

Fall 2016 - French Undergraduate Courses

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

ROFR 20300 - Conversational French

MWF 2:00-2:50pm

TBD

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 20602-01, -02 - Exploring Diversity in France

TBD

What is diversity? We think of the United States as a 'melting pot', but what about France? This course will examine the regional, ethnic, cultural and linguistic diversity of France, looking at a wide group of regional and ethnic minority groups, as well as domestic immigrant communities. We will discuss the relevant historical context, as well as consider traditions, film, music, food, linguistic variation and current events to arrive at a more diverse picture of 'French-ness' and compare this with perceptions of 'diversity' and 'multiculturalism' in the United States.

ROFR 30310 – The Art of Interpretation

TR 9:30-10:45am

A.Toumayan

Through careful study of selected short excerpts, this course will focus on the identification and resolution of specific problems of textual analysis and interpretation. Prose and verse texts representing various periods, movements, and genres, and selected to highlight a specific problem of reading, will be analyzed following the technique of close reading or explication-de-texte. The course normally includes the analysis of visual art (a session at the Snite museum) and the analysis of a film.

ROFR 30320 – Advanced Composition: Art of Writing

MW 12:30-1:45pm

Fr. Greg Haake

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 30655: "Le Selfie": Francophone Autobiographical Literature, Film & Music

MW 2:00-3:15pm

A.Rice

In this course, we will examine contemporary depictions of the self in various forms, ranging from literary texts to cinematic creations to musical compositions. We will study the works of such authors as Maryse Condé and Amélie Nothomb alongside films by Abd Al Malik and Marjane Satrapi as well as lyrics and video clips by MC Solaar and Stromae, among others, in an effort to determine how individuals perceive themselves and create public perceptions of their personae through these various forms of self-expression.

ROFR 30720 – Overview of French Lit and Culture II

TR 11:00am-12:15pm

A.Toumayan

Reading of selections and complete works of outstanding French authors from major genres and periods. All majors are required to take this sequence, or equivalent advanced courses. Students are expected to have already taken 30310 or to take ROFR 30310 concurrently with the first survey taken. Cross-listed with GS 30578-01.

ROFR 40343 – Classical French Theater

TR 9:30-10:45am

L. MacKenzie

Louis 14 (and to a lesser extent, Louis 13) may have been king, but theater ruled 17th Century France; and the "kings" of the theater were Corneille, Racine and Molière. More than 300 years later, the works of these three are still read, performed and cherished. We will continue this momentum. Our approach will be based on detailed readings, critical observation and "mise en scène," that is, performing certain scenes from the plays. Class conducted in French.

LLRO 40595 - New Trends in European Nonfiction Films

TR 3:30-4:45pm

O. Morel

This class will present an overview of the most recent trends in nonfiction films directed and produced in a globalized Europe. One of our goals will consist of analyzing how non-fiction cinema is transforming both the news and traditional fiction cinema. We will also reflect on the political importance of non-fiction filmmaking in conflict situations and in the context of the dramatic political tensions affecting Europe today (terrorism, wars, refugee crises, the rise of far right parties, economic crisis?). We will study new forms of non-fiction cinema: animation, webdocs, 3-D, augmented reality, as well as the changes in the economy of the sector. We will welcome guests on Skype: authors, filmmakers, producers. Two written assignments, oral presentations as well as active participation in our class will constitute the basic requirements.

ROFR 40652-01 – “Ethnicity and Terror in Today’s Digital France: Journalism, Cinema, Graphic Novels
TR 2:00-3:15pm

O. Morel

The goal of this class is to analyze three spheres of cultural representation and the explanations that were given for the terrorist attacks that took place in France in 2015 (notably the Charlie Hebdo and Hyper Cacher, the Thalys attack, and the November 13 attacks). While we focus on A) media reactions to the attacks B) art (films, graphic novels, notably) C) how the French society reacted to the attacks, we will also try to understand the importance of the digital sphere, not only in circulating information but also in shaping violence.

ROFR 40906-01/LLRO – French Literature and Opera

TR 12:30-1:45pm

L. MacKenzie

In this course, the full title of which is Taking Liberties: From Book to Libretto, or French Literature Goes to the Opera and which is taught in ENGLISH, we will be looking at a series of parent texts, written originally in French, and their operatic offspring. Works include The Barber of Seville (Beaumarchais/Rossini); The Marriage of Figaro (Beaumarchais/Mozart); Don Juan (Molière) and Don Giovanni (Mozart); Manon Lescaut (Prévost/Puccini), Carmen (Mérimée/Bizet).