

FALL 2021 CLASSES – French section offerings

FRE 3410 French conversation and interaction ,MWF 7

Dr. Hélène Blondeau

This course develops and refines oral and comprehension skills relating to different domains. This fall semester the course will focus social and cultural issues relevant to the Francophone world and to American students. Compelling topics such as, gender equity, globalization, technology, immigration, globalization, language and culture will favor lively discussion and promote critical thinking. High interest topics will foster conversational skills and give students the opportunity to express themselves and interact with others.

The communicative approach adopted in the course is student centered. Conversational skills will develop in an interactive and dynamic context. Some workshop will be devoted to pronunciation to help you develop self-confidence when you speak French. This course is taught in French.

FRW 3100 Introduction to French Literature I: T4; R 4-5

Dr. Rori Bloom

Food and wine are central to French culture, and in this course we will read literary texts from the seventeenth through nineteenth centuries to better understand how and why authors represent the acts of eating and drinking in their works. Readings will include seventeenth-century fables and fairy tales, eighteenth-century autobiographies and descriptive texts, and nineteenth-century poems and short stories as well as some secondary readings on the history of French gastronomy. Authors to be studied include La Fontaine, Perrault, d'Aulnoy, Casanova, Mercier, Baudelaire, and Maupassant. Over the course of the semester, students will analyze literary texts through class discussion, oral presentations, and various writing assignments (including an *explication de texte* and a *dissertation*). *This course is taught in French.*

FRE 3564 Contemporary French Culture

Dr. Alioune Sow

This course aims to provide in-depth knowledge and understanding of contemporary French culture. To do so, the course will focus on the key events, movements, figures and cultural production that marked France contemporary history and determined the country's main orientations in the 21st century. Central to the course is the debate over the distinctiveness of French culture and how France is perceived and represented by the French people, French artists and thinkers. Examining selected historical moments, political events and movements and engaging with controversial issues such as migration, religion, language, cosmopolitanism and national identity, the course will use a variety of material including texts, popular culture and visual arts

FRE 4780/ FRE 6785 Introduction to French Phonetics and Phonology, M 10-11 W 11
Dr. Hélène Blondeau

Ce cours d'introduction à la phonétique et à la phonologie française vise à initier l'étudiant aux concepts de base propres à la description des sons de la langue française et à l'analyse du système phonologique. Nous couvrirons dans ce cours les deux champs d'étude de la linguistique qui traite de cette question : la phonétique et la phonologie. Le cours présentera dans un premier temps des éléments de phonétique et leur application au français. Dans un deuxième temps, le cours examinera les notions de base de la phonologie française. Enfin, à travers des études de cas, l'étudiant appliquera ses connaissances à divers problèmes de recherche relatifs à l'étude des sons de la langue française. L'étudiant aura également la chance d'analyser des données orales de première main tirées du corpus PFC (Phonologie du français contemporain).

FRT 3561/ENG 4134. *Women and Fashion in Film* (4 CRH)

Dr. Sylvie E. Blum

T/R 7/7-8 TUR 2334

M 9-11 ROL 0115 = screening time set aside for class

The class is tailored around the topic of women's fashion and style in French cinema. The perspective will be developed through the lens of literature, film and theory spanning several decades of the twentieth century. The material bridges different areas of fashion and film studies. Through various readings you will acquire the necessary tools and terminology to decode the system and what distinguishes style from fashion in France. Areas covered include architecture, mannequins, fabric, advertisement, theatre, sustainable fashion, as well as the influence of Asia and West Africa on fashion in France.

The course is taught in English; there is a set screening time for class every week outside of class time. The class is designed for third + fourth year students who are already versed in exploring and analyzing certain literary and cultural texts. It might be an introduction to film for some of you who have never taken a film class. For the FRT Section, it may count toward the French major, minor and one of the critical concentrations for the LLC major (Film studies) or as an elective.

FRE 4411. French for Proficiency (2 CRH)

Dr. Sylvie E. Blum

The class is being offered after a long hiatus and will be a pilot class. It is going to be revised for the catalog. Its focus is on oral practice with emphasis on the structure of oral communication and oral presentation. It will be tailored to current needs for communication across various disciplines and interests such as coverage of news culled in various media, ecology, urban planning,

intercultural exchanges, audio-visual communication, culinary experiences, as well as travel. Especially useful to those planning to use French in a variety of professions.

Prerequisite: [FRE 3410](#) or the equivalent.

FRW 4273/FRW 6715: Eighteenth-Century Comedy : a Philosophical Weapon

M 9, W 9-10

Dr. Brigitte Weltman-Aron

This course taught in French will examine several developments in eighteenth-century theater. After the masterpieces of French classicism by authors such as Molière, Corneille, and Racine, playwrights in the eighteenth century attempted to delineate new dramatic principles and to discuss new topics they felt were better suited to their age. We will study comedies that are still being performed today, by authors like Marivaux and Beaumarchais. We will also examine new theories in drama and stage production in the eighteenth century, and their perceived role in promoting the principles of the Enlightenment, by philosophers such as Voltaire, Diderot, and Rousseau. We will conclude with examples of one-act comedies performed in domestic settings (proverbs) or on the margins of official theaters at periodical fairs, to examine a range of comedy targeting social ills or foibles that is not part of the literary canon and as such rarely performed or studied.

FRW 4552-6556 (Realism and Naturalism)

Dr. Gayle Zachmann

Tuesday, 9-11th periods

The Holocaust in French Literature and Film

This class examines the Holocaust in French literature and film. It explores the politics, poetics, and limits of representing the traumatic history of World War II in France, with special consideration of literary and visual movements, as well as the peregrinations of French historical culture and memory in majority and minority literary cultures. Authors and filmmakers will include Vercors, Berr, Beauvoir, Triolet, Resnais, Ophuls, Goldberg, Malle, Lanzmann, and more. Class taught in French and may count for the Certificate in Holocaust Studies and the Certificate in European Jewish Studies.