

Prof. Baumgartner, Politics in France, Spring 2008

Suggested Readings

Good term papers (and education in general) require finding the right references. Noodling around the internet for a few minutes is not the way to go. There are a lot of excellent bibliographic references available to help you get started or to zero in on any particular topic. However, it's surprisingly useful to start with a good book and go from there. So here are some good books. Another surprisingly useful thing for students accustomed to internet searching is to actually go to the library. Look up some of the books below. They'll likely be catalogued and placed on the shelves near other books on the same or similar topics. Spend an hour in the stacks of the library, the old fashioned way, browsing through books shelved to the left and the right of the books you initially locate. Read at least one of them for each of your papers.

Here are a couple of pointers about what professors like to see. We like to see books published by university presses. Why? Because they are not likely to be text books (that is, general surveys of well known material). However, text books are often very useful to students as you begin (same with Wikipedia and other on-line sources, a good place to start, but not to finish, your research). Your own text book in this class is a case in point: at the end of each chapter it points you to a number of other books on the topic. If you find other text books, they will do similarly. I've listed a few text books below. Like an encyclopedia entry, these are good places to *start*.

We don't really like to see edited books all that much. Why not? Because each chapter is just a short essay, and the combination of the various essays in the edited book might or might not add up to a detailed discussion of your topic. There are of course some exceptions to this, a few of which are listed below.

We don't like to see books published in 1935 used as if they were contemporary references. Using older books is fine (some of the ones below are older), but make sure you notice the publication date, and make allowance for what may have changed in the meantime.

We like seeing articles published in academic journals as well as books published by university presses. Main reason: These go through peer review and tend to be the result of original research, rather than just someone's opinion or a compilation of well-known facts, as in a text book.

We don't like internet-only sourcing. Call us old fashioned. The reason is not that, however; it is quality control. If you find the same material on-line, by all means use it. But a trip to the library will be surprisingly helpful, and the contents of entire books are not typically available on-line. Reading the little excerpts available at Amazon can give you a quote or two, and that might *look like* research, but believe me, professors are not that dumb.

One exception to the rule above is if you are interested in reading biographies of individual political figures, or books written by political figures, or books written by journalists about particular controversies. But you have to know what you have read; often these books will lay

out opinions, which is fine. Similarly, looking at the web sites of political parties, government ministries, and other political actors is a great idea, as long as you know what you're reading. Just don't present those as fact in your paper.

General overviews:

Ardagh, John. 1987. *France Today*. New York: Penguin. There may be some more recent versions of this book; check for Ardagh.

Ehrmann, Henry W., and Martin A. Schain. *Politics in France*. New York: HarperCollins. Textbook, use the most recent edition available.

Hauss, Charles. 2008. *Politics in France*. Washington: Congressional Quarterly. A new textbook, just published.

Safran, William. *The French Polity*. New York: Longman. Another good text; use the most recent edition.

Todd, Emmanuel. 1991. *The Making of Modern France*. Cambridge, MA: Basil Blackwell. Historical perspective.

Wright, Gordon. *France in Modern Times*. New York: Norton. Various editions, get the most recent one. General historical overview.

More focused books:

Archambault, Edith. 1997. *The Nonprofit Sector in France*. Manchester: Manchester University Press. A study of charities.

Bergmann, Barbara R. 1996. *Saving Our Children from Poverty: What the United States Can Learn From France*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation. A discussion of how France has such an advanced system of child care and other benefits that keep children in school and out of poverty.

Birnbaum, Pierre. 1982. *The Heights of Power*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. A sociological study showing the powers of the elite state bureaucrats who rule France.

Boy, Daniel, and Nonna Mayer, eds. 1993. *The French Voter Decides*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. A quantitative study of voting behavior in France, based on a large survey.

Crozier, Michel. 1967. *The Bureaucratic Phenomenon*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. A classic about French culture.

