

Fall 2016 Course Offerings

French and Francophone Studies

FR 103 (taught in English) French Cinema

Fulfills UK Core – Inquiry in the Humanities

Dr. Jeffrey Peters
MWF 2:00-2:50

A history of French Cinema from the early twentieth century to the early 1970s. Emphasis on the primary aesthetic movements of French cinematic expression in social and historical context. Attention given to the formal elements specific to film, techniques of film analysis, and the nature of visual culture. Viewing of films outside of class required. Taught in English, with no knowledge of French necessary.

FR 204 Introduction to French and Francophone Studies

Dr. Leon Sachs
TR 11:00-12:15

This course engages students in a reflection on 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 courses. Through careful analysis of a variety of literary texts, students will consider the problems – and intellectual potential – involved in studying a field that is by definition interdisciplinary. Specific assignments will help students practice both oral and written expression and expository writing. Students will also review essential grammar points encountered in previous study of French.

FR 214 France Today

Dr. Julie Human
TR 12:30-1:45

This course helps students improve their speaking proficiency and examines popular culture, current issues, and the institutions and society of post-1945 France. Students discuss French culture and compare and contrast life in France to their own cultures.

FR 310 French Phonetics

Dr. Sadia Zoubir-Shaw
MWF 9:00-9:50

This course teaches the fundamental theory of French sounds and intonation patterns and provides practice in pronunciation and corrective Phonetics. The course content, imbedded in a contrastive and comparative approach, includes an on-line pronunciation program and in-class presentations to gain practice in self and peer correction and auditory discrimination.

FR 324 Studies in French Literature: Writing Women in the Middle Ages

Dr. Julie Human
TR 2:00-3:15

This course offers the opportunity to analyze representations of women in texts from the Middle Ages, including those written by both male and female authors. By analyzing women not only as writers but also as subjects of medieval texts, we will study the historic, cultural, and literary contexts of writing women in the French Middle Ages.

FR 344 The Literary Text: Feminist Voices

Ms. Jeorg Ellen Sauer
MWF 11:00-11:50

Simone de Beauvoir proclaimed woman to be the *Other* in her seminal work *Le deuxième sexe*. This course will examine how (women) writers have questioned the societal role of “woman” through the centuries. Close readings of poetry, prose, manifestos, and novels will guide our class as we discuss the issues these authors portray. We will analyze the authors’ cultural context and consider their writing objectives. Students will be expected to give short presentations, lead class discussion, write creatively and analytically.

FR 410 French in Performance

Dr. Sadia Zoubir-Shaw
MWF 10:00-10:50

The focus of FR 410 is oral production in French through performance. In a variety of settings exploring register, style, tone, pitch, articulation, and pace, students will engage in debates and spontaneous role-play and simulations for practice, and rehearsed skits and formally written scripts for performance.

FR 470G Topical Seminar I: Reframing Auto/Biography in *bande dessinée*

Ms. Jeorg Ellen Sauer
MWF 12:00-12:50

Autobiography and biography are distinct yet similar genres. In this course, we will explore how *bande dessinée* artists “cross the lines” by juxtaposing and intertwining both genres. We will examine how an artist visually represents the lives of others while weaving in her own life narrative—subsequently reframing two life narratives. During the semester, we will not only read auto/biographical comics, but literary works and scholarship as well. Students will be expected to lead class discussions, write in analytical prose, and create a comic book.

FR 609 La Fontaine’s *comédie humaine*

Dr. Jeffrey Peters
M 3:30-6:00

In “Le bûcheron et Mercure,” Jean de La Fontaine describes the fable genre as “Une ample Comédie à cent actes divers, / Et dont la scène est l’Univers.” In this class, we will ask what La Fontaine means by this. We will read seventeenth-century literary practice and philosophical reflection through the lens of La Fontaine’s *Fables* and his theater metaphor, and consider the theoretical questions they raise. These will include: the nature of the poetic, problems of cosmic scale and its relation to the human situation, La Fontaine’s argument with Descartes over knowledge and the soul (and therefore the debate between Epicureans and rationalists), concepts of artistic originality and agency, the origins of disciplinarity, and the problem of the pictorial in verbal texts.

FR 612 Structure and Stylistics of French

Dr. Sadia Zoubir-Shaw
W 3:30-6:00

This course provides a brief overview of the history and branches of linguistics but focuses on the structure of French in its various linguistic forms: phonetics – sound and syntax of intonation patterns, for instance – phonology, morpho-syntax, lexicology and issues relating to socio-linguistics (register, lexicon frequency, “norm” versus “dialect” and “substandard”), and written versus oral forms of the French language.