

Spring 2016 - French Undergraduate Courses

Subject to change. Please refer to inside ND for the most up-to-date, accurate information.

LLRO 10118-01 – Beginning Creole II

TR 3:30-4:45

K. Richman

This course is intended for students who have taken beginning level Creole Language and Culture. In small-group teaching sessions, students will be prepared for conversational fluency with basic reading and writing skills, emphasizing communicative competence as well as grammatical and phonetic techniques. Our study of Kreyòl is integrated with an exploration of how the language is tied to Haitian society, culture, economy and politics and history. Evaluation of student achievement and proficiency will be conducted both informally and formally during and at the conclusion of the course. Those looking to develop or improve their language skills are welcome to the class. The program is designed to meet the needs of those who plan to conduct research in Haiti or in the Haitian diaspora, or who intend to work in a volunteer or professional capacity either in Haiti or with Haitians abroad.

ROFR 20300 – Conversational French

ROFR 20300-01: MWF 10:30-11:20

ROFR 20300-02: MWF 11:30-12:20

M. Escoda-Risto

This course is designed to further develop the student's conversational skills and grasp of a wide variety of styles and registers in French. Spoken French will be practiced through various types of classroom activities and assignments. Emphasis will be on topics of current interest.

ROFR 20607 – Contemporary France

MW 2:00-3:15

A. Haileselassie

Who are the French? What does “being French” mean? What do French institutions and cultural productions reveal about their core values and beliefs? How do they differ from Americans, and the institutions and cultural productions in the United States? This course will familiarize students with the political, cultural and social life in contemporary France. We will examine the major social debates as we discuss education, secularism and religion, immigration and integration, and the role of the state in modern France.

ROFR 30310 – The Art of Interpretation

TR 12:30-1:45

C. Perry

The aim of this course is to familiarize students with interpreting texts of various genres and periods. By texts, we may understand not only works of literature such as poetry, prose or theater, but also images, film clips, songs, or advertisements. This course will give special attention to the French technique of explication de textes, a close reading and analysis of a short text. Because students will learn to do both oral and written interpretations, or explications, increasing facility in correct written and spoken French will be a significant benefit of this

course. We will use the 2015 textbook *Empreintes littéraires 1re L.E.S.S.*, which students in France use to prepare for le bac and which provides access to helpful online resources.

Requirements: Students will do two oral interpretations and are expected to participate actively in class discussions. In addition to the oral explications in class, there will be two short written analyses (3-5 p.) done in two drafts each, a few quizzes in lieu of a midterm, and a final exam. Additional work includes daily written preparation questions concerning vocabulary or allusions pertinent to the assigned text of the day.

ROFR 30320-01 – Advanced Grammar Composition: Art of Writing

MW 3:30-4:45

M. Escoda-Risto

This advanced-level course, taught in French, is designed for students including those returning from abroad who wish to improve their speaking and writing skills and for students already in the 30000-40000 sequence who seek additional assistance with writing skills and grammar.

ROFR 30645 – Theater and Film

TF 12:30-1:45

A. Toumayan

This course will serve as an introduction to the principal writers, works, and movements which have marked the evolution of theater and film in France from the beginning of the twentieth century through the nineteen seventies. The course will trace the parallel and related evolutions of cinema and theater as well as the manner in which the two genres have expressed or informed the dominant aesthetic movements and ideologies which characterize the twentieth century. Works by Claudel, Giraudoux, Artaud, Sartre, Camus, and Beckett. Films or excerpts of films by Vigo, Clair, Renoir, Carné, Truffaut, Resnais, and Godard.

ROFR 30710 – Overview of French Literature & Culture I

MW 12:30-1:45

G. Haake

This course is designed as an introduction to French literature and culture of the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Classical periods. Students will primarily read and analyze several texts in their entirety—or nearly so—that are exemplary of the three main eras under study. This approach will not preclude smaller excerpts from other texts that will supplement the students' understanding of the literature and culture of this time. In addition, students will have a chance to hone their skills in literary analysis through exposure to literary commonplaces, rhetorical figures, and versification, as well as through the classic French practice of explication de texte. As a final component, students will have the opportunity to develop their cultural literacy of the respective periods through lectures and presentations on art, architecture, music, history, and politics. Texts and authors will include *La Chanson de Roland*, Villon, Rabelais, Ronsard, Molière, Corneille, and others.

ROFR 40225 – Princes, Poets, & Prophets

MW 11:00-12:15

G. Haake

This course serves as an introduction to the fascinating and complex relationship between politics, religion, and literature during the French Renaissance. With the advent of Renaissance

Humanism and philology, with developments in political theory and the role of the author, and with the Protestant Reformation, this creative and dynamic period was also a tumultuous one with far-reaching consequences. We will explore what this meant for France in the sixteenth century and beyond primarily through literary texts including, but not limited to, the poetry of Clément Marot, Rabelais's *Gargantua*, Etienne de la Boétie's *Discours de la servitude volontaire*, the poetry of Pierre de Ronsard, Jean de la Taille's *Saül le Furieux*, and D'Aubigné's *Les Tragiques*. This course meets the University Literature requirement.

