

FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE STUDIES

FACULTY:

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The Department of French and Francophone Studies offers a program of courses, opportunities, and mentoring with four broad objectives: (1) to develop high proficiency in the French language; (2) to promote knowledge and appreciation of the histories, literatures, and cultures of French-speaking countries; (3) to develop critical thinking and analytical skills; (4) and to prepare students for success in a diverse world marked increasingly by globalization. The Department of French and Francophone Studies actively embraces interdisciplinarity. Majors and minors regularly go on to complete graduate programs in a broad range of fields. Many graduates pursue careers in areas such as teaching, public service, diplomacy, international aid development, and health, publishing, translation, interpreting, the travel industry, business, banking, and law. All courses in the department are taught in French, with the exception of FREN 25300.

Major in French and Francophone Studies

Consists of eleven courses:

- FREN 21600
- FREN 22000
- FREN 22400
- Six elective courses at the 200-level or above. FREN 20100 (French Conversation) and FREN 20300 (French Composition) may count as electives. Electives must include at least two 300-level courses taken at The College of Wooster.
- Senior Independent Study: FREN 45100
- Senior Independent Study: FREN 45200

Minor in French and Francophone Studies

Consists of eight courses:

- FREN 21600
- FREN 22000
- FREN 22400
- Three elective courses in the department, at the 200-level or above. Electives must include at least one 300-level course taken at The College of Wooster.

Special Notes: general

- **Study Abroad:** To assure linguistic competence and in-depth understanding of Francophone cultures, the department strongly encourages study off-campus and will provide guidance on choosing a study abroad program. All majors should normally plan to spend at least a semester in a French-speaking country. Minors are also encouraged to study abroad.
- **La Maison française:** Students with a strong interest in French and Francophone Studies are encouraged to apply to live in the Maison française, located in Luce Hall. The Maison française offers a convivial, stimulating atmosphere. Weekly cultural and social events allow students to improve their French and broaden their knowledge of the Francophone world. A language assistant from a Francophone country lives in the Maison française and helps organize daily conversations and weekly events. Applications are normally due in late February.
- **Advanced Placement:** Students who receive a score of 4 or 5 on the CEEB Advanced Placement Examination may count this credit toward a major or minor in French and Francophone Studies. Students who have taken the Advanced Placement Examination are still required, regardless of the score received, to take the departmental placement exam at the College to determine the next appropriate course.

Special Notes: majors

- The department actively supports double majors and will work closely with students to design an appropriate program of study. Students in recent years have combined their French and Francophone Studies major with majors in Art and Art History, Chemistry, English, Economics, Global and International Studies, History, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Sociology and Anthropology, and Spanish.

- To provide continuity, at least one course in French and Francophone Studies should normally be taken each semester of the junior year (for students on campus) and the senior year, in addition to Independent Study.
- A maximum of four courses taken during a semester off campus may be counted towards the major. Students spending an entire year off campus may count a maximum of seven courses towards the major.
- No more than one French and Francophone Studies course taught in English may count toward the major.
- Majors are not permitted to take courses in the department on an S/NC (pass/fail) basis.
- Only grades of C- or better are accepted for the major.
- Majors interested in French and Francophone Studies as preparation for a career in international business or finance should consider the Interdisciplinary Minor in International Business Economics (see full description under Business Economics).

Special Notes: minors

- Minors may take up to three of the required six courses off-campus.
- Only grades of C- or better are accepted for the minor.

Special Notes: The College's foreign language requirement

- Students who wish to meet the College's language requirement in French by taking summer school courses or by participating in an off-campus program whose courses are fewer than four semester-hours are required to consult the chairperson of the Department of French and Francophone Studies prior to such study. Students who complete such courses may subsequently be required to take the departmental placement exam to demonstrate proficiency through the FREN 10100 or 10200 level.
- If a student registers for and completes a course in French below the level at which the French placement exam placed him or her, that student will not receive credit toward graduation for that course, unless special permission was obtained from the instructor of the course and the Department Chair.

