French Course Descriptions  
Fall 2017

**French 0001-Elementary French 1**

A-Block A – Kerri Conditto Miller  
B-Block B – Anne-Christine Rice  
C-Block F – Anne-Christine Rice  
D-Block H – Anne Poncet-Montange  
E-Block N – Dean Simpson

This course introduces the fundamental grammatical structures and vocabulary of French. Through the development of basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, it promotes the practical use of language in a variety of social settings. Online lab work is required. Conducted in French. No prerequisites.

**French 0002-Elementary French 2**

A-Block C – Nancy Kelly  
B-Block E – Marie Gillette  
C-Block G – Marie Gillette

A continuation of French 001, the course advances the study of basic grammar structures, fosters the development of vocabulary, and broadens the range of situations in which the student can understand and impart information. Multimedia materials provide the cultural context for linguistic activities. Online lab work is required. Students are required to register for a recitation section that consists of a weekly 40-minute conversation group. Conducted in French. Prerequisite: French 001 or consent.

**French 0003-Intermediate French 1**

A – Block A – Brenna Heitzman  
B - Block C – Kerri Conditto Miller  
C-Block D – Kerri Conditto Miller  
D-Block E – Brenna Heitzman  
E-Block F –Nancy Kelly  
F-Block G – Brenna Heitzman

A review and extension of French grammar and vocabulary with attention to developing all four skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The course aims to foster fluency and the functional use of language. Class discussions will be based on conversations and short literary texts and readings about French society. Regular listening work, lab assignments and frequent compositions are required. Conducted in French. Prerequisite: French 002 or consent.

**French 0004-Intermediate French 2**

A – Block A – David Pauling  
B – Block D – David Pauling  
C – Block G – Anne Taieb  
D – Block J – Viola Thomas  
E – Block H – Viola Thomas

The course continues the grammar review begun in French 003, introduces the use of more advanced structures, and promotes the acquisition of a large active vocabulary. It aims to develop language proficiency sufficient to converse about practical concerns and to narrate in past, present, and future time. Readings from several different types of prose develop sensitivity to tone and style. Course work consists of regular lab assignments, compositions and class discussion. Students are required to register for a recitation section that consists of a weekly 40-minute conversation group. Conducted in French. Prerequisite: French 003 or consent.
French 0021-Composition and Conversation 1

A-Block C – Anne-Christine Rice
B-Block F – Viola Thomas
C-Block ImwHf – Marie Gillette
D-Block J – Anne Poncet-Montange

This course aims to develop the student's ability to speak and write French, with special emphasis on oral-aural skills and a focus on contemporary French culture. A review of advanced grammar structures promotes correct expression. Lab assignments and readings, in the form of cultural texts and short fiction, serve to expand vocabulary and provide subjects for class discussions. Given the focus on oral expression, active participation in class is essential. Course work includes regular oral and written assignments, compositions, oral presentations, film discussions, and exams. Students are required to register for a recitation section that consists of a weekly 40-minute conversation group. Conducted in French. Prerequisite: French 004 or consent.

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French 0022-Composition and Conversation 2

A-Block C – Tracy Pearce
B-Block E – Anne Taieb
C-Block F – Tracy Pearce

This course, like French 021, provides an advanced grammar review and work on oral/aural skills, but its focus shifts to written expression. Readings are drawn from contemporary French and Francophone texts. To prepare students for upper-level courses, increasing emphasis is placed on analytical skills and on the cogent presentation of ideas and points of view. Course work includes regular oral and written assignments, compositions, oral presentations or creative projects, film discussions, and exams. Students are required to register for a recitation section that consists of a weekly 40-minute conversation group. Conducted in French. Prerequisite: French 021 or consent.

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French 0031- Readings in French Literature 1

A – Block D+ - Claire Schub
B – Block E+ - Gerard Gasarian
C – Block K+ - Zeina Hakim
D – Block J+ - Isabelle Naginski

An in depth study of selected masterworks of French literature representing significant currents of thought and expression from the Middle Ages through the eighteenth century. The course will emphasize close textual analysis and the improvement of critical skills. Class discussions will be encouraged. Lectures, discussions, short papers, midterm exam, exposé(s), and final examination: Conducted in French. Not for senior majors or for students returning from programs abroad. Prerequisite: French 22 or instructor's consent.

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French 0091-Love and Marriage in Medieval French Literature  (in English)

A – Block H+ - Vincent Pollina

Twelfth-century France celebrated the cult of love – often adulterous love – at a time when marriage as a modern institution was comparatively new. In so doing, it shed fresh light on the process of psychosexual development and sought to reconcile the happiness of the individual with the common good. The course will begin with the Romance of Tristan and Iseut, whose ideal of amorous fulfillment set the terms of the literary debate. We shall then assess the role of extramarital relationships in Lancelot by Chrétien de Troyes; the contrasting perspective on marriage in his Yvain; the link between growth in love and the spiritual quest in Perceval. Marie de France’s unconventional approach in matters of fidelity to lover, spouse, and God will be explored throughout the term. Class discussions; three exams. Fulfills the Related Field requirement in the French Major and the Humanities requirement for Engineers; counts toward the French Culture Option and the Interdisciplinary Minor in Medieval Studies. Course taught in English.

French 0121-Advanced French Language 1
A – Block D+ - Tracy Pearce

Section A: Solitary Characters and Society

This course offers students an in-depth review of grammar with the goal of improving and perfecting oral and written expression. We will study contemporary language and place a particular emphasis on grammar usage, specificity of expression and vocabulary acquisition through analysis of written and spoken French. Readings include a contemporary novel, *L’élegance du hérisson*, by Muriel Barbery and we will examine the theme of the individual’s place in society. We will also study and discuss two recent films, *Le Havre* (Aki Kaurismäki) and *Dans la Maison* (François Ozon). Active class participation is essential. Other coursework includes regular written and oral grammar assignments, 3 exams, 3 papers as well as shorter reaction papers, and an exposé. Conducted in French. Not for native speakers or for majors who have studied in French-speaking countries. **Prerequisite:** French 21 and 22, or consent.

