

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Living with Defeat: France and the Second World War, History and Legacies
Status: Definitive
Code: **6101HIST** (122232)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science
Teaching School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science

Team	Leader
Thomas Beaumont	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ6
Credit Value: 20
Total Delivered Hours: 35
Total Learning Hours: 200
Private Study: 165

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Online	2
Seminar	33

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS2	3,000 word essay	60	
Portfolio	AS1	2,000 word Portfolio (2x1,000 word Primary Source-focussed analysis (Gobbet))	40	

Aims

This course aims to introduce students to the key social, cultural and political contexts and historical debates concerning everyday life in France in the period leading up to, during and following the Second World War. Students will be introduced to key historiographical debates such as the legacies of the First World War; the significance of political and social divisions in 1930s France; the reasons for

the defeat of 1940; the depth of French anti-Semitism and involvement in the Holocaust; the nature and goals of collaborationism; the nature and aims of the Vichy regime; the nature, role and realities Resistance to the German occupation; significance of role of the Empire in this period of French history and the experiences of colonial subjects; the experience of everyday life for ordinary French people during the war years; the impact of occupation upon gender relations; the experience of Liberation; the realities of the post-war purges & the efforts to renew France; the development of postwar memory of the war years and debates surrounding the trials of leading Vichy-era figures in the 1980s, 1990s & 2000s.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate a firm grasp of the historiography of the period.
- 2 Engage in historical debate on a range of topics in modern French History
- 3 Demonstrate high level competence in analysing and evaluating primary source materials.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Essay	1	2	3
Portfolio	1	2	

Outline Syllabus

This module explores the social, cultural and political impact of four years of defeat and occupation upon ordinary French men and women during the Second World War. It encourages students to go beyond straightforward categories of 'Resistance' and 'Collaboration' to explore in detail the complex and contradictory experience of French people together, with France's imperial subjects, in this tumultuous period in modern French history. The module will proceed thematically (though in a broadly chronological fashion), examining key concepts and debates. Students will examine these developments across international, national and local scale as well as at the level of individual French men and women. The final weeks of the course will include a detailed analysis of the development of the memory of the 'Vichy' years in postwar France, the rise of Holocaust memory and the criminal trials of collaborators of the 1990s and 2000s.

Students will engage with a wide range of materials, from oral histories, autobiographies and diaries to archival materials, posters, films, novels and newspapers. No knowledge of French is required or expected.

Learning Activities

Seminars.

Notes

Students will be introduced to key historical concepts such as 'Resistance'; 'Collaboration'; 'Everyday Life'; 'Gender' and 'Memory'. Students will develop their critical and analytical skills to a high level through the analysis of a broad range of primary and secondary materials, including documents, diaries, letters, autobiographies and testimonies. Other materials such as novels, posters and films will also form a key part of the course.