Course numbers and campus locations of sections are listed below in the left margin. Most courses in the 100 and 200 series meet in several sections and at different times; see schedule of classes for more information. Times for 300 & 400 level courses are listed in the left margin.

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**COURSES IN FRENCH – FALL 2020**

*Students are placed in French courses according to performance on the placement test taken upon entering the university as first-year or transfer students.*

101  
CAC  
**Elementary French** – Gives a thorough grounding in all aspects of the French language by using the most successful of the modern methods, for students with no previous knowledge of French. Additional work in language lab. Does not carry degree credit for students with two or more years of high school French. [Not open to seniors.]

102  
CAC  
**Elementary French** – A continuation of French 101.

121  
CAC  
**French Fundamentals** – Review and practice of French for students with some previous study of French who are not yet prepared for French 131. Emphasis on the development of functional communication in French in the four skill areas: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Additional work in language lab.

131  
CAC  
**Intermediate French** – Develops fluency in spoken and written French through the study of grammar, vocabulary, conversation and composition skills. Additional work in language lab. For students with strong placement test score or who complete 121.

132  
CAC  
**Intermediate French** – A continuation of French 131. [This course fulfills Core Requirements AHq]

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Please note, students must complete 420:132 or 420:137 before taking any 200-level course.

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213:01 MTh2  
213:02 MW7  
CAC  
**Intensive Advanced Grammar and Conversation: Scandals and Mysteries in France** – This course is an in-depth exploration of the language through a selection of striking cases that have marked France’s cultural heritage. The course aims to prepare students for literary and cultural courses. Authentic and significant historical, social and cultural material such as full-length movies, visual art samples, audio files, literary and journalistic excerpts, serve as the starting point for intensive grammar reviews, development of vocabulary, and discussions on critical contemporary issues. [Prerequisite: placement test or 420:132 or 420:137] [This course fulfills Core Requirements AHq]

215:01 MW4  
215:02 MW5  
CAC  
**Aspects of French Literature** – An introduction to French literature through the reading and discussion (oral and written) of representative works from the late 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. This course provides an overview of literary forms and movements while focusing on the development of active reading comprehension and essay-writing skills in French. Its first aim, however, is to allow students to experience personal contact with a few masterpieces. Readings include narrative works by Rousseau, Flaubert, Maupassant, Camus, and Yourencar; a play by Beckett; essays by Staël and Sartre; and poems by Hugo, Lamartine, Desbordes-Valmore, Baudelaire, Rimbaud, Apollinaire, Breton, Desnos, Ponge, and Césaire. [Prerequisite: placement test or 420:132 or 420:137] [This course fulfills Core Requirements AHp, WCd]

216:01  
TF3/CAC  
**216 Aspects of French Literature** – (Continuing 215) – An introduction to French literature from the Middle Ages to the Enlightenment, via the Renaissance and the Classical age. Readings include the medieval
Approaches to French Literature (Honors) – An intensive introduction to the history of French literature from the last quarter of the 18th century to the present. Through the study of a few complete texts and detailed comparative readings of short excerpts (by Rousseau, Chateaubriand, Staalé, Hugo, Baudelaire, Rimbaud, Flaubert, Maupassant, Proust, Apollinaire, Breton, Césaire, Camus, Sartre, Ponge, Beckett, Perec, Yourcenar, and others), a variety of genres and literary movements will be presented, along with the basic tools of critical analysis. This alternative to Aspects of French Literature (215) is oriented toward students with a solid preparation in French and a strong interest in literature. Significant prior experience with French literary texts, however, is not necessary. [Honors equivalent to French 215. Prerequisite: placement test or 420:132 or 420:137. Special permission required.] [This course fulfills Core Requirements AHo, AHp, WCD]

218 Approaches to French Literature (Honors) – Introduction to French Literature through close readings of texts from the Middle Ages to the Enlightenment. We will pay special attention to the nature of literary works (genre, style, structure, narrative voice) and to the goals and methods of literary analysis. Readings include the medieval tale of La Châtelaine de Vergey; prose and poetry from major Renaissance authors (Labé, Montaigne, Ronsard); three plays (Corneille’s Le Cid, Molière’s Tartuffe and Dom Juan), poetry (La Fontaine’s Fables) from the Classical Age; a philosophical tale (Voltaire’s L’ingénu); and excerpts from the Encyclopédie. [Honors equivalent to French 216. Prerequisite: placement test or 420:132 or 420:137. Special permission required.] [This course fulfills Core Requirements AHo, AHp, WCD]

217:H1
MW5
CAC

218:H1
TF3
CAC

French Cultural Experience – French and Francophone Culture in the French Living and Learning Community – Special topics in French and Francophone cultures selected to meet the interests and needs of the students. The course also includes field trips to New Brunswick, Princeton, and New York City, depending on the calendar of shows and exhibitions of various cultural institutions. [Required of the residents of the Leupp French House. May not be used in satisfaction of major requirements; may be repeated for credit, and used to satisfy minor requirements. Special permission required.]

French 215 (or 217) and 216 (or 218) are prerequisites to all 300 and 400 level courses. French 213 and 214 are recommended but not required. Students who place above the 200-level or who wish to request exceptions should consult the Undergraduate Director.

