

Faculty of Arts and Letters



HIST2571 Seminar in history and politology

[30h] 5 credits

This course is taught in the 1st semester

Teacher(s): Xavier Rousseaux, Laurence Van Ypersele
Language: French
Level: Second cycle

Aims

By the end of this seminar, students should be able to treat a question from history from the viewpoint of heuristics, criticism of sources and data interpretation. He should be able to write a research report delimiting the original question and synthesize hypotheses advanced, difficulties encountered and results obtained.

Main themes

The seminar puts the principles of historical criticism through case study and the concrete analysis of sources of various natures and origins to work. It also allows us to explore concepts and methods, as well as the models and hypotheses the confrontation of documentary sources and theoretical analyses give rise to.

During group working meetings, each participant, based on a personal preliminary work, presents his analysis of an aspect of the chosen theme, paying particular attention to heuristic and critical aspects, then submitting it for group evaluation.

The procedures and steps in treatment, as well as the synthesis and conclusions are developed in common.

By the deeper understanding of the historian's procedure it represents and the effort to communicate it involves, this seminar is direct preparation for the licence memoir.

Content and teaching methods

The seminar proposes studying a theme combining the different stages of the historical method (problematics, heuristics, critical analysis and interpretation) and the contributions of socio-political reflection (theories, models and explanations). Particular attention will be paid to social practices and collective memories.

Other information (prerequisite, evaluation (assessment methods), course materials recommended readings, ...)

Evaluation : Based on active participation in the seminar and the capacity to present a personal work both orally and in writing. The 1st licence student turns in a written assignment at the beginning of the month of February, those in 2nd licence for the end of the first semestre.

Teaching materials : Student notes.

Teaching : By the instructor and, in some cases, assistants assigned by the Department.

Preferably, this seminar should be attributed to two instructors.

Other credits in programs

HIST21	Première licence en histoire	(5 credits)
HIST22	Deuxième licence en histoire	(4 credits)