asterix, Marianne, the French symbol of the rooster)

vendredi 11 juin History: Gaul, the Roman Empire, Gallo-roman civilization, the Barbarians, Charlemagne.
European elections, main political parties in France.

dimanche 13 juin Trip to Chartreuse, visit of the Monastery museum.
lundi 14 juin French daily press; european elections
The Middle Ages in Europe, importance of religion, monasteries and
cathedrals

**mardi 15 juin**  
*Reading:* “What makes the French so French?”
A song by Francis Cabrel

**mercredi 16 juin**  
French/American stereotypes

**jeudi 17 juin**  
Trip to Lyon, visit of the Old Lyon and the roman amphitheater.

**vendredi 18 juin**  
**Quiz 1:** all we covered so far.

**dimanche 20 juin**  
Trip to Annecy

**lundi 21 juin**  
History: WW2, resistance in the Grenoble area
Visit: Musée de la Résistance, about WW2 in the area.

**mardi 22 juin**  
History: WW2 and resistance in the area
La famille en France

**mercredi 23 juin**  
Trip to Vercors, visit of a village destroyed during WW2

**jeudi 24 juin**  
Causes of the French Revolution, “absolute monarchy, Louis XIV” “les Lumières”
Presentation on the Musée des Beaux-Art visit : French Art
Guided tour of the 20 th century collection .

**vendredi 25 juin**  
The French Revolution, events, laws, changes in everyday life
Proust’s questionnaire.

**lundi 28 juin**  
Visit of the Musée de la Révolution Française in Vizille:

**mardi 29 juin**  
**Quiz 2:** la Résistance, la Révolution.

**mercredi 30 juin**  
Surprise Field trip

**jeudi 1er juillet**  
**Final Exam: 1h30**  comprehensive.
The French revolution: Causes and events
exhibition on Marianne through the ages.

mardi 1er juillet The French Revolution, continued: the changes it brought in every day life.
French national culture, American influence and Europe; debate.
Proust’s questionnaire, answers.

mercredi 2 Quiz 2: la Résistance, la Révolution.
Matisse, his work. Visit of the exhibition about Matisse at the Museum of Fine Arts of Grenoble.

jeudi 3 Field trip to Tain l’Hermitage, visit of a Cotes du Rhone winery. Wine tasting. Visit of the Ideal Palace of a mailman, le facteur Cheval.

vendredi 4 Individual oral presentations: about 5 minutes on a topic of your choice; no reading!
Final Exam: 1h30 comprehensive.