

# France and the Holocaust

## THE FIRST YEAR SEMINAR

**J ST/FR 083 T:**  
**France and the Holocaust in Film and Literature**  
**3 cr. hrs.**  
**Tu/Th 1:00-2:15**

This seminar examines both the French experience of the Holocaust, during which about one quarter of the approximately 333,000 Jews living in France in 1940 perished, and literary and cinematic representations of this experience. Through closely studying these memoirs, novels and films, and by comparing and contrasting them with the historical record, we will address a range of questions, including: What can these representations teach us not only about the history of France and the Holocaust but also about the memory of this period? Is it possible to create adequate representations of an event as horrific as the Holocaust? If so, are certain genres or media better suited to the task of such representation than others? Should we be wary of using such representations as historical documents?



## - OPTIONAL - STUDY ABROAD

**J ST/FR 499**  
**Study Tour: France and the Holocaust**  
**1 cr. hr.**  
**May 2010**

Students may also participate in an optional one-week visit to France designed to amplify the material examined in the seminar. This study tour to Paris will include a visit to the concentration camp of Drancy; meetings with Holocaust survivors; walking tours of Jewish neighborhoods, and other activities. This study abroad opportunity is also open to students who have taken either JST/HIST 121 or FR 332 or FR 430 and have the permission of the instructor. The cost of this trip is estimated at \$2600.

Scholarship support is available from the Jewish Studies Program, the Schreyer Honors College, and the College of the Liberal Arts.



Allegorical statue of the  
Synagogue, Notre-Dame de  
Paris Cathedral

Plaque in memory of Jewish  
schoolchildren deported from  
Paris between 1942 and 1944

Interested students should contact either: Willa Silverman, Professor of French and Jewish Studies [wzs1@psu.edu](mailto:wzs1@psu.edu) or  
Brian Hesse, Director, Jewish Studies Program [bch11@psu.edu](mailto:bch11@psu.edu)