French 0125-Studies in French Culture: National Identity and Contemporary Challenges
A – Block L+ – Mona El Khoury

A study of French and Francophone cultural production since the end of the Second World War, with special focus on the evolution of national identity in a context of decolonization, European dynamics, globalization, and economic crisis. Issues include political tensions related to multiculturalism and immigration; ethical dilemmas concerning minorities (gender, social, ethnic, religious); history and memory; education; racism; violence. Course materials encompass essays, films, novels, plays, articles from the press, and chapters from the textbook (*La France contemporaine*). Group discussion, an oral presentation, three compositions, and a final exam. **Prerequisites:** French 21 and 22, or French 31 and 32, or consent.

French 0162 – French Romanticism: Masculin/Feminin
A – Block K+ - Isabelle Naginski

Are the tenets of Romanticism the same for male and female writers? Do they express the "mal du siècle" in the same fashion? Are their characters gendered in the same way? How does the rehabilitation of a marginalized feminine Romanticism alter our understanding of the dominant and androcentric paradigm? After examining how the movement, through various manifestoes (by Stendhal, Hugo, Musset, Sand), set itself apart from Classicism, we will attempt to explore these questions. Chateaubriand's *René* will be studied as a crucial foundation text. We will then focus our attention on George Sand and Alfred de Musset, nicknamed "les enfants du siècle", as a way to gage the poetic and ideological differences between Romanticism in its masculine and feminine incarnations. Not only did Sand's and Musset's writings enter into a fertile dialogue of opposites, but their love affair produced a celebrated correspondence, poetry, fictions and a dramatic comedy. One short paper (5-6 pages); one long paper (10-12 pages); frequent exposés and take-home final exam. Active class participation is essential. **Prerequisites:** French 31 and 32, or consent.

French 0172 – In Search of Writing: 20th Century French Novel
A – Block E+ - Claire Schub

In the 20th Century, the claim that language coincides with reality is abandoned and notions of the heroic struggle are subverted. The course will focus on ways in which five novels confront issues of history, sexuality, art, identity, freedom, memory, community, and writing itself, in a context that rejects the structures of the past. We will read novels by Colette, Proust, Sarraute, Sartre, and Camus. How do these French writers from the first half of the 20th century speak to us as early 21st century readers? One short paper (5-7 pages), one long paper (10-12 pages), and two exposés. **Prerequisites:** French 31 and 32, or consent.
**French 0191 - A - Business French**

Block F+ - Claire Schub

This course provides a fundamental knowledge of French as used in the business world, as well as background and information to enable students to communicate effectively in a business context in France and other Francophone countries. We will study technical terminology and practices in such fields as banking, government, industry, and advertising, and broaden our understanding of French political, financial, economic, and educational institutions. There will be practical training in writing business letters, job application letters, and résumés. We will discuss the impacts of recent and current developments such as the environmental movement, the anti-globalization movement, and the European Union. There will be several invited speakers who are involved in the French business world. Two films will be shown. At the end of the semester, students may opt to take the Paris Chamber of Commerce exam for the "diplôme de français des affaires". There will be a midterm exam, a final exam, frequent quizzes, résumés of articles, and a final research project. **Prerequisite:** French 31 and 32 or consent

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**French 0191 - B Gender and the Colonies**

Block K+ - H. Adlai Murdoch

Throughout the French empire during the early twentieth century, there was a range of complex formal and informal hierarchies of race, class, and gender that French administrators and colonizers imposed on the colonized. White privilege created a racial hierarchy, and women were considered crucial for the expression of whiteness. Seeking to curtail interracial relationships and encourage French culture, subsidies were introduced that encouraged white women to marry white men. At the same time, colonized women were excluded from the promises of the new republic, and they had to manipulate the system to maintain their place in it. Similarly, conventional stereotypes of black men as savages, or children, obliged this group to actively redefine their own masculinity.

We will examine a range of representative texts from France’s empire in the Caribbean, North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa and Indochina. Two short papers (5-6 pages); a final paper (10 pages); and an exposé. **Prerequisites:** French 31 and 32, or consent.

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**French 0191 – C – French Surrealism**

Block I+ - Gerard Gasarian

An in-depth investigation of the Surrealist movement in France through the study of plays (Ionesco), poems (Breton, Eluard, Desnos, Queneau, Mansour, Prévert), prose narratives (Breton), and films (Buñuel). A variety of texts, in prose and in verse, will be read for their literary as well as social, cultural, and psychological significance. Surrealist theater and cinema will also be studied. **Prerequisite:** French 31 and 32, or consent.

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**French 0191 –D – Versailles and the Age of Louis XIV**

Block G+ - Zeina Hakim

Why is the 17th century called “the golden age”, the classicism of French literature? Why do the works from this period remain models of eternal human quest for truth and beauty? What is the relevance of these literary masterpieces for students today? This course will explore possible answers through the study of major works of Molière, Racine, Madame de La Fayette, and La Fontaine. In this seminar, we shall examine the thematic and stylistic innovations of 17th-century literary works by exploring the chief literary forms of the time: drama, poetry, maxims, and the novel. We will also examine the relationship between cultural forms and power at the court of Louis XIV. **Prerequisites:** French 31 and 32, or consent. Active class participation, group discussion, one oral presentation, one short paper, one long paper, and a final exam.