



BROWN
DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH STUDIES

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

FALL 2018

NOTE: All courses offered by the department (starting at the 600- level) are writing-intensive, designated WRIT, which means that they satisfy the University's Writing Requirement. In our courses, students have the opportunity to write at least two papers and receive substantive feedback and advice as they develop their writing. All Brown undergraduates must complete at least one approved WRIT course by the end of their 4th semester, and a second WRIT course during their 5th-7th semesters.

FREN0100 – Basic French

Multiple Sections

Annie 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

Youenn Kervennic

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 videos, a French film, short stories, and various other authentic documents. Four meetings per week, plus a 50-minute conversation section with TAs.

Prerequisite: FREN 0200 or placement (Previous experience with French is required to take this class).

FREN0400 – Intermediate French II

Multiple Sections

Lewis Seifert

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

Justin 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

Stéphanie 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. WRIT

Prerequisite: FREN 0500 or placement.

FREN0610 – Writing and Speaking French II: International Relations

M,W,F 9am – 9 :50am

Maan Alsahoui

Prerequisite for study in French-speaking countries. Continuation of FREN 500. Class time is devoted mainly to conversation and discussion practice. Same level as FREN 0600. This course is designed for students who are interested in international relations. Discussions and writing assignments are related to global politics from French and Francophone perspectives and introduce students to the discourse of international relations in French. WRIT

Prerequisite: FREN 0500.

FREN0760A – L'art de la nouvelle

T,Th 1pm – 2:20pm

Thangam Ravindranathan

What sort of story is the short story? What kinds of possibilities and pressures distinguish it from other forms? Attentive to its contained – and constrained – narrative economy, we shall study a range of examples of the genre, from 19th century realist and fantastic literature (Maupassant, Flaubert, Nerval) to modern French and Francophone texts (Sartre, Beckett, Djébar, Redonnet). Taught in French. FYS WRIT
Prerequisites: 5 on Advanced Placement Testing, 700 and above SAT II, or Instructor's Permission

FREN1000B – Littérature et culture : Chevaliers, sorcières, philosophes, et poètes

T,Th 2:30pm – 3:50pm

Virginia 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. WRIT

Prerequisite: a course at the 0600- or 0700-level or equivalent proficiency.

FREN1020B – History of Romance Languages

T,Th 10:30am-11:50am

Ourida Mostefai, Mercedes Vaquero

The Romance family is one of the most widely-spoken and politically important language families. The aim of this course is to introduce students to the history and linguistic characteristics of the Romance family. Our purpose is to learn the factors that led to the development of modern standard Romance languages, and provide an understanding of Romance structures and their linguistic relationships. The course covers language families; genetic relationships (family trees); typological comparison; internal versus external history; language contact and borrowing; Romance Pidgins and Creoles; Standard language versus dialect; social variation; concepts of Phonetics and Phonology; Morphology; Syntax; Semantics; Lexicon. Taught in English. WRIT

FREN1210F – L'œuvre romanesque de Marguerite Duras

T,Th 6:40pm – 8pm

David Wills

Starting with her first novels in the 1950s and up until her broad recognition, for *The Lover*, as France's most renowned female writer of the post-WWII period, Marguerite Duras was involved in profound research into the form and force of novelistic narrative. Our course will examine a representative series of her texts from three different points of view: narrative, writing, femininity. Taught in French. WRIT Enrollment limited to 20.

Prerequisite: a course at the 0600- or 0700-level or equivalent proficiency.

FREN1310N – La Pornographie

T 4pm – 6:30pm

Laura Odello

In 1769, Restif de la Bretonne coined the word *pornographe*: one who writes (*graphein*) about prostitution (*pornê* is the prostitute). It is in literature, then, that what is known today as “pornography” was invented. This course will be dedicated to classics of the pornographic genre (from Sade to Bataille), to pornological essays (by Deleuze or Nancy), and to the political stakes of pornography in contemporary writings (by Despentès or Guibert). We will not forget cinema (with films by Genet or Bonello): if pornography pertains to a compulsion to show everything, what would be the blind spot of its absolute visibility? WRIT

FREN1330A – Fairy Tales and Culture

M,W,F 11am – 11 :50am

Lewis Seifert

Fairy tales, which occur in almost every culture, encapsulate in (usually) succinct form many of the pressing concerns of human existence: family conflict, the struggle for survival, sexual desire, the quest for happiness, etc. This course explores why writers and readers have been attracted to the fairy-tale form through a study of its key elements and its uses in adult and children's literature, book illustration, and film. Special attention given to French *contes de fées*, along with North American, English, German, Italian and selected non-Western fairy tales. Discussions and readings in English with French, German, and Italian originals on reserve. WRIT

FREN1410T – L'expérience des réfugiés : déplacements, migrations

W 3pm – 5:30pm

Virginia Krause

An exploration of the experience of refugees and immigrants with two components. The first component consists of close study of the French context from Decolonization up through the current refugee crisis based on literature, film, the press, and critical essays. The second component of this course will give students the opportunity to work with refugee/recent immigrant communities in Providence. This is a community-engaged course requiring substantial commitment beyond the classroom. Taught in French. WRIT

Prerequisite: a course at the 0600- or 0700-level or equivalent proficiency.

FREN1510J –Advanced Oral and Written French: Photographie

T,Th 10:30am – 11:50am

Youenn Kervennic

Follows FREN 0600 in the sequence of language courses. Development of oral and written skills via presentation, debate, conversation and discussion on a variety of topics. Through novels, articles, photographs and discussions, this course will explore the world of photography from its beginnings until

today. Theory and practice; professionals and amateurs; famous people and paparazzi; photo reportage and photo studio; argentic and digital; your own photos, etc. Taught in French. WRIT
Prerequisites: FREN 0600 and FREN 0610 and FREN 0620.

FREN1710G – L'Idée de l'empire dans l'imaginaire français

M,W,F 2pm-2:50pm

Justin Izzo

From the early nineteenth century to the 1931 Colonial Exposition in Paris and the Algerian Revolution, ideas and debates about slavery, race, and colonialism informed the ways in which French writers and intellectuals thought about empire and its relationship to national identity. This course examines how these debates took shape through contrasting imaginative conceptions of empire from the 1800s until the 1960s, when France lost most of her colonies. How did visions of empire contribute to the formation of French colonial identity, and what kind of purchase do these ideas have on contemporary French cultural and political life? In French. WRIT

Prerequisite: a course at the 0600- or 0700-level or equivalent proficiency.