The focus of this class, which continues *Early Modern French Cultures* [French 351], is to survey the history of modern France, since the 1789 revolution, through an array of documents, films, and novels, in order to understand the foundations of the fifth republic, and the events that shaped nowadays France.

While making sense of the chronology of events, we’ll read two novels that marked the two of the major turns in modern France history: *Au Bonheur des dames*, by Zola, through which we’ll study the effect of the Industrial revolution on society, and *Elise ou la vraie vie*, the backdrop of which is the decolonization and the Algerian war, and the reshaping of French national identity.

The class is conducted in French.