COURSES IN FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE STUDIES

FREN 10100. LEVEL I BEGINNING FRENCH

An introduction to understanding, speaking, reading, and writing French. Acquisition of basic structure, conversational practice, short readings, and compositions. Cultural content. Extensive use of authentic video and audio materials. *Annually. Fall.*

FREN 10200. LEVEL II BEGINNING FRENCH

Continuation of FREN 10100 with increased emphasis on conversational, reading, and writing skills. *Prerequisite: FREN 10100 or placement. Annually. Spring.*

FREN 20100. FRENCH CONVERSATION

Intensive practice in conversational French. Course includes cultural explorations in the Francophone world and work with grammar, vocabulary, and appropriate texts. *Prerequisite: FREN 10200 or equivalent. Annually. Fall. [C]*

FREN 20300. FRENCH COMPOSITION

Intensive practice in writing and reading, with a focus on writing strategies, the writing process, and different kinds of writing. Continued study of French vocabulary and grammar. *Prerequisite: FREN 10200 or equivalent. Annually. Spring.*

FREN 21600. ADVANCED FRENCH

Practice in listening, speaking, reading, and writing at an advanced level. Review of linguistic structures focusing on questions of usage and style. Extensive use of multi-media resources; reading on multiple topics. *Prerequisite: FREN 20300 or equivalent. Annually. Fall. [C]*

FREN 21800. FRENCH PHONOLOGY

Introduction to phonetics and phonology of the French language. Analysis of spoken French, including phonetic transcription. Extensive use of audio materials. Oral drill to improve pronunciation and diction. *Prerequisite: FREN 21600 or equivalent. Spring. [AH]*

FREN 22000. INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE TEXTS (Comparative Literature)

Introduction to textual analysis through readings in genres representative of seventeenth to twentieth centuries. Intensive study of selected passages to develop a critical approach. Practice in speaking and writing on literature. *Prerequisite: FREN 21600 or permission of the instructor. Annually. Fall. [C, W, AH]*

FREN 22400-24006. STUDIES IN FRENCH / FRANCOPHONE CULTURE AND SOCIETY

Introduction to cultural, historical, and societal analysis. Topic changes from year to year. May be taken twice for credit, as offerings vary. *Prerequisite: FREN 21600 or permission of the instructor. Annually. Spring. [C, AH]*

22403. CONTEMPORARY FRANCE

This course uses a number of different lenses to explore French society, French identity, and the French state from World War Two to the present. Topics to be covered include: the modernization of France; work, unemployment and the welfare state; the French school system; and immigration and national identity.

22406. NORTH AFRICA AND FRANCE

This course explores France's deep and often problematic relationships with the francophone Maghreb (Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia). Through a selection of historical and cultural readings, memoirs, novels and films, the course examines the evolution of these relationships from the nineteenth century and up to the present day.

FREN 25300-25301. TOPICS IN FRANCOPHONE LITERATURE AND SOCIETY: FRANCOPHONE FILM (Comparative Literature, Film Studies)

Taught in English. A study of Francophone film from its origins in the work of Méliès and the Lumière Brothers through film noir, poetic realism, and the New Wave to the contemporary period. Various cinematic techniques and theories are illustrated by texts from such major French auteurs as Renoir, Cocteau, Tavernier, Buñuel, Resnais, Carné, Truffaut, Godard, Varda, and others. Some attention to selected examples of Quebecois film. *[C, AH]*

FREN 31000. FRENCH THEATER

This course explores the evolution of French theater from the seventeenth century to the present through the study of works by major playwrights, including Corneille, Molière, Racine, Marivaux, Beaumarchais, Rostand, Jarry, Sartre, Beckett and Reza. Attention will be paid to dramatic theory and to the historical and cultural contexts in which plays were produced. *Prerequisite: FREN 22000 or FREN 22400. [C, AH]*

FREN 32000. STUDIES IN THE MIDDLE AGES AND THE RENAISSANCE (Comparative Literature)

An examination of works that reflect the evolution of values and institutions from the twelfth century through the sixteenth. Includes an introduction to Old French. Authors studied include Rabelais, Du Bellay, Ronsard, and Montaigne. *Prerequisite: FREN 22000 or FREN 22400. [C, AH]*

