



Pierre Huyghe, "Les Grands Ensembles," 1994-2001

ARHS 4349 Seminar in Contemporary Art
 Reconstruction(s): Architecture-Film-Culture in Postwar France
 Dr. Charissa N. Terranova
 Thursday 3:30-6:20
 Owen Fine Arts Center 1635
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 office phone- 214/768.2488
 office hours- Tuesday-Thursday 2:00-3:30



Poster for feminist movement in the French *banlieues*, or suburbs,
 "Neither Whores Nor Submissives"

Description

This seminar focuses on the transformation of the French urban landscape after WW II through film, architecture and text. We will investigate the transformation of the French "city" from a nucleated urban center to sprawling and poly-nucleated urban continuum. Our goal is to better understand the phenomena of urban transformation with respect to cultural production, from Reconstruction after WW II to the present. In terms of architectural type and urban site, we will focus our attention on life in *les grands ensembles*, or large state-subsidized high-rise housing developments, located in *la banlieue française*, or the French suburb. This seminar requires weekly attendance in class and film screenings, completion of reading prior to class, lively participation through discussion and debate and a class presentation made in conjunction with a fifteen-page essay.

Texts

The following texts are available at the bookstore for purchase:

- 1.) Etienne Balibar. *We, the People of Europe?: Reflections on Transnational Citizenship (Translation/Transnation)*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2003. ISBN 0691089906
- 2.) Roland Barthes. *Mythologies*. Trans. Annette Lavers. New York: Hill and Wang, 1972. ISBN 0374521506
- 3.) Guy Debord. *The Society of the Spectacle*. Trans. Donald Nicholson-Smith. New York: Zone, 1995. ISBN 0942299795
- 4.) Marc Dessauce, Ed. *The Inflatable Moment: Pneumatics and Protest in 68*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999. ISBN 1568981767
- 5.) Norma Evenson. *Paris: A Century of Change, 1878-1978*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1979. ISBN 0300026676
- 6.) Frantz Fanon. *The Wretched of the Earth*. New York: Grove Press, 1965. ISBN 0802150837

- 7.) Kristen Ross. *Fast Cars, Clean Bodies: Decolonization and the Reordering of French Culture*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1996. ISBN 0262680912

Essay

The requirements for the essay are the following:

- title page
- 15 pages
- standard margins and 10 or 12 pt. font
- foot- or endnotes
- bibliography with at least 5 sources of which only two may be websites
- images where necessary

Please meet with the professor during office hours to discuss a paper topic. The essay is due in the professor's mailbox on Thursday May 4 by 5:00 pm.

Grading

Your grade in the course will be calculated from the following percentages:

Participation:	33%
Presentation:	33%
Essay:	33%

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. You may have one unexcused absence, after which your grade will be lowered by one letter grade with each subsequent absence.

If you will not be able to attend a specific session, you must make arrangements with another student to get copies of notes, etc. Assignments must be turned in on time; for each 24-hour period an assignment is late, one full grade will be deducted (e.g., an "A" paper will become a "B" paper). Appropriate medical and family excuses will be accepted in order to establish new dates for assignments. Students participating in an officially sanctioned, scheduled University extracurricular activity will be given the opportunity to make up class assignments or other graded assignments missed as a result of their participation. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor prior to any missed assignment for making up the work. (University Undergraduate Catalogue) Religiously observant students wishing to be absent on holidays that require missing class should notify their professors in writing at the beginning of the semester, and should discuss with them, in advance, acceptable ways of making up any work missed because of the absence. (See University Policy No. 1.9.)

Schedule

Thursday January 19: Introduction: War, *urbanisme*, and housing in France

Thursday January 26: Paris in the 20th Century

- 1.) Evenson, 1-119; 199-255
 - 2.) David P. Jordan, "Haussmann and *Haussmannisation*: The Legacy for Paris," *French Historical Studies* 27.1 (2004) 87-113. Available on-line at JSTOR
 - 3.) Rosemary Wakeman, "Nostalgic Modernism and the Invention of Paris in the Twentieth Century," *French Historical Studies* 27.1 (2004) 115-144. Available on-line at JSTOR
- *Screening of "Zazie dans le metro" (1960) by Ramond Queneau and Louis Malle

Thursday February 2: Consumerism in France and the beginning of *les trentes glorieuses*

- 1.) Ross, 15-196
- *Screening of "Mon Oncle" (1958) by Jacques Tati

Thursday February 9: Toward New Mythologies

- 1.) Barthes, 15-99
*Screening of "Alphaville" (1965) by Jean-Luc Godard

Thursday February 16: Paradise of the New

- 1.) Christiane Rochefort, *Children of Heaven*, 1-119 RESERVE
*Screening of "Playtime" (1967) by Jacques Tati

