Fall 2021 Course Offerings
French and Francophone Studies

FR 204 Introduction to French and Francophone Studies
Instructor: Dr. Jeorg Ellen Sauer
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 encountered in previous study of French.

FR 215 Visual Cultures
Instructor: Dr. Jeorg Ellen Sauer
MWF 12:00-12:50
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 French Phonetics
Instructor: Dr. Sadia Zoubir-Shaw
TR 9:30-10:45
This course examines 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 in-class presentations to gain practice in self and peer correction and auditory discrimination. French phonemes and intonation patterns will be studied in isolation through a series of contrastive exercises as well as within the continuum of spontaneous speech. Corrective phonetics will be an important part of the course to equip students with techniques and strategies that will carry on beyond the FR 310 classroom.

FR 324 Studies in French Literature: Writing Love
Instructor: Dr. Jeorg Ellen Sauer
MWF 10:00-10:50
FR 350 The Enlightenment and Its Critics
Instructor: Dr. Leon Sachs
TR 12:30-1:45

FR 470G Topical Seminar 1: Histoires de soi: (S’écritre et (se)raconter
Instructor: Dr. Sadia Zoubir-Shaw
TR 2:00-3:15
Using storytelling as a central technique, this course will focus on reading, writing, and speaking skills modeled after various folktale, legends, and autobiographical and fictional works read in class. The first part of the course examines key thinkers (Kant, Locke, Diderot) that have become emblems of the Enlightenment. The second part of the course turns to what is known as the counter-enlightenment—its criticisms—beginning with the enigmatic figure of Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Students will study early feminist critics of the Enlightenment (Olympe de Gouges and Mary Wollstonecraft) and consider how late-twentieth-century intellectual movements (postmodernism, postcolonialism, gender studies and critical race theory) constitute critiques of the Enlightenment. Taught in English. Satisfies Honors College requirement.

FR 621 From Realism to Modernism
Instructor: Dr. Leon Sachs
M 3:30-6:00
This course explores the intellectual and cultural currents underlying the transition from a realist to a modernist aesthetic occurring in late nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century France. Most of the course will be devoted to studying the turn-of-the-century “crisis of representation,” a shift among artists, writers and critics away from a concern with the mimetic function of art to a preoccupation with the techniques and materials of artistic construction itself. Representative writers we will study may include Balzac, Flaubert, Zola, Baudelaire, Mallarmé, Rimbaud, Aragon, Proust, Apollinaire.

FR 630 Récits de la ville
Instructor: Dr. Nisrine Slitine El Mghari
R 3:30-6:00
This course examines how Francophone Maghribi writers represent the evolving and sometimes chaotic cityscapes in Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia from the early 20th century to the present. The emphasis will be on close readings and discussions of (graphic) novels and short stories that describe major themes related to 1. Arab/Isamic, Amazigh, Andalusian Spanish, and Jewish identities, and promise lands and disenchantments; 2. the representation of the city as sites of individual and collective memory in colonial and postcolonial societies; 3. gender issues in North African Islamic Cities. Students in this course will read all the primary literary texts in French.