

FR 204 Introduction to French and Francophone Studies

Instructor: Jeorg Ellen Sauer

MWF 10-10:50

This course engages students in a reflection of what it means to do “French Studies” in an American university and acquaints them with the kinds of activities they will see in more advanced French courses. Specific assignments will help students practice making coherent and eloquent arguments both orally and in writing based on close textual analysis.

FR 215 France Today

Instructor: Julie Human

TR 2-3:15

Explores the issues, debates, and conflicts that define culture and society in contemporary France. Emphasis on speaking and listening skills in French.

FR 307 French for Business and Economics

Instructor: Sadia Zoubir-Shaw

TR 9:30-10:45

Development of specialized conversational and written proficiency necessary to import-export business activities, banking, insurance, business regulation, etc., in the French-speaking world.

FR 325 French Cinema: Introduction to Francophone Cinema

Instructor: Nisrine Slitine El Mghari

TR 12:30-1:45

In this course, we will travel through various historical times and French-speaking regions (the Maghreb, Sub-Sahara, the Antilles, Quebec, Belgium) as well as transnational France with its immigration population from different generations. We will explore themes including immigration, education, war, social injustice, racism, hybrid cultures, the impact of history on contemporary societies, as well as national, ethnic, religious, and cultural identities in the 20th and 21st-Century Francophone films. In addition to examining the content of each film, we will investigate the context in which it was produced and its critical reception.

FR 344 20th Century French Poetry

Instructor: Jeorg Ellen Sauer

MWF 11-11:50

Politically engaged, avant-garde, surreal, or challenging the system, 20th century French poets used subversion to create new language. This course will read and examine poetry from early to late in the 20th century to better understand the evolution of poetic style and thought. From the traditional style of Anna de Noailles to Tristan Tzara's surrealism, or the love poetry of Paul Éluard and the provocative poetry of Raymond Queneau, we will discuss how poetry transformed thought in art and culture. This course will give the students a survey of French poetry during the 20th Century. The course grade will be composed of close readings, recitations, and exams.

FR 425 Media Studies**Instructor: Leon Sachs****MWF 12-12:50**

In this course, students will examine the idea of media in its broadest sense (not in the usual sense of mass media (radio, television, journalism). Taking as its starting point the origin of the word (from Latin, medius meaning ‘middle’) this course will reflect on the way a variety of text and visual media mediate the relationship between the self and the world, between our ideas about reality and reality itself. Students will also have the opportunity to review some of the thornier questions of French grammar.

FR 471G Comedy, Humor, Irony**Instructor: Leon Sachs****MWF 2-2:50**

What makes us laugh? Why do we find things funny? Why do we recognize humor even when we don’t laugh? What is the social function of comedic art? How is it different from more serious art? This course explores answers to these questions with the help of Henri Bergson’s theory of the comedic and close studies of a selection of modern theater, fiction and film. Among the writers and filmmakers we will encounter are Samuel Beckett, Eugène Ionesco, Marguerite Duras, Yasmina Rez, Jacques Tati and Agnès Jaoui. The course will also include regular grammar review sessions.

FR 612 Stylistics of French**Instructor: Sadia Zoubir-Shaw****W 3:30-6**

A study of the history and structure of French with an emphasis on contemporary features.

FR 630-001 Littératures de l’Atlantique**Instructor: Nisrine Slitine El Mghari****R 3:30-6**

This course examines the literary, social, and political issues brought to the fore in the 20th- and 21st-century literature of the French Atlantic. These works bear witness to the different experiences of North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, and the French Antilles with colonization and repercussions of colonialism, independence, and the development of Francophone cultures in these regions. This course pays particular attention to how this corpus of literature addresses issues related to language, identity, race, gender, religion, migration, and the particular socio-political contexts from which such works emerge. Additionally, the course content will lead us to an investigation of the meaning and implications of the word “Francophonie” and the transition into littérature-monde. The readings are works by predominantly very well-known Francophone authors. Students in this course will read all the primary literary texts in French.