

Spring 2017 Course Offerings

French and Francophone Studies

FR 204

Introduction to French and Francophone Studies

This course engages students in a reflection on what it means to be a major in French and Francophone Studies in an American university today, and acquaints them with the kinds of activities they will encounter in more advanced French courses. Specific assignments will help students practice making coherent and eloquent arguments both orally and in writing.

Ms. Jeorg Ellen Sauer

MWF 12:00-12:50

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 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.

Ms. Jeorg Ellen Sauer

MWF 11:00-11:50

FR 225 (taught in English)

French Film Noir

Fulfills UK Core – Inquiry in the Humanities

Dr. Jeffrey Peters

MWF 1:00-1:50

Investigates the crime thriller in French cinema during the 1940s and 1950s. Topics include: French and English detective serials of the 1910s; the impact of French poetic realism on Hollywood in the 1930s; the origins of the crime style in European surrealism, German expressionism, and French existentialism; the role of *noir* in the cultural values, anxieties, and conflicts that shaped French identity in the wake of World War II. Taught in English. No knowledge of French required.

FR 307: Le Français des affaires

An Introduction to the French Business World

Dr. Sadia Zoubir-Shaw

MWF 9:00-9:50

The objective of this course is to gain technical as well as cultural understanding of business procedures in France. The course will provide an overview of the social, historical and economic background of France as a nation, its position within the European Community and its role as an international partner in the world.

FR 344: The Literary Text

Tragedy and Comedy

Dr. Suzanne Pucci

TR 9:30-10:45

How do we understand “tragedy” and “comedy”? These are genres of theater that have existed since the ancient Greeks and Romans and remain vital to Classical French theater, such as in the plays of Corneille, Racine, Molière, Marivaux. This course will examine these plays in light of questions posed by dramatic theory and we will explore the ways in which these opposing terms and concepts have meaning not exclusively in theater but in contemporary understanding and usage.

FR 425

Media Studies

Dr. Leon Sachs

TR 12:30-1:45

The word “media” is the plural of *medium*, from the Latin word *medius* which means *in the middle*; today, it also means *a way of conveying or communicating something*. In this class we will consider how the French media serve as forms of representation that lie *between – in the middle of –* the world and our ideas about the world. We will ask: how do media structure our understanding? Why do media typically mean *mass* media (TV, film, newspapers, etc.)? How is language study itself a *kind* of medium? How is language study also the study *of* media? Where does the modern concept of media come from?

FR 471G: Topical Seminar II

Thème et version : De l’interprétation à la traduction

Dr. Sadia Zoubir-Shaw

MWF 10:00 - 10:50

Through basic translation techniques, FR 471G will introduce students to translation from English to French and French to English. They will learn to interpret the syntactic and lexical structures from the source language to the target language and explore the register, style, tone, and intent of a text, taking into account the cultural differences between source and target languages.

FR 617: Eighteenth-Century Studies

Snapshots of the Family: Discourses of Intimacy and the Domestic

Dr. Suzanne Pucci

W 3:30-6:00

According to the French social historian Philippe Ariès, the 18th century is the century of the family. This course will explore the formation of a new intimacy, particularly domestic intimacy, represented throughout the fiction, theater, and painting of the period. How do we understand familial relations during this period and how do these models differ from contemporary paradigms of domestic and romantic intimacy? How did the notion of family result from and produce new cultural paradigms such as the growing importance of the quotidian, the increasing distinction between the “private” and the “public” or the new emphasis in verbal and pictorial texts on domestic space? We will read the bourgeois dramas of Diderot, Beaumarchais; the fiction of Prévost, Françoise de Graffigny, Isabelle de Charrière, Bernardin de Saint-Pierre; and we will view and discuss the painting of Chardin, Greuze, and Boucher.

FR 621: Twentieth-Century Studies

From Realism to Modernism

Dr. Leon Sachs

R 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: French Language, Literature, and Culture Outside France

La Femme exotique

Dr. Jacqueline Couti

M 3:30-6:00

Ce séminaire retracera la généalogie de la mythification exotique du corps de la femme « non-occidentale, » particulièrement celui de la femme noire du XVIII^e au début du XX^e siècle. Les étudiants seront amenés à dégager la politique signification de corps et de la sexualisation de ce dernier dans l’imaginaire masculin à la lumière de documents littéraires, historiques et scientifiques.