

Fall 2017 French Undergraduate Courses

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

ROFR 20300-01 - Conversational French

MWF 2:00-2:50

K. Werner

This course is designed to further develop the student's conversational skills by viewing and discussing a number of recent French films. There will also be a variety of classroom activities aimed at practicing extemporaneous speaking in everyday social situations. There will be no formal review of grammar, but there will be a series of short tests over the vocabulary and themes associated with each film. The final project will be a collaborative video based upon the films viewed throughout the semester.

ROFR 20603-01 – Facets of France, French and the French

TR 9:30-10:45

L. MacKenzie

This content-driven course is intended for students who want to further broaden their knowledge of the French language and related cultures, as well as improve both their understanding of the French and Francophone world and their communication skills in the French Language.

ROFR 20692-01 – “La Bourgeoisie’: Race, Class, and Sex in France Today”

MW 2:00-3:15

A. Rice

This course focuses on contemporary French-language books and films that evoke second-generation immigrants from Algeria and Morocco in France today. We pay special attention to questions of gender, religion, and identity and examine depictions of young men and women from impoverished backgrounds who have managed to climb the social ladder in France in various professions to gain notoriety and respect. Cross-listed with GSC 20524.

ROFR 30310-01 – The Art Interpretation

TR 9:30-10:45

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 30320-01 – Advance Composition: Art of Writing (Department approval required)

MW 12:30-1:45

TBD

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 30360-01 - French Translation

TR 11:00-12:15

TBD

This French translation course is divided into units focusing on different types of translation (literary, journalistic, academic, commercial, technical, legal, film subtitling, interpretation, etc.). We will work on both French to English (version) and English to French (thème) translations, and will learn different translation strategies while focusing on building vocabulary and improving French grammar.

Course materials will include: newspaper and magazine articles; Alain Schifres's study of the rise of "franglais" entitled *My Tailor is rich but my français is poor* (2014); a short novel, *Naissance des fantômes* (1998), by Marie Darrieussecq, as well as its translation, *My Phantom Husband*; the Tumblr blog "les sous-titres de la honte"; and a documentary by stand-up comedian Gad Elmaleh, *10 minutes in America* (2014), which addresses the challenges of translating humor and cultural references.

ROFR 30710-01 – Overview of French Lit & Culture I

MW 11:00-12:15

Fr. G. Haake

This course is designed as an introduction to French literature and culture of the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Classical periods. Rather than focus exclusively on a series of small excerpts from the periods in question, students will be asked to 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 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. Cross-listed with MI 30530.

ROFR 40213-01 – Women in Print

MW 2:00-3:15

Fr. G. Haake

With the advent of the print medium, the barriers to women writers and poets in Renaissance France were seemingly lower. What distinguishes the woman writer in this new era of the printed word? What characterizes their rhetoric, style, and subject matter? In our own time, how have contemporary literary critics both questioned and affirmed their legacy? Through close reading and study of writers such as Marguerite de Navarre, Pernette du Guillet, Louise Labé, and others, while taking into account the male perspective from poets such as Scève and Ronsard, students will examine the role of women in print in sixteenth-century France.

ROFR 40453-01 – Money Matters in French Literature

T 3:30-6:15

J. Douthwaite

The course introduces students to French literature and history from the late 17th century to the late 19th century in historical context. Building on Professor Douthwaite's current book project, "Financiers We Have Known: A Capitalist History of French Literature," the seminar will expose students to cutting-edge methodologies for studying literature alongside economic theory on human motivation by Shiller, Chang, and Frey. 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, Diderot, Mouhy, Balzac, Hugo, and Zola. Format: advanced seminar with background lectures and well-guided discussions. Cross-listed with ROFR 63490.

ROFR 40654-01 – Cultures of Fear: France and the US in 2016-2017

TR 12:30-1:45

O. Morel

In France and the US, 2015 & 2016 have been marked by major social changes that have impacted the political landscapes and cultures. While reflecting on the long history of the French-US relationship, we will focus on three markers of the post-9/11 & post-Charlie Hebdo/Bataclan world: discourses of inclusion and exclusion (politics); reconfigurations of race, class and gender (society); digital fluidity (media). We will study the election cycles from 2016 (US) and 2017 (France) and pay attention to cultural (cinema, comics, theatre, literature...) and activist responses. Our main objective for the course consists of refining a concept of "fear." We will attempt to discern how fear plays a significant role as a driving force in history in general, and in politics today. We will try to understand how this notion has changed since 9/11, both conceptually, and as a central human emotion. We will welcome guests on Skype: authors, filmmakers. Two written assignments, oral presentations as well as active participation in our class will constitute the basic requirements.