

# Langue Littérature Culture



## French Course Offerings

UD Dept. of  
Languages,  
Literatures and  
Cultures, Spring  
2018

**SELECT FROM AN EXCITING ARRAY OF THREE-CREDIT COURSES!  
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL COURSES ARE TAUGHT IN FRENCH.**

### **FREN 200 French Grammar and Composition**

*Ali Alalou (alalou@udel.edu), Donna Coulet  
du Gard (dcdugard@udel.edu)*

This course aims to enhance students' writing and comprehension skills through French grammar activities. Contextualized in contemporary Francophone literary texts, French grammar is taught using a blend of descriptive grammar and discourse analysis. For example, students will be able to recognize the functions of pronouns and their role in the comprehension of a text. Students write micro-themes and rewrite compositions based on topics studied in the readings.

*Prerequisite: FREN107. This course may be taken for Honors credit.*

### **FREN 205 French Conversation (3 credits)** *Flora Poindexter (florap@udel.edu)*

Improve your conversational skills! This course helps students build their French proficiency through oral reports and discussions of short films and articles. Grammar review and written work will reinforce vocabulary building.

*Prerequisite: FREN 107 or one 200-level course taught in French.*

*This course may be taken for Honors credit.  
Not intended for native speakers of French.*

### **FREN 211 Reading and Composition**

*Edgard Sankara (esankara@udel.edu)*

This course includes reading and discussion of French and Francophone literature and the writing of compositions. The emphasis is on improving critical reading skills and on writing formal academic essays. Therefore, a close reading of the text (with regard to character development, historical or social context, and narrative voice, for example) encourages the student to move beyond the level of plot summary to analyze the works under study. Students will be introduced to literary movements such as Naturalism and Existentialism. Grammar review is incorporated to accompany the readings.

*Prerequisite: FREN 107 with a minimum grade of A- or FREN 200 with a minimum grade of C. Satisfies the Group A breadth requirement. This course may be taken for Honors credit.*



### **FREN305 French Conversation and Composition**

*Deborah Steinberger (steind@udel.edu)*

French 305 is an advanced conversation and composition course, conducted entirely in French, which focuses primarily on current issues in France and the Francophone world. Topics covered include politics, social problems, science and technology, and the arts. You will practice French through oral reports, role-play, and discussions, as well as through regular written assignments including movie reviews and your own blog. Grammar review will be tailored to the needs of the class.

*Prerequisites: FREN 211 and one other 200-level course taught in French, both with a suggested minimum grade of B-. This course may be taken for Honors credit. Not intended for native speakers of French.*

### **FREN 314 French Phonetics**

*Ali Alalou (alalou@udel.edu)*

Do you know the difference between the pronunciation of "Louis" and "lui"? Do you still choke over your French "r"? Are you unsure of when to pronounce final consonants and when to drop them? Do Frenchmen pick you out as American as soon as you pronounce the first syllable of what you thought was their language? Then FREN 314 may be the course for you! Two hours of

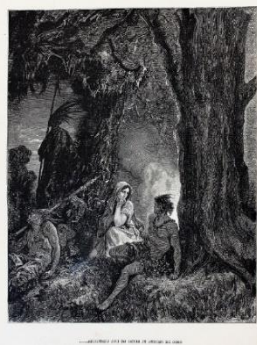
each week are spent learning the rules of pronunciation, practicing auditory discrimination, and transcribing French discourse, using the IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet); one hour a week is given to practicing the sounds in small groups. Oral exercises to accompany the textbook are available on the Internet.

**Prerequisites:** FREN 211 and any 200-level course taught in the French language, both with a suggested minimum grade of B-. This course may be taken for Honors credit

### FREN 355 Maîtres de la nouvelle et du voyage

Bruno Thibault  
(thibault@udel.edu)

Do you enjoy traveling? Are you fascinated by exotic places? Do you think a journey could change your life? If so, you have something in common with such



famous authors as Chateaubriand, Nerval, Mérimée, Loti, Maupassant, Camus and Le Clézio. This course will focus on several French masters of the short story in the 19th, 20th and 21st century. Selected short stories, all connected by the theme of travel, will enable us to discuss the varied facets of that genre and to better understand the intricate relationships between texts and contexts, as well as plot, theme, symbols, narration and structure. Great poems by Hugo, Baudelaire, Mallarmé and Rimbaud will also be discussed in class.

