C232 QUEER POLITICS IN CONTEMPORARY FRANCE

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**DS1 BOOK/FILM REVIEW (25%)**

Please submit this Turnitin **by** TBD

Write an 800-word critical review of **one** of the following books or films (+/- 10% - footnotes and quotations included, bibliography excluded):

* *Blue Is The Warmest Color* by Jul Maroh (Arsenal Pulp Press ; 2013). How does this French graphic novel engage with queer politics and power dynamics?
* *Je, tu, il, elle* by Chantal Akerman (1974). How does this experimental film engage with queer politics and lesbianism?
* *L’armée du salut* by Abdellah Taïa (Seuil ; 2006).[[1]](#footnote-1) How does this Francophone novel engage with queer diaspora and homosexuality?

**DS2 GROUP PRESENTATION (25%)**

**DS3 ESSAY (**50%)

Please submit this essay to Turnitin by TBD

Write a 1800-word essay for **one** of the following questions (+/- 10% - footnotes and quotations included, bibliography excluded).

1. After placing the film in its socio-political context, analyze the impact of the AIDS crisis on queer identities in France in *The Perfect Guy*[[2]](#footnote-2) by Olivier Ducastel and Jacques Martineau **or** *120* *BPM (Beats per Minute)* by Robin Campillo (2017). Discuss how the public politics impact intimacy.

2. Write an essay about **one** specific individual, activist organization or critical historical moment of action. Discuss how they cast new light on our understanding of queer politics within the francophone culture.

Choose one in this list:

* specific individual: Guy Hocquengham, Jean Cocteau, Jean Genet, Monique Wittig, Céline Sciamma, Virginie Despentes
* activist organization/group: Act Up, Arcadie (homophile groupe launched by André Baudry), The front homosexuel d'action révolutionnaire (FHAR),[[3]](#footnote-3) Gouines rouges (“Red Dykes”)
* historical moment : the civil solidarity pact (PACS), Christiane Taubira and same-sex marriage in France (“le mariage pour tous”)

1. *Salvation Army*, trans. Frank Stock (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2009) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The French title is *Jeanne et le garçon formidabl*e [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. In English: Homosexual Front for Revolutionary Action [↑](#footnote-ref-3)