- Crozier, Michel. 1973. *The Blocked Society*. New York: Viking. Another classic study of how political change comes about, or does not, in France.
- Daley, Anthony. 1996. *Steel, State, and Labor: Mobilization and Adjustment in France*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press. A study of de-industrialization in France.
- Gourevitch, Peter Alexis. 1980. *Paris and the Provinces: The Politics of Local Government Reform in France*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Classic, but somewhat dated, study of the relations between central and local government in France. Be sure also to read Schmidt on decentralization as well if you read this book.
- Hall, Peter. 1986. *Governing the Economy: The Politics of State Intervention in Britain and France*. New York: Oxford University Press. Excellent overview of economic policymaking in France.
- Hoffman, Stanley, et al. 1963. *In Search of France*. New York: Harper and Row. Dated, but a classic study of French society and politics, from the beginning years of the 5th Republic.
- Hollifield, James F. 1992. *Immigrants, Markets, and States: The Political Economy of Postwar Europe*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. A review of how the immigrants were needed for labor shortages, and the consequences.
- Horowitz, Donald L. and Gerard Noiriel, eds. 1992. *Immigrants in Two Democracies: The French and American Experience*. New York: New York University Press. Discusses how France and the United States have handled the question of rising immigration.
- Horton, Christine. 1995. *Policing Policy in France*. London: Policy Studies Institute. Just like the title says: How the police are organized.
- Huber, John D. 1996. *Rationalizing Parliament: Legislative Institutions and Party Politics in France*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Not an easy read, but an important study of how things work in Parliament.
- Hullung, Mark. 2002. *Citizens and Citoyens: Republicans and Liberals in America and France*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. A philosophical comparison of the intellectual roots of republican ideals in the US and France.
- Kolodziej, Edward A. 1987. *Making and Marketing Arms*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Discusses the power of the French military-industrial complex.
- Lewis-Beck, Michael S., ed. 2000. *How France Votes*. New York: Chatham House. A study of the electoral system in France, with chapters by leading French and American scholars.

- Mazur, Amy. 1996. *Gender Bias and the State: Symbolic Reform at Work in Fifth Republic France*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press. A discussion of women's rights and equality of the sexes in the workplace in France.
- Paxton, Robert. 1972. *Vichy France: Old Guard and New Order*. New York: Columbia University Press. A major historical study about the French experience in World War Two.
- Pierce, Roy. 1995. *Choosing the Chief: Presidential Elections in France and the United States*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. A comparison of how we elect our Presidents.
- Rohr, John A. 1995. *Founding Republics in France and America: A Study in Constitutional Governance*. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas. An analysis of the differing philosophical foundations of the French and American constitutions.
- Rousso, Henry. 1991. *The Vichy Syndrome: History and Memory in France since 1944*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. A classic by a major French historian. People now use the phrase "Vichy syndrome" in every day speech.
- Schmidt, Vivien. 2007. *Democratizing France: The Political and Administrative History of Decentralization*. New York: Cambridge University Press. A study of the decentralization reforms of the 1980s.
- Schmidt, Vivien. 1996. *From State to Market? The Transformation of French Business and Government*. New York: Cambridge University Press. A study of the 1990s policies of giving somewhat greater freedom to business to operate in the open market in France.
- Simmons, Harvey G. 1996. *The French National Front: The Extremist Challenge to Democracy*. Boulder: Westview Press. One of many studies of the National Front. There may also be more recent ones as well.
- Smith, W. Rand. 1998. *The Left's Dirty Job: The Politics of Industrial Restructuring in France and Spain*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press. Like the study by Daley, a review of what happened in the 1970s and 1980s when France lost its heavy industry.
- Stone, Alec. 1992. *The Birth of Judicial Politics in France: The Constitutional Council in Comparative Perspective*. New York: Oxford University Press. A study of the role of the Constitutional Council in the 5th Republic.
- Suleiman, Ezra N. 1974. *Politics, Power, and Bureaucracy in France: The Administrative Elite*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. A classic study, if somewhat dated now, about the power of high civil servants in France.
- Suleiman, Ezra N. 1978. *Elites in French Society*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Follows up on the previous study.

Tilly, Charles. 1967. *The Vendée*. New York: Wiley. A classic study of protest and opposition to central government.

Wilsford, David. 1991. *Doctors and the State: The Politics of Health Care in France and the United States*. Durham: Duke University Press. Compares approaches to training doctors and providing health care services.

Wilson, Frank L. 1987. *Interest Group Politics in France*. New York: Cambridge University Press. A thorough study of the interest-group system in France.

Wylie, Lawrence. 1964. *Village in the Vaucluse*. New York: Harper and Row. Another old classic, a study of small town political life.