**Prerequisites:** FREN 211, and any 200-level course taught in the French language, both with a suggested minimum grade of B-. This course may be taken for Honors credit.



In "Thrillers, Chillers and Killers," read Maupassant's eerie tale "Le Horla"!

**Perform!**  
Students in the spring 2016  
FREN 456 production of  
*Drapeau Rouge et tasse de thé*

### FREN 456: French Theater Workshop

Deborah Steinberger  
(steind@udel.edu)

Improve your French as you develop dramatic technique! In this workshop-style class for advanced students, the emphasis will be on staging and performance as we analyze French theater of different periods and genres. Class activities will include dramatic readings, improvisation, and work on diction. By the end of the semester, students will notice an enhanced command of target-language grammar and syntax, improved pronunciation and fluency, and increased confidence with public speaking in French. The course will culminate in a public presentation of our work, so a high level of engagement and a willingness to participate in some rehearsals outside of class time are required. To facilitate group work, an out-of-class rehearsal hour each week has been scheduled.

**Prerequisites:** Any two 300-level French literature courses (FREN 301, 302, or 355). Satisfies the University Discovery Learning requirement. Counts as a French literature course.

### FREN457/667: The Francophone World

Edgard Sankara (esankara@udel.edu)

How do Francophone writers represent the "reality" of colonial and postcolonial history? Enter the Islamic and patriarchal world of Ramatoulaye in *Une si longue lettre* and hear her voice of dissent. Listen to what the "conteurs créoles" have to say about Caribbean folktales and how they relate to modern writing. This course examines the relationship between literature and society in Francophone cultures (Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Canada), and provides a historical overview of the international context of "Francophonie." Topics include "Negritude," the negro-African identity, "cultural métissage," the dialogue between tradition and modernity, independence, post-colonial disillusionment, and the status of women in a changing society. The basis for discussion will include short stories, novels, poems, critical essays, feature and documentary films, and songs.

**Prerequisites:** Any two 300-level French courses with a suggested minimum grade of B-. Satisfies the Multicultural requirement.



### FREN 875: La Nouvelle Vague et le Nouveau Roman

Bruno Thibault (thibault@udel.edu)

It is often said that no one reads anymore and that we live in an age of sound bites, iconic clichés and constant zapping. It is also said that the film industry is geared solely toward profit and entertainment for the masses. But is it truly so? In this graduate seminar, students will explore the interaction between cinema and literature through the works of such famous French filmmakers as Resnais, Malle, Rohmer, Godard, Truffaut, Rivette, and Agnès Varda, as well as through the complex and meaningful narrative strategies of such novelists/filmmakers as Marguerite Duras and Alain Robbe-Grillet. This course will thus focus on two of the most influential esthetic movements in literature and cinema in France in the 1950s and 1960s: the New Wave and the New Novel.

**Restrictions:** Open only to MA students.

### LLCU320: Thrillers, Chillers and Killers (TAUGHT IN ENGLISH)

Judy Celli (celli@udel.edu)

While reading French Fantastic short stories in translation, students will apply knowledge from their field of study to the interpretation of seemingly supernatural events and to the analysis of characters. In addition to applying traditional theory to the study of the genre, students will apply their personal base of knowledge, thus gaining a fresh and dynamic cognizance of literature. A final project synthesizes students' interest and the works read. Examples of the final project are short film adaptation of a story, illustrations to accompany a story, psychological or medical case study of character(s), video game development based on themes, traditional close reading/research paper. Guest speakers include a criminologist who discusses psychopaths and sociopaths and a scientist who discusses "what's out there" and multiverses.

**Prerequisites:** None. This course may be taken for Honors credit. Satisfies the Group A breadth requirement.