



BROWN
DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH STUDIES
UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

FALL 2016

FREN0100 – Basic French

Multiple Sections

A. Wiart

This is the first half of a two-semester course. Four meetings a week for oral practice. One hour of work outside of class is expected every day (grammar/writing, oral practice, reading).

FREN0300 – Intermediate French I

Multiple Sections

A. Wiart

A semi-intensive elementary review with emphasis on all four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing). Class activities include drills, small group activities, and skits. Class materials include an audio CD, videos, a French film, short stories, and various other authentic documents. Prerequisite: FREN 0200 or placement (Previous experience with French is required to take this class). Four meetings per week plus a 50-minute conversation section with TAs.

FREN0400 – Intermediate French II

Multiple Sections

Y. Kervennic

Continuation of FREN 0300 but may be taken separately. A four-skill language course that stresses oral interaction in class (three meetings per week plus one 50-minute conversation section). Materials include audio activities, film, and a novel. Short compositions with systematic grammar practice. Prerequisite: FREN 0300, FREN 0200 with permission, or placement.

FREN0500 – Writing and Speaking French I

Multiple Sections

J. Izzo

A four-skill language course that stresses oral interaction in class. Thematic units will focus on songs, poems, a short novel, a graphic novel, films and a longer novel. Activities include a creative project using Comic Life, and a systematic grammar review. Prerequisite: FREN 0400, FREN 0200 with written permission, or placement.

FREN0600 – Writing and Speaking French II

Multiple Sections

S. Ravillon

Prerequisite for study in French-speaking countries. Class time is devoted mainly to conversation and discussion practice. Writing instruction and assignments focus on essays, commentaries, and to a lesser degree, on story writing. Apart from reading assignments for discussion (press articles and literary excerpts), students select two novels to read. Prerequisite: FREN 0500 or placement.

FREN0720A – De l'Amour courtois au désir postmoderne

(Q) Th 4pm – 6:30pm

V. Krause

From twelfth-century courtly literature to contemporary film, this course explores the enduring romance between French culture and Eros. The ambiguities of desire are brought to the fore across changing religious and social contexts. Readings include Duras, Flaubert, Freud, and Baudrillard. Open to students who receive a 5 (AP test), 700 and above (SAT II) or with instructor's permission. First Year Seminar, open to first year students only.

FREN0760A – Intro à l'analyse littéraire

(K) T, Th 2:30pm – 3:50pm

S. Stojanovic

On what terms and with what tools can we “read” a text? This class aims to provide the historical context, vocabulary, and tools for textual analysis by comparing traditional and innovative examples of the major genres (short story, novel, poetry, theater) of French and Francophone literature; we will also draw from the visual arts (painting, film, graphic novel). Students will be introduced to a range of analytical approaches to the text, including narrative theory, poetics, psychoanalysis, sociocriticism, and gender studies. Authors studied include Abirached, Balzac, Baudelaire, NDiaye, Perec, Racine, and Sand.

FREN1000B – Littérature et culture

(J) T, Th 1pm – 2:20pm

V. Krause

From the Middle Ages to the Age of Versailles, this course examines 6 foundational moments in French civilization: the Crusades, courtly love, humanism, the witch hunts, Cartesian reason, and the emergence of the autonomous self. Close scrutiny of literary texts and films will provide a window onto French civilization before the Revolution. Readings include medieval epic, Montaigne, and Descartes. In French.

FREN1110F – Le Roman contemporain

(I) T, Th 10:30am – 11:50am

T. Ravindranathan

In this course we will read a selection of French and Francophone novels from 1985 to 2015. Authors include Patrick Modiano, Marie NDiaye, Lydie Salvayre, Marie Redonnet, Emmanuel Carrère and François Bon. Placing these novels in dialogue with key voices from critical theory (Cixous, Barthes, Derrida, Kristeva), we will pursue through the semester a sustained reflection on major contemporary “problematics” including

identity, subjecthood, hospitality, history, genealogy, gender, memory and ghosts.
Taught in French.

FREN1510A – Traduction

(C) M,W,F 10am – 11:50am

S. Ravillon

An introduction to the theory and practice of translation, this course will be designed to expand students' range and appreciation of written styles and registers and will be based on translation exercises and texts reflecting different types of written and oral communication. Texts will range from literary texts (excerpts from novels, plays, comic books...) to journalistic texts (articles from newspapers...). Class activities will also include comparative studies of translated texts, as well as grammar review and vocabulary work. Course taught in French. Written translations to and from French.

Prerequisite: FREN 0600 or equivalent.

FREN1710F – Politique et démocratie en Afrique francophone

(F) M,W,F 1pm – 1:50pm

J. Izzo

What do representations of democracy (its promises as well as its shortcomings) and corruption have to tell us about postcolonial and postmillennial politics in contemporary Francophone Sub-Saharan Africa? How have these interrelated problems and discourses been negotiated in French and African literature, film, journalism, and anthropology? This course will address these and related questions in a number of national and historical contexts, paying special attention to the ways in which current events on the continent both complement and complicate our understandings of Francophone African cultural production. Taught in French.