FREN 32200. STUDIES IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY. SEEING IS BELIEVING? DISTINGUISHING TRUTH AND FICTION IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY (Comparative Literature)

An examination of works that explore the relationship between language, art, knowledge and power in the Age of Absolutism. Authors studied include Mme. de Lafayette, Madeleine de Scudéry, Racine, La Fontaine and Molière. *Prerequisite: FREN 22000 or FREN 22400. [C, AH]*

FREN 32900. STUDIES IN THE TWENTIETH AND TWENTY-FIRST CENTURIES (Comparative Literature, Film Studies)

An examination of works that reflect the cultural, psychological, and literary dislocation of the twentieth century. Authors studied may include Camus, Colette, Beauvoir, Sartre, Gide, Duras, and Robbe-Grillet. *Prerequisite: FREN 22000 or FREN 22400. [C, AH]*

FREN 33000-33005. FRENCH/FRANCOPHONE LITERATURE, CULTURE AND SOCIETY

Advanced studies of particular dimensions of the French-speaking world. *Prerequisite: FREN 22000 or FREN 22400. [C, AH]*

FREN 33001. JOURNEYS IN THE FRENCH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN

This course examines the complex history and diverse cultural encounters that have shaped Haiti, Martinique, Guadeloupe, and French Guiana. These territories will be situated and studied within the broad context of the Atlantic world, with particular emphasis on intersections with France and the United States.

FREN 33002. REMEMBERING WAR: TWENTIETH-CENTURY FRANCE

This course explores the memory of the First World War, the Second World War and the Algerian War of Independence in French society. This examination will be conducted through literature, films and historiographical texts.

FREN 33003. YOUTH AND EDUCATION IN FRANCE: FROM MAY 1968 TO THE PRESENT

This course examines contemporary France through the experiences of the nation's youth. Throughout the semester, we will compare the challenges of being young, going to school, and growing up in France to equivalent experiences in the United States or in other countries.

FREN 33500. LITERATURE AND CULTURE OF FRANCOPHONE AFRICA (Africana Studies, Comparative Literature)

This course explores the fictional works of major Francophone writers such as Mariama Bâ, Mongo Beti, Fatou Diome, Ahmadou Kourouma, Léopold Sédar Senghor, and Camara Laye. Considerable attention is given to the historical and cultural contexts in which these novels were produced. Students will also approach the history and culture of Francophone Africa through a selection of films. *Prerequisite: FREN 22000 or FREN 22400. [C, AH]*

FREN 41000. INTERNSHIP

A structured, usually off-campus experience, in which a student extends classroom knowledge to a work position within a community, business, or governmental organization. Student interns work and learn under the joint guidance of a host organization supervisor and a College of Wooster mentor. The student must arrange the internship in advance through the appropriate department or program. No more than six internships, and a maximum of four Wooster course credits, will count toward graduation. The form for registering for an internship and the Internship Learning Plan are available in the office of the Registrar. (0.25-4 course credits) S/NC course. Prerequisite: The approval of a College of Wooster mentor, department chair, the faculty adviser, and the Associate Dean for Experiential Learning is required. Annually.

FREN 45100. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY – SEMESTER ONE

The first semester of the Senior Independent Study project, in which each student engages in creative and independent research guided by a faculty mentor. Prerequisite: FREN 40100.

FREN 45200. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY – SEMESTER TWO

The second semester of the Senior Independent Study project, which culminates in the finished thesis or an equivalent project and an oral examination. Prerequisite: FREN 45100.

OFF-CAMPUS STUDY

Programs endorsed by the department include:

JUNIOR YEAR IN FRANCE (PARIS)

Semester or academic year program offering courses in a variety of disciplines both at the Sweet Briar center, and at universities and specialized schools in Paris. A limited number of internships in government or social agencies are available.

INSTITUTE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION OF STUDENTS (IES) IN NANTES OR PARIS

Semester or academic year program offering courses in a variety of disciplines both at the Institute and at universities and specialized schools in Paris or Nantes. Possibility of teaching assistantships in English and other internships in businesses.

WOOSