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**FILM ABOUT LEON BLUM, FORMER FRENCH PRIME MINISTER  
IMPRISONED BY NAZIS, TO BE SCREENED AT RAMAPO COLLEGE**

(MAHWAH, NJ) – Jean Bodon, director and co-producer of the film "Léon Blum: For All Mankind," will screen and lead a discussion of the film at Ramapo College of New Jersey in April.

The film examines the life of the former three-time Prime Minister of France who was imprisoned in the infamous Buchenwald concentration camp during World War II. Blum's Jewish heritage and his socialist ideology eventually made him a target for the Nazis, and in 1943 they deported him to the Buchenwald concentration camp in Germany where he remained imprisoned for two years. Bodon says the Nazis used Blum as a hostage for a possible future exchange.

After his release, Blum headed France's provisional government from 1946-1947 and negotiated a U.S. loan to France for post-war reconstruction. He died in 1950. Blum is best known by his countrymen for introducing labor reforms, including the 40-hour workweek, increased wages and two-week paid vacations for workers.

Bodon, a native of France, teaches film in the Department of Communication Studies of University of Alabama, Birmingham. He teaches courses in television production, cinema and broadcasting. In 2000, he was honored with the President's Excellence Teaching Award.

Bodon has worked as a feature film director and producer and as a director of documentaries and television commercials. His films have been screened at some of the world's most prominent film presentation organizations including Lincoln Center, the Library of Congress and the Cinémathèque Française. Bodon's works have been broadcast on HBO, Showtime, Cinemax, The Movie Channel, E!, TLC, and many other cable systems and networks throughout the world.

His extensive work in the area of film also includes a book on Charlie Chaplin which was prefaced by François Truffaut and "Cinema: an introduction" prefaced by Robert Wise.

Bodon will screen a portion of the film and lead a discussion on Tuesday, April 12 at 3:45 p.m. in the H-Wing Auditorium (H-129). The screening and presentation are free and open to the public. For more information or to reserve a seat, please call 201.684.7409.

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as fourth in the Best Regional Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include nursing and social work, and as courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers four graduate programs and articulated programs with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, New York Chiropractic College, New York University College of Dentistry, SUNY State College of Optometry and New York College of Podiatric Medicine.

Undergraduate students choose to concentrate their studies in one of five schools with more than 700 course offerings and 40 academic programs. Ramapo College boasts an average student/faculty ratio of 18:1 and average class size of 23, affording students the opportunity to develop close ties to the College's exceptional faculty.