

Fall 2022 Course Offerings French and Francophone Studies

FR 204

Introduction to French and Francophone Studies

Instructor: Dr. Leon Sachs

TR 12:30-1:45

This course takes French “to the next level;” it helps students transition from so-called language courses to culture and content courses while building on their knowledge of the French language. Through analysis of film and short literary texts, students will experience the thrill of working in 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 10:00-10:50

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 324

Studies in French Literature: The Poetic Form

Instructor: Dr. Jeorg Ellen Sauer

MWF 11:00-11:50

This course will examine poetry from the Middle Ages to the 20th century to better understand the evolution of poetic style and thought. From the traditional style of ballads, odes, and sonnets to the modern form of free verse, we will discuss how poetry transformed thought in art and culture. This course will give the students a survey of French poetry over multiple centuries.

FR 325

Le cinéma français: The French Leading Lady

Instructor: Dr. Jeorg Ellen Sauer

MWF 12:00-12:50

This course will examine the idea of the “French leading lady” and the films the actresses have starred in. Course discussions will contextualize the actresses and their stardom not only in France, but internationally as well. Students will gain an understanding of film technique and criticism.

FR 504 [Counts as FR 470G]

Topics in French Literature and Culture: Le cinéma de la Nouvelle Vague

Instructor: Dr. Leon Sachs

R 3:30-6:00

This course introduces students to the mid-twentieth-century “revolution” in French cinema known as the New Wave. In addition to studying the major works of French filmmakers such as François Truffaut, Jean-Luc Godard, Alain Resnais and Agnès Varda, students will read landmark essays that helped define the movement. Among the questions we will explore are the following: How did New Wave filmmakers distinguish themselves from the “cinéma de qualité” (or “Daddy’s cinema”) that preceded them? In what ways can New Wave film be understood as a form of writing? What is the *caméra stylo*? What is meant by “auteur” cinema? What is the lasting legacy of New Wave cinema? Taught in French
[Please note that this class will fulfill the FR 470G major requirement in Fall 2022.]

FR 606

Happily Ever After? Love at the Royal Court

Instructor: Dr. Julie Human

M 3:30-6:00

This course focuses on the twelfth-century French romances of Chrétien de Troyes and on the rich feminist scholarship that explores the medieval courtly love tradition. Primary texts include *Erec et Enide*, *Cligès*, *Le Chevalier de la Charrette*, *Le Chevalier au Lion*, and *Le Conte du Graal*. Students will also explore modern adaptations of medieval texts and will have the opportunity to present their research in the form of a conference paper at the end of the semester.