315
TTh4
Cornilliat

French Civilization From The Middle Ages to the Revolution – Y a-t-il une « civilisation française »? Culture et nation en France du Moyen Age à la Révolution – Ce cours propose une introduction à la France de l’Ancien Régime, centrée sur les structures politiques et sociales, la construction idéologique, les symboles et les paradoxes qui définissent ce que l’historienne Colette Beaune appelle « la nation France ». Tout en étudiant les institutions et les transformations d’une société depuis ses origines jusqu’au choc majeur de la Révolution, nous suivrons le développement de l’idée même de « culture » ou « civilisation » française. En examinant le contenu (politique, social, religieux, linguistique, artistique…) de la notion de culture aux différentes époques concernées (Moyen Âge, Renaissance, Grand Siècle, Siècle des Lumières), nous nous demanderons dans quelle mesure cette culture s’estime elle-même « française ». Nous nous intéresserons donc à la façon dont le concept de culture, dans l’histoire d’un pays particulier (la France), s’est associé avec celui de nation pour former l’idée d’une « culture nationale » distingue, composante de l’« identité » d’un peuple. Cette idée n’a rien d’évident ; mais elle a joué et joue encore un rôle majeur dans la façon dont les Français se définissent eux-mêmes, et aussi dans la façon dont le reste du monde envisage la « culture française ». Le processus que nous analyserons aboutit en effet à l’idée que la France est un pays où « la culture » en tant que telle revêt une importance particulière. Nous étudierons donc le destin de cette idée jusqu’à la Révolution (qui lui donnera un nouveau rayonnement), en regardant comment elle s’est imposée, et aussi comment on l’a contestée.
The French Novel – Balzac to the Present – Once a universal pastime, novels now have to compete with myriad other forms of entertainment. Why read them? Because novels are, in essence, narratives, and narratives are how humans make sense of the world. This course aims to give you a new perspective on literature as a meaning-making activity, one whose understanding is bound to make you a more effective communicator. Our readings will introduce you to major authors of XIXth and XXth century French literature (Balzac, Flaubert, Yourencar, Duras, Gary), as well as contemporary writers (Carrère, De Vigan), and cover themes such as the fall of the French Empire, life in France as an immigrant, marriage, infidelity, compulsive spending, queer desire, eating disorders, and, bien sûr, love. Attention will be paid to the historical context of these works, close reading and other interpretive techniques, and the evolution of the novel as a genre. All the novels we will study have been adapted into films, which will be screened.

It is strongly recommended that students take 6 credits at the 300-level before taking 400-level courses.

Studies in Cultures of the Francophone World – Climate Warriors in the Francophone World – While catastrophic climate conditions in the Western world have been the object of much coverage, the devastating toll that global warming has had on the rest of the world receives much less critical attention. This course engages with contemporary literature by francophone activists whose communities are directly affected by rising sea levels, unfettered oil drilling practices, and the extreme weather conditions that have created the first climate refugees. This literature provides a critical outlook on global climate anxieties. The writer-activists under study have often already experienced the environmental destruction, forced migration, and estrangement from biodiversity that mainstream environmentalists have only recently begun to portray as an impending global threat. Francophone environmental discourse thus offers an inspiring tale of post-apocalyptic survival, which can reshape how to think about the climate crisis in the carbon-addicted United States.

COURSES TAUGHT IN ENGLISH – FALL 2020

**** No prerequisite needed in French! ****

French for Reading Knowledge – An intensive introduction to the French language, designed to allow students to acquire a reading knowledge of the language as quickly as possible. The course will be conducted in English; no prior knowledge of French required. The textbook will be supplemented with additional readings chosen based on the interests of the class. [Fulfills Core Requirement AHq]

Short Stories of France – This course examines a handful of short stories, in English translation, by some of the most important French writers of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Its objective is to give students with no particular knowledge of French an overall view of an important French literary genre and to develop critical thinking. Readings will include texts by Voltaire, Mérimée, Flaubert, Maupassant, Camus, Beckett and Michon. [Cross-listed with Comparative Literature 01:195:135:03] [This course fulfills Core Requirements AHp.]

Major French Writers in Translation: Enlightenment Love Letters – The title of this course refers, most simply, to the eighteenth-century French epistolary novels whose plots employed the circulation of love letters: licit and illicit, romantic and scandalous. The title also refers to how Enlightenment writers used the popularity of this form to spread their critiques of traditional perspectives on religious, political and sexual norms. We will be reading some of the most well-known authors of the century, such as Montesquieu (Persian Letters), Diderot (The Nun) and Rousseau (Julie, or the New Heloise), whose work included epistolary novels that furthered their critiques of cultural insularity, religious hypocrisy and traditional domesticity. In addition, we will turn to authors known less well today but popular and influential in their time, including Graffigny (Letters of a Peruvian Woman) and Laclos (Dangerous Liaisons) whose work critiqued the social mores of the time and explored new perspectives on the roles of women and sexual equality. The course will also incorporate films that have adapted some of these titles, including Stephen Frears Les Liaisons Dangereuses and Roger Kumble’s Cruel Intentions, as we explore the contemporary relevance of the Enlightenment project. (Cross-listed with 195:251:02) [This course fulfills Core Requirements AHp, WCd]
Major French Writers in Translation: Surrealism: The Twentieth-Century Movement that Changed Everything

Few aesthetic movements have had the far-reaching impact of surrealism, dating from the early 20’s in France, but exerting an international influence that continues even today in cybertecture and music videos, the visual arts, and literature. The surrealists were the first to systematically attempt to draw on unconscious sources such as dream and eroticism to explore a revolutionary new concept of beauty ("Beauty will be convulsive or will not be at all," André Breton). In this course, we shall study the origin and artistic/social preoccupations of the surrealist school, including surrealist experiments in film, poetry, theater, novel, and painting. (Cross-listed with 195:251:03) [This course fulfills Core Requirements AHp, WCD]