I. The French Party System
   A. Right Parties
   B. Left Parties
   C. Traits of the Party System

II. Elections

III. Interest Groups

IV. Culture and National Identity
A. Right Parties

- **Union pour un mouvement populaire (UMP ‘Union for a Popular Movement’)**
  - Generally referred to as “Gaullists”
  - Merger of Rassemblement pour la République (RPR -- ‘Rally for the Republic’) and parts of UDF

- **Mouvement Democratise (Democratic Movement)**
  - Rump of the Union des Démocrates pour la France (UDF – ‘Union for French Democracy’) led by François Bayrou

- **Front National (FN – ‘National Front’)**
B. Left Parties

- *Parti Socialiste* (PS - Socialist Party)
- *Parti Communiste Français* (PCF – French Communist Party)
- Diversity of smaller left-wing parties/movements (The Greens, Worker’s Struggle, anti-globalization activist José Bové)
C. Traits of the Party System

- Personalized Parties
- Loose Organization
- Shifting Alliances
- National Parties
- Ideological Similarity of Major Parties
  - Appeal of Fringe Parties

Jean Marie le Pen
“France for the French”
II. French Elections

- Differences in election for President, National Assembly, and Senate
- Aspects of French Elections
- Elections over National Issues
III. Interest Groups

- Business -- MEDEF
- Labor
  - CGT: General Confederation of Labor
  - FO: Workers Force
  - CFDT: French Democratic Confederation of Labor
  - CFTC: French Confederation of Christian Workers
- Agriculture (FNSEA) & Public Sector Unions
- Pluralist and Corporatist Elements
  - Economic and Social Council
- ‘State Dominated Pluralism’
IV. Political Culture and National Identity

- French Ideological Traditions
  - Jacobinism, Bonapartism, Statism
- Elements of French Political Culture
  - Distrust and Rebellion (direct democracy)
  - Strong leadership/Personalization of politics
  - Support for strong, centralized state
- An un-civic culture? (*incivisme*)
- French identity in a globalized world

For José Bové takes a stand…

…against hamburgers.