

My project will tell the story of Frenchwomen in occupied France during the Second World War. War left women without husbands, fathers and adult sons. France became a Nazi puppet state under the control of the Vichy collaborationist government. The Vichy state fought to maintain traditional conservatism and gender roles, though it became increasingly necessary for women to fill wartime gaps in society. Thus, the reality of daily life undermined Vichy policy as women were forced to act contrary to Vichy's imposed social politics. Women's daily choices, which opposed Vichy's idealized model of a woman's societal role, ensured their survival.

My research, in part, was conducted in the National Libraries of Paris thanks to funding from UROP, an Honors College Mini-Grant and an Arts and Sciences APLE Award. My primary source findings abroad will compliment my scholarly secondary source research conducted at UVM. The union of the two will outline the tenets of Vichy's proposed National Revolution for France and the wartime realities that made this an impossible vision.