



BROWN

DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE STUDIES

GRADUATE STUDIES COURSES

FALL 2020 – SPRING 2021

FALL 2020

FREN 2170N, La Poésie et ses révolutions/*Gretchen Schultz*

Study of major poets of the second half of the long nineteenth century. Topics include: symbolism and decadence, vers libéré and vers libre, French prosody, prose poetry, gender and the lyric, the poetic subject. Authors read will include: Baudelaire, Mallarmé, Rimbaud, Verlaine, Krysinska, Vivien, Valéry, Apollinaire. Taught in French.

FREN 2190M, La Théorie Littéraire De Barthes Et De Derrida/*David Wills*

Barthes et Derrida développèrent leur pensée sur des biais très différents. La perspective de Barthes est littéraire et rhétorique tandis que Derrida se situe dans une tradition philosophique. Pourtant, chacun des deux questionne explicitement et systématiquement la question de la littérature. Barthes soumet le texte littéraire à de nouvelles formes d'analyse tout en exposant « la place et l'énergie du sujet ». Derrida a recours à la littérature comme sorte de défi lancé à la philosophie, tout en l'analysant sur ses propres termes et l'impliquait dans l'enjeu capital d'un questionnement éthique et politique. Nous étudierons dans ce cours une série de textes de Barthes et de Derrida qui fournissent encore des modèles exemplaires d'une approche critique à l'écriture littéraire.

FREN 2620K - Metaphor/Matter/Time: Literature and the Changing Earth/*Thangam Ravindranathan*

In this collaborative seminar we will consider the flickering edge between metaphor and materiality in the shadow of the Anthropocene. Weekly discussions will be built around a series of "threshold sites"—including Sea, Sun, Silk, Plastic, Forest, Photograph, Shell, Horse, Whale—in which "matter" and "figure" may be seen to be simultaneously in relation and at odds. We will endeavor to think metaphoricity as the imbrication of materiality and semiosis, and in its relationship to ecological time, through readings from Lucretius, Melville, Coleridge, Ponge, Moore, Bervin, Barad, Haraway, Derrida, Ricoeur, among others.

FREN 2620L, Le Maghreb Postcolonial: Fractures et Réparations/*Claudia Esposito*

This course examines the concepts of fracture and repair in a diverse array of works of literature, film, and transmedial art by artists from the Maghreb and its diaspora. Whether the fracture presents as destructive historical relation, psychic break and trauma or rupture of meaning, it inevitably calls into question its opposite. What does it mean to repair? Moving beyond the idea of a 'return to the same', we will consider the ways in which repair is also historical and political restoration, affective healing, aesthetic rewriting, and how it is represented as both imagined and real.

SPRING 2021

FREN 2110A, Le roman renaissant/*Virginia Krause*

From the origins of medieval romance in the 12th century, this course traces the history of the genre through the end of the sixteenth century. What was the fate of the knight errant in the modern era and how did the invention of printing transform medieval romance cycles? Did the humanist novel offer a corrective to the vagaries of chivalric romance? Literary works will be read in light of theories of the novel. *Readings in Chrétien de Troyes, the prose Lancelot, Rabelais, Bakhtin, Lukács, and others. Taught in French.*

FREN 2130R, Penser et écrire le non-humain/*Lewis Seifert*

Under the influence of "New Science," the 17th century witnessed dramatic shifts in ways of perceiving and relating to the natural world. Guided by theoretical and historical work in environmental humanities and with a focus on literature, we will consider how French thinkers and writers framed the relationship between humans and their non-human others (animals, plants, natural landscapes). Theoretical readings in Braidotti, Descola, Foucault, Latour; primary texts by Descartes, Cyrano de Bergerac, Cureau de la Chambre, Scudéry, Pascal, La Fontaine, Sévigné, Perrault (Claude and Charles), d'Aulnoy, among others. Taught in French.

FREN 2150G Literature and Politics in the Age of Revolutions/*Ourida Mostefai*

Explores the major ideas and practices that radically transformed culture and society in the early-modern period in Europe and in the Atlantic. We will explore the challenges to political, cultural and religious traditions by analyzing the major debates over the questions of equality, freedom, progress, religious toleration, and happiness. Special attention will be paid to new definitions of citizenship and political rights, the role of women in the public sphere, and the critique of slavery. We will conclude by devoting particular attention to debates surrounding the French and Haitian Revolutions. Texts will include novels, plays, philosophical essays and political pamphlets.