Sarah Maza  
History 101-6-20  
FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR—OCCUPIED FRANCE, 1940-1945: COLLABORATION, RESISTANCE, AND MEMORY  
Day/Time: TTH 3:30-4:50  
Office Address: Harris Hall Room L31  
Office Phone: (847) 467-7033  
Email Address: scm@northwestern.edu  
Maximum Enrollment: 15

COURSE DESCRIPTION: What does it mean to “collaborate with” or “resist” a heinous regime? How do nations choose to remember or try to forget shameful episodes of their past? These questions frame one of the most notorious episodes in modern European history, the occupation of France by Germany during World War II and the role of the collaborationist French government in sending over 70,000 Jews to their deaths in the camps. This course will explore, in a first section, the experiences and choices of French women and men under German occupation based on memoirs, documentaries, and historical accounts. In the second part we will look at how French governments and people have dealt with the memory of France’s “Dark Years,” including attempts to erase, commemorate, and dramatize this period through government policies, monuments, movies and hit French television series.

AREA OF CONCENTRATION: Europe

TEACHING METHOD: Seminar

EVALUATION METHOD: Grades will be based on participation and four short (3-5 pg.) papers plus one or two rewrites

GRADING BASIS: ANC

TENTATIVE READING LIST:
John Sweets, Choices in Vichy France, 9780195090529 (excerpts)
Susan Zucotti, France, the Holocaust, and the Jews, 9780803299146 (excerpts)
Helene Berr, Journal, 978-1602860940 (memoir)
Agnes Humbert, Resistance, 978-1400158331 (memoir)
Irene Nemirovsky, Suite Francaise, 978-140096275 (novel)
“Weapons of the Spirit” (documentary)
“Au revoir les enfants” (fact-based drama)
“A Village in France” (TV Series)

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE: Sarah Maza has been teaching French history at Northwestern for several decades and has published four books on various aspects of French political, social, and cultural history from the 18th to the 20th century. She also directs NU’s Nicholas Chabraja Center for Historical Studies.