Thursday February 23: Dystopia of the New

- 1.) Mary Jean Green, Lynn Higgins and Marianne Hirsch, "Rochefort and Godard: Two or Three Things about Prostitution," *The French Review*, Vol. 52, No. 3 (Feb. 1979) 440-448. Available on-line at JSTOR
 - 2.) Allen Thiher, "Postmodern Dilemmas: Godard's Alphaville and Two or Three Things That I Know about Her," *boundary 2*, Vol. 4, No. 3 (Spring 1976) 947-964. Available on-line at JSTOR
- *Screening of "Two or Three Things I Know about Her" (1967) by Jean-Luc Godard

Thursday March 2: The Production of Space(s)

- 1.) Henri Lefebvre, *Writings on the City*, 3-62; 65-85; 185-197 RESERVE
 - 2.) Mark Gottdiener, "A Marx of Our Time: Henri Lefebvre and The Production of Space." *Sociological Theory* 11 (1993) 129-34. Available on-line at JSTOR and PROJECT MUSE
 - 3.) Lee Hilliker, "The History of the Future in Paris: Chris Marker and Jean-Luc Godard in the 1960s," *Film Criticism*, Vol. 24 Issue 3 (Spring 2004) 1-15. Available on-line at JSTOR and PROJECT MUSE
- *Screening of "La Jétee" (1962) by Chris Marker

Thursday March 9: Urbanisme and Mai '68

- 1.) Debord, 1-154
 - 2.) Dessauce, 13-62
 - 3.) Simon Sadler, *The Situationist City* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1998) 15-104 RESERVE
- *Screening of "Society of the Spectacle" (1968) by Guy Debord

Thursday March 16: SPRING BREAK

Thursday March 23: Decolonization and Agency

- 1.) Fanon, 35-248
*Screening of "Battle of Algiers" (1967) by Gillo Pontecorvo

Thursday March 30: Life in *la banlieue* and in a "postcolonial" world

- 1.) Carrie Tarr, *Reframing Difference: Beur and banlieue Filmmaking in France*, 62-85 RESERVE
 - 2.) Myrto Konstantarakos, "Which Mapping of the City? *La Haine* (Kassovitz 1995), *French Cinema in the 1990s: Continuity and Difference*, Phil Powrie, ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999) 160-171 RESERVE
 - 3.) Ginette Vincendeau, "Designs on the *banlieue*: Mathieu Kassovitz's *La Haine* (1995)," *French Film: Texts and Contexts*, Susan Hayward and Ginette Vincendeau, eds. (London: Routledge, 2000) 310-327 RESERVE
- *Screening of "La Haine" (1995) by Mathieu Kassovitz

Thursday April 6: Hip Hop and Rap in France

- 1.) Joan Gross, "Arab Noise and Ramadan Nights: Rai, Rap, and Franco-Maghrebi Identity," *The Anthropology of Globalization: A Reader*, Jonathan Xavier Inda and Renato Rosaldo, eds. (New York: Blackwell, 2001) RESERVE
 - 2.) Valerie Orlando, "From Rap to Rai in the Mixing Bowl: Beur Hip-Hop Culture and banlieue Cinema in Urban France," *Journal of Popular Culture*, Vol. 36 Issue 3 (Winter 2003). Available on-line at JSTOR and PROJECT MUSE
- *Screening of "Café au Lait" (1998) by Mathieu Kassovitz

Thursday April 13: Feminism in *la banlieue*

- 1.) Charissa N. Terranova, "Ni putes ni soumises! Neither Whores Nor Submissives!" *Women & Environments International Magazine* (June 2004) 25-27 RESERVE

- 2.) Eileen O'Brien and Michael Armato, "L'affaire des foulards': Problems of Defining a Feminist Antiracist Strategy in French Schools," *Feminism and Antiracism: International Struggles for Justice*, France Winddance Twine and Kathleen M. Blee, eds. (New York : New York University Press, 2001) RESERVE
- *Screening of "La Squale" (2000) by Fabrice Genestal

Thursday April 20: Le metro at the fin-de-millennium

- 1.) François Maspero and Anaik Frantz, *Roissy Express: A Journey through the Paris Suburbs*, 1-270
RESERVE
- *Screening of "Banlieue 13" (2004) by Pierre Morel, Luc Besson and Bibi Naceri

Thursday April 27: La banlieue and Cosmopolitanism

- 1.) Charissa Terranova, "City-Citizen-Border: Towards a Politics of the Cosmopolitan," *Vision*, Vol. 7 (2003) 127-138 RESERVE
- 2.) Etienne Balibar, 1-311
- 3.) Optional reading: Tom McDonough, "No Ghost," *October* Issue 110 (Fall 2004) 107-130; Available on-line at JSTOR
- 4.) In-class viewing of Pierre Huyghe's video

Thursday May 4: FINAL ESSAY DUE