

# **What makes the French so French (FRENCH CULTURE)**

## **Course objective**

The course aims to give some cultural keys concerning the culture (way of life, society, gastronomy, politics, religion...), main historical events, major artistic tendencies, thoughts, fundamental symbols (concrete or abstract) representing French memory. The goal is to give some keys to help the students understand the current French society and integrate better.

## **Course description**

We will first start with stereotypes to then mainly focus on heritage, culture and some important dates and facts and see how they continue in many different ways influencing the contemporary reality.

Students will have the opportunity to get out of the classroom with a visit of the Old Lille and its main historical places and an apprentice cook experience on French cuisine (no prerequisite skills needed).

In other words, a sense of observation is expected, as well as curiosity and questioning.

## **Teaching method/assessment**

Regular attendance is important to thoroughly understand the keys given.

Each student (as a group or as an individual) will have to realize a presentation about a course topic and will have to hand out a written summary of the presentation.

For marking, relevancy, quality of the presentation, coherence, and legibility will be taken into account, as well as clarity and precision of the oral presentation. The personalized nature of the written part will also be taken into account. In other words, the aim is not only to gather information on the web and even less to copy an entire article.