



BROWN

DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH STUDIES

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

SPRING 2017

There may be modifications or additions to the courses listed below. Please consult Courses@Brown (cab.brown.edu) for an updated list closer to pre-registration.

FREN0200 – Basic French

Multiple Sections

A. Wiart

This is the second half of a two-semester course. Four meetings a week for oral practice plus one conversation hour. One hour of work outside of class is expected every day (grammar/writing, oral practice, reading). An accelerated track enables qualified students to go directly to FREN 0500 after FREN 0200. Enrollment limited to 18.

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.

FREN0610 – Writing and Speaking French II : International Relations

(G) M,W,F 2pm – 2 :50pm

S. Ravillon

Prerequisite for study in French-speaking countries. Continuation of FREN0500. Class time is devoted mainly to conversation and discussion practice. Same level as FREN0600. 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. Prerequisite: FREN0500. Enrollment limited to 18.

FREN0720B – The French Novel Today

(G) M,W,F 2pm – 2:50pm

TBD

What does today's French novel look like? Reading ten prominent short novels (in English translation) from the last 20 years, students will be acquainted with the novelistic landscape of contemporary France, while also learning to approach through analysis and narrative theory the novel as genre. We will consider what kinds of questions these novels pose and how - be it regarding conditions specific to our time (human/inhuman, identity, technology, the globalized world, the everyday, dystopia...) or those unceasing questions of life, time, love, predicament, that every novel must ask, even while sometimes seeming not to. Taught in English.

FREN0750G – L'Animal dans la culture

(K) T,Th 2:30pm – 3:50pm

T. Ravindranathan

From reports of animals stranded in conflict zones and natural calamities, to cute or clever animals cast in advertisements and popular media, from the rat of Ratatouille to the caged orangutan of Nénette, the new interest in the animal marks an age of heightened awareness of the costs and ironies of the human story. We will consider in this course significant representations of the animal in contemporary French and Francophone literature, film, visual art, cultural theory and media representations. We will also revisit earlier moments linking the animal to modernity, including early film/ photography and urban history. Taught in French.

FREN1000B – Littérature et culture: Margins of Modernity

(J) T,Th 1pm – 2:20pm

G. Schultz

A survey of French and Francophone works from the 18th century to the present that reflects on a number of cultural shifts, of challenges but also resistances to hierarchies (social, sexual, political); the urban context; legacies of colonization. Various figures of marginality to be studied: vagabonds and parvenus, dandies and courtesans, outcasts and pariahs. Authors to be studied include Prévost, Marivaux, Balzac, Baudelaire, Maupassant, Duras, Camara Laye and Rachid O. Taught in French.

FREN1040C – Le Grand Siècle à l'écran

(I) T,Th 10:30am – 11:50am

L. Seifert

Why is the "Grand Siècle" depicted so frequently in contemporary French film? To answer this question we will explore the roles 17th-century culture plays in French identity through readings in history and literature and recent films focusing on 17th-century texts, personalities, or events. We will highlight both continuities and discontinuities between the 17th century and our own time. Readings by Corneille, Cyrano de Bergerac, Lafayette, Maintenon, Molière, Pascal, Racine, Sévigné. 10 films. Two short papers, two oral presentations, a weekly blog, and a final project (paper or multimedia project).

FREN1130E – Le Poétique et le quotidien

(Q) Th 4pm – 6:30pm

T. Ravindranathan

In this course on the relationship between the poetic and the ordinary, unremarkable or otherwise apparently "non-lyrical" matters and textures of modern living, we will consider formal and conceptual innovations in French poetry through the last 100 years as it has responded to a changing world, and continually reimagined the place of poetry in it. After situating certain coordinates of our investigation in the early decades of the 20th century (Apollinaire, Cendrars, Char, technology, war, speed, time) we will read works by later and contemporary poets including Francis Ponge, Jacques Roubaud, Michelle Grangaud, Sabine Macher. Taught in French.

FREN1510C – A table !

(F) M,W,F 1pm – 1:50pm

A. Wiart

Thematic units with different approaches to French cuisine and the French meal, such as regional cuisine, meals in literature and at the movies, radio-TV culinary shows, political and economical considerations, and, of course, a practical unit on how to compose, prepare and eat a French meal. Follows FREN 0600 in the sequence of language courses. Development of oral skills via presentations, debates, conversation, and discussion based on the various topics. Writing activities: essays, translations, commentaries, journals, creative descriptions and stories, etc. Taught in French.

FREN1510J – Photographie

(D) M,W,F 11am – 11:50am

Y. 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.

FREN1900H – La France en guerre

(N) W 3pm – 5:30pm

G. Schultz

This seminar considers the impact of warfare on France and its former colonies. We will study various types of violent conflict (wars of expansion and of independence, European conflicts, the world wars, terrorism) at different historical moments while consulting diverse sources (historical, literary, journalistic, epistolary, filmic). We will also address contemporary events relevant to the subject of this course and follow them as they unfold. Other topics include: war and collective memory, virility and violence, extreme situations and crises of representation, resistance and collaboration, colonization and nationhood, jihadism. Taught in French.