

Fall 2018 Course Offerings French and Francophone Studies

FR 103 (taught in English)

Fulfills UK Core – Inquiry in the Humanities

Instructor: Dr. Jeffrey Peters

French Cinema

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

Instructor: Dr. Leon Sachs (section -001) TR 12:30-1:45

Introduction to French and Francophone Studies

Instructor: Dr. Jacqueline Couti (section -002) 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 205

Instructor: Ms. Jeorg Ellen Sauer

The French Graphic Novel

MWF 12:00-12:50

If Superman can be defined as the ultimate “comics” expression of America, what does the French comic book character Astérix say about the French? And what happens when you leave the comics world of the superhero and encounter explorers, historical figures, the Louvre reimagined, strange gothic children, or representations of everyday people? During the semester, we will examine how comics and graphic novels function on a narrative level visually as well as textually to shape understanding culture. The adventures of Tintin, Astérix and Obélix, Persepolis and others will guide us in our inquiry into illustrations of French identities.

FR 214

Instructor: Dr. Jacqueline Couti

France Today

TR 2:00-3:15

This course enhances students’ speaking abilities, while at the same time examining popular culture, current issues, business and commerce culture, and the institutions and society of post-1945 France. Students discuss French culture, compare and contrast life in France to their own, and consider questions surrounding distinctions between high and low culture.

FR 310

Instructor: Dr. Sadia Zoubir-Shaw

French Phonetics

TR 9:30-10:45

FR 310 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

Instructor: Ms. Jeorg Ellen Sauer

Studies in French Literature: What Is Literature?

MWF 10:00-10:50

What gets classified as literature? Who decides what literature is? And why do certain works not make the cut? This class focuses on contextualized readings about the debates (sometimes scandalous) and critiques (sometimes hostile) of contemporary authors and the “literature” they write. Students will write several short papers in French in various styles—an OpEd critique of a work, an analysis of an excerpt, and a comparison paper between two time periods.

FR 325

Instructor: Ms. Jeorg Ellen Sauer

Le cinéma français: La biographie

MWF 11:00-11:50

This course examines how directors use film to tell life stories. We will examine the lives of famous French figures that captured the imaginations of their audience. Students will read about the person portrayed and to compare the written biographies with how the film tells their story.

FR 410

Instructor: Dr. Sadia Zoubir-Shaw

French in Performance

TR 11:00-12:15

Focuses on 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 scripted scripts for performance.

FR 470G

Instructor: Dr. Julie Human

Topical Seminar I: L’amour littéraire

MWF 1:00-1:50

This course explores literary portrayals of love, beginning with varied representations of love and lovers (both courtly and not so courtly) in the Middle Ages. Students will shape this seminar with their own original research, presenting and analyzing texts from the time periods and genres that interest them most, including medieval through 21st-century genres including but not limited to poetry, epistolary novels, plays, and short stories. Coursework includes journal writing, presentations, and a final research paper.

MCI 591

Instructor: Ms. Jeorg Ellen Sauer (section -006) M 9:00-9:50

The Mechanics of French

Instructor: Dr. Jeffrey Peters (section -007) W 1:00-1:50

This class is designed to give students a forum in which to ask questions about lingering problems/questions they have had about any aspect of French grammar. The course is taught in English and is intended to be somewhat informal and at least partially student designed. In other words, the class will cover the material students would like to cover. This is an elective, is not required by the major or minor in French, and may be repeated multiple times. Prereq: FR 204.

FR 612

Instructor: Dr. Sadia Zoubir-Shaw

Structure du français moderne

R 3:30-6:00

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.

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FR 621

Instructor: Dr. Leon Sachs

Twentieth-century French Studies: Literary Experiments

W 3:30-6:00

Playing on the double meaning of the French word “expérience”, this course acquaints students with some of most famous literary “experiments” and “experiences” in twentieth-century French literary and intellectual culture. Students will read representative works of the surrealist movement, existentialism, the nouveau roman, negritude and absurd theater as well as other works noted for their creative innovations. Students will also study important theoretical texts that have made a lasting impact on the way we understand literature still today. Representative authors will include Aragon, Beckett, Breton, Camus, Céline, Césaire, Colette, Robbe-Grillet, Proust, Sarraute, Duras and Barthes.