Fall 2019 Course Offerings French and Francophone Studies

FR 103 (taught in English) French Cinema

Fulfills UK Core – Inquiry in the Humanities

Instructor: 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 Instructor: Ms. Jeorg Ellen Sauer

Introduction to French and Francophone Studies

section -001: MWF 10:00-10:50; section -002: MWF 11:00-11:50 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 encounter 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

Fulfills UK Core – Inquiry in the Humanities FR 205 (taught in English)

Ms. Jeorg Ellen Sauer

MWF 12:00-12:50

The French Graphic Novel [Honors section]

encountered in previous study of French.

If Superman is a "comics" expression of America, what does the French comic book character Astérix say about the French? And what happens when we leave the comics world of the superhero and encounter instead explorers, historical figures, the Louvre, aliens, or strange gothic children? This course examines how comics and graphic novels function visually and narratively to shape our cultural understanding. Taught in English, with no knowledge of French necessary. [Honors section]

FR 215 **Instructor: Ms. Jeorg Ellen Sauer Visual Cultures** MWF 9:00-9:50

In this course, students examine visual media from Francophone cultures while creating interdisciplinary connections with other visual forms of representation. Through analytic exercises of photos, video, art, textiles, drawings, comics, etc., students learn to describe and express the relationship between visual "texts" and the culture from which they come.

FR 310 Instructor: Dr. Sadia Zoubir-Shaw

French Phonetics

MWF 10:00-10:50

FR 310 teaches the fundamental theory of French sounds and intonation patterns and provides practice in pronunciation and corrective Phonetics. The course content, embedded in a contrastive and comparative approach, includes an on-line pronunciation program and inclass presentations to gain practice in self- and peer-correction and auditory discrimination.

FR 325 **Instructor: Dr. Leon Sachs**

Le cinéma français: Le cinéma contemporain

TR 11:00-12:15

This course introduces students to the main currents of French cinema from the end of the twentieth century to the present. After a brief introduction to film analysis, students will study a number of award-winning films treating the following themes: the German Occupation; the banlieues and French cultural diversity; the French school system; police thrillers; documentary film and comedy. Filmmakers will include Claire Denis, Louis Malle, Matthieu Kassovitz, Abdellatif Kechiche, Jacques Audiard, Michael Haneke, André Téchiné and Agnès Varda

FR 350 Instructor: Dr. Nisrine Slitine El Mghari TR 12:30-1:45

Francophone Cultures: Mondes maghrébins

This course looks at the cultural, social, and political issues brought to the fore in twentieth- and twenty-first- century Maghribi visual arts. This course pays particular attention to the ways in which painting, architecture, but also landscaping, ritual, performance, iconography, film, graffiti, photography, bande dessinée, digital arts, and new media address issues related to language, identity, race, gender, memory, migration, Islamism, and the particular socio-political contexts from which such works emerge.

Instructor: Dr. Sadia Zoubir-Shaw French in Performance MWF 11:00-11:50

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 a variety of exercises (debates, role-play, and simulations), and training in various fields of translation to increase their language proficiency and gain sufficient skills to dub a short movie that will be performed at the end of the semester

Instructor: Dr. Leon Sachs

Topical Seminar I: Talking to Animals

TR 2:00-3:15

This course introduces students to the burgeoning field of animal studies through the lens of (mostly) French philosophers, writers and filmmakers. The central question concerns the abiding human fascination with animals: Why do humans seek connections with animals and what forms do those connections take? How have animals come to occupy a central place in our notion of the sacred? How do animals raise questions with respect to language and communication? How do animals shape notions of domesticity, nature and wilderness? What place do animals and human-animal relations occupy in our notion of ethics and moral behavior. We will address these questions through engagement with writers, thinkers and artists such as Georges Bataille, Jacques Derrida, Colette, Jean Giono, Agnès Varda, Marie Darrieussecq and Jean Bruler (Vercors).

Instructor: Ms. Jeorg Ellen Sauer MCL 591 The Mechanics of French M 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.

Fall 2019 Course Offerings French and Francophone Studies

FR 606 Instructor: Dr. Julie Human WickedWomen: Transgression and Misogyny in Medieval French Literature W 3:30-6:00

In this course we will study the construction of female characters in 13th- and 14th-century medieval romance as transgressive. We will analyze the boundaries they cross and examine ways in which these female characters resist societal norms, even within the texts that construct them. Texts include selections from Arthurian romances featuring the Lady of the Lake, Morgan le Fay, and Guenevere. We will also read about Liénor, who aspires to be empress, and Silence, who becomes a knight and then a king's wife. Finally, we will meet Mélusine, a fairy who passes as a woman except on Saturday nights, when she turns into a serpent from the waist down. We will use feminist criticism from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries to frame our discussions.

FR 612 Instructor: Dr. Sadia Zoubir-Shaw

Évolutions actuelles et futures de la langue française

M 3:30-6:00

As the French language spread around the globe and within the confines of *la Francophonie*, it took on a wide variety of linguistic characteristics reminiscent of its history and heritage. While linguistic contact with regional dialects prior to the formation of France are now an integral part of the linguistic and cultural make-up of the French language, more recent effects resulting from contemporary history —Colonization, Europeanization, and Globalization—have contributed additional linguistic hybridization stemming from cultural and social identity changes. To understand the current changes and the future evolution of the French language, students will explore these phenomena through a variety of scholarly articles from linguists, anthropologists, sociologists, etc., and materials such as oral corpora, francophone writers, cinema, and songs, to name a few.