

**Fall 2025 Course Offerings
French and Francophone Studies**

FR 204

Introduction to French and Francophone Studies

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.

**Instructor: Dr. Leon Sachs
TR 9:30-11:00**

FR 215

Visual Cultures

In this course, students examine visual media from Francophone cultures while creating interdisciplinary connections with other visual forms of representation. Through analyses 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.

**Instructor: Dr. Jeorg Ellen Sauer
MWF 9:00-9:50**

FR 310

French Phonetics

At the conclusion of this class, your French pronunciation (and comprehension) will be transformed. We will proceed through a systematic study of the French sound system and rules of pronunciation and intonation. You will learn the International Phonetic Alphabet, which will allow you to look *any* word, even if you’re not familiar with it, in a French dictionary and know how to pronounce it. The class will include both theory of phonetics and practical drills on pronunciation.

**Instructor: Dr. Jeffrey Peters
MWF 1:00-1:50**

FR 324

Studies in French Literature: Magic and the Marvelous

What is it about magic in literature that draws us as readers into new worlds? In this course, we will read texts from the Middle Ages through the 20th century that feature aspects of magic and the marvelous as we examine the role of the supernatural in French literature. Most texts will be short, allowing you the opportunity to expand your close reading skills. We will read medieval poems about werewolves and fairies, prophecies of Nostradamus from the 16th century, fairy tales from the 17th and 18th centuries, 19th century horror stories about monstrous creatures, and a 20th century short story about a man who can walk through walls. In addition to literary analysis, you will also have the opportunity to write your own magical text modeled on one of those we study.

**Instructor: Dr. Julie Human
TR 11:00-12:15**

FR 325

Le cinéma français: The French Leading Lady

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.

**Instructor: Dr. Jeorg Ellen Sauer
MWF 10:00-10:50**

FR 504

Literature and Desire *This course will count for a 400-level seminar in the French major.*

Desire is thought of as wanting or longing for something or someone. What does literature have to teach us about desire? How does literature shape our understanding of which desires are appropriate or counter to cultural norms? The course will be centered around reading theoretical works from philosophers about desire and then examining the application of that theory in different literary works from France. Undergraduate students will have a different syllabus than the graduate students.

**Instructor: Dr. Jeorg Ellen Sauer
W 3:00-5:30**

FR 617

Eighteenth-Century Studies: Rousseau

This course introduces students to the principal writings of Jean-Jacques Rousseau, one of the most original, influential, puzzling (and even infuriating) of modern intellectuals whose work spans fields such as political theory, cultural criticism, the philosophy of education, Romanticism and autobiography. One of the purposes of the class is to help students understand the continued relevance of Rousseau’s thought.

**Instructor: Dr. Leon Sachs
R 3:30-6:00**