



BROWN
DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH STUDIES
UNDERGRADUATE COURSES
SPRING 2019

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.

FREN0200 – Basic French

Multiple Sections

Stéphanie Ravillon

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 15.

FREN0400 – Intermediate French II

Multiple Sections

Youenn 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

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

Youenn Kervennic

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.

FREN0820A – Identité et différence dans le monde francophone

M, 3pm – 5 :30pm

Justin Izzo

How have racial and cultural minorities in France and the French-speaking world thought about identity and difference since decolonization began after World War Two? And how have minorities in metropolitan France begun to use racial categories to challenge universalist narratives of social inclusion? This sophomore seminar will study these and related questions as we explore race as a political and cultural category in the Francophone world. We will consider a variety of contexts, including Caribbean politics, postcolonial Africa, and urban violence in contemporary France. In French.

Prerequisites: 5 on Adv Placement Test, 700+ on SAT II or Instructor's Permission

FREN1040B – Pouvoirs de la scène : le théâtre du XVIIe siècle

M,W,F 11am – 11 :50am

Lewis Seifert

This course examines how 17th-century theater both reinforces and undermines the ideologies of absolutism, national identity, the nuclear family, and emerging bourgeois consciousness, among others. Special consideration will be given to the theory and performance of theater in the 17th century and the present. Readings will be supplemented with screenings of videos for the plays studied (as available). In addition to papers and oral presentations, students will stage selections from some of the plays studied. Plays by Rotrou, Corneille, Molière, Racine, and an opera by Quinault/Lully. Taught in French. Prerequisite: a course at the 0600 or 0700 level or equivalent proficiency. Contact the instructor to verify your proficiency if you have not taken French at Brown.

FREN13100 – Clichés : L'écriture à l'épreuve de la photographie

T, 4:00pm-6:30pm

Laura Odello

With the invention of photography, the relation of writing to the world—to history, to memory, or to the gaze—undergoes a radical change. In this course, we will try to understand how snapshots, these lasting images of things, have been inscribed into literature and thought.

We will read a number of major texts where the photographic image is staged (Villiers de l'Isle-Adam, Balzac, Breton...) or questioned (Baudelaire, Valéry, Barthes, Derrida, Bailly...). We will also explore the complex ties between photography and the medium of film that stems from it. WRIT

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

FREN1330E – Transatlantic Surrealisms

Th, 4pm – 6 :30pm

David Wills

“Surreal” refers to what is incongruous, uncanny, or downright bizarre. Those terms describe many poetic and artistic productions belonging to Surrealism, without for all that explaining the literary and theoretical underpinnings of the movement at its origins in the 1920s, or accounting for the international flowering of its ideas and its continued influence. The class will attempt to trace the complexities of Surrealism from

its modernist prehistory, through “canonization,” to diversification and waning in the 1960s. We will also study surrealism vis-à-vis the shift in cultural capital from Europe to the New World, and reverberations in subsequent artistic forms. Taught in English.

FREN1410R – Images d’une guerre sans nom : The Algerian War in Literature and Film

W 3pm – 5 :30pm

Ourida Mostefai

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. WRIT

FREN1510A –Advanced Oral and Written French: Traduction

M,W,F 10am – 10:50am

Stéphanie 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. Enrollment limited to 18. Instructor permission required.