ROFR 40414 - Senior Seminar: "Les Misérables: Romance, Revolution, and Capitalism in 19th-century France"

MW 2:00-3:15

J. Douthwaite

In this new course, students will read Hugo's epic novel *Les Misérables* almost in its entirety, and enjoy extensive incursions into the novel's socio-political context. This will include study of the French revolution of 1789-94 and the author's respectful portrayal of a conventionnel (member of the secular government during the Terror of 1793-94), as well as his depiction of the doomed revolt of 1832. By analysis of the psychological dynamic between characters such as Fantine, Cosette, and Marius, we will appreciate the novel's pathos and confront the paradox of the novel's ending, in which the one-time idealists succumb to bourgeois complacency. Format: advanced seminar with background lectures and well-guided discussions. Advanced lessons in French grammar will be built into analysis of *Les Misérables*. Using new technologies available in Hesburgh Library, students will be required to create a filmed interview and a podcast, as well as to lead discussion in class. Written work will culminate in a substantial research project in French, created over eight weeks according to a stepping stone approach with guidance from the instructor. This course meets the University Literature requirement.

ROFR 40653 – Intercultural Communication and Sustainability in Contemporary French and Francophone Film

TR 2:00-3:15

C. Perry

Organized around major concerns in our world today, this course is designed to familiarize students with contemporary French and Francophone feature films that envision possibilities of intercultural and transnational communication as well as documentaries that raise issues of environmental sustainability. The selection of films will give us an opportunity to reflect upon exile and immigration in a globalized world; the dynamics of Muslim cultures within, and in relation to, "Western" cultures; and environmental concerns that are frequently related to these topics. To help us appreciate differences between text and image, we will read the historical novel *Ce que le jour doit à la nuit*, by Yasmina Khadra (2008, adapted for film), and the science-fiction novel *Globalia*, by Jean-Christophe Rufin (2004). We will also read critical essays, including excerpts of the recent investigation *Trafiquants d'hommes*, by Andrea Di Nicola and Giampaolo Musumeci (2015), to develop our understanding of contemporary French and Francophone cinema and the issues it represents. All films will be screened in original version, most with English subtitles.

Films to watch will include 12 among the following, listed by chronological order: *Le Monde du silence*, by Jacques-Yves Cousteau and Louis Malle (1956); *Crossing Borders*, by Arnd Wächter (2009); *Solutions locales pour un désordre global*, by Coline Serreau (2010); *Incendies*, by Denis

Villeneuve (2010); *La Désintégration*, by Philippe Faucon (2011); *Océans*, by Jacques Perrin (2011); *Ce que le jour doit à la nuit*, by Alexandre Arcady (2012); *Inch'Allah*, by Anaïs Barbeau-Lavalette (2012); *La Pirogue*, by Moussa Touré (2012); *La Soif du monde*, by Baptiste Rouget-Luchaire and Thierry Piantanida (2012); *Human*, by Yann Arthus-Bertrand (2015); *Marie Heurtin*, by Jean-Pierre Améris (2015); *Hmong Memory at the Crossroads*, by Safoi Babana-Hampton et al. (2015); and an African film at the Browning Cinema (title tbd). There will also be a round table with invited scholars to discuss Hmong in exile in the US and France (date tbd).

ROFR 53000 – Senior Seminar Spring: "Les Misérables: Romance, Revolution, and Capitalism in 19th-century France"

MW 2:00-3:15

J. Douthwaite

In this new course, students will read Hugo's epic novel *Les Misérables* almost in its entirety, and enjoy extensive incursions into the novel's socio-political context. This will include study of the French revolution of 1789-94 and the author's respectful portrayal of a conventionnel (member of the secular government during the Terror of 1793-94), as well as his depiction of the doomed revolt of 1832. By analysis of the psychological dynamic between characters such as Fantine, Cosette, and Marius, we will appreciate the novel's pathos and confront the paradox of the novel's ending, in which the one-time idealists succumb to bourgeois complacency. Format: advanced seminar with background lectures and well-guided discussions. Advanced lessons in French grammar will be built into analysis of *Les Misérables*. Using new technologies available in Hesburgh Library, students will be required to create a filmed interview and a podcast, as well as to lead discussion in class. Written work will culminate in a substantial research project in French, created over eight weeks according to a stepping stone approach with guidance from the instructor. This course meets the University Literature requirement.

ROFR 63453 – Graduate Seminar: "Money Matters in Literature from the Old Regime to the Third Republic (1694-1885)"

T 3:30-6:15

J. Douthwaite

This new course introduces students to French literature from the late 17th century to the late 19th century in historical context. Building on Professor Douthwaite's current book project, *Worrying about Money in France: The Art and Literature of Financial Crisis*, the seminar will expose students to cutting-edge methodologies for studying literature alongside art and economic history. It will focus on fiction that explicitly portrays money and its impact on human life, as seen in transactions, inheritances, credit, charity, and commerce, among other phenomena. Authors to be studied include: La Fontaine, Perrault, Montesquieu, Voltaire, Prévost, Mouhy, Fiévée, Balzac, and Zola. Format: advanced seminar with background lectures and well-guided discussions. Using new technologies available in Hesburgh Library, students will be required to create a filmed interview and a podcast, as well as to lead discussion in class. Written work will culminate in a substantial research project in French, created over eight weeks according to a stepping stone approach with guidance from the instructor.

ROFR 63617-01 – Baidelaire

R 3:30-6:15

A. Toumayan

The purpose of this course will be to undertake a sustained and in-depth study of Baudelaire's poetic and critical works. Our goal will be to arrive at an understanding of Baudelaire's aesthetics that is both detailed and broad. Special attention will be given to his situation with respect to French Romanticism. Several representative secondary works will be considered as well. Requirements include one oral presentation and two essays of moderate length.