

Courage in the Shadows: Women of the French Resistance in World War II (Course taught in French)

Course aims

This course explores the pivotal yet often unrecognised contributions of women in the French Resistance during the Second World War. Improve your French skills while delving into a historical topic that has long been overlooked by society and historians. Discover the stories of heroic women who actively participated in the Resistance and those who defied oppression in the secrecy of their homes.

Who the course is for

University students, staff & Members of the public, with an interest in improving their French skills through the study of a socio-historical topic.

Language requirement

The course material is designed for B2 level students in French. We recommend this course for those at a B2 level or with equivalent experience, such as A-level French. It may also be suitable for those with a strong B1 level who are eager to challenge themselves with more advanced material.

Course fees

£70

Course dates

17 March, 24 March, 31 March, 7 April

6-7.30pm

Contact hours

1.5 hours / week

Class size

9-16 (with a minimum enrolment of 9 for the course to run)

Mode of delivery

In-person: University of Sussex campus

Teaching methods

This course will be taught through interactive lectures designed to deepen your understanding of both the historical topic and the French language. You will work with

a variety of authentic materials, including texts, videos, and historical documents. These resources will help you improve your proficiency in all four key language skills: listening, reading, writing, and speaking. Through guided exercises, discussions, and group activities, you will enhance your ability to communicate effectively in French while gaining a richer perspective on the contributions and experiences of women in the French Resistance during World War II.

Assessment and self-study

This is a non-credited course and there will be no assessments. Self-study material will be provided so that students can maximise their learning.

Course outline

Week 1: The role and image of women in Vichy France

Week 2: Women of action (Part 1): The early forms of resistance

Week 3: Women of action (Part 2): A structured resistance

Week 4: The underestimation of women's roles in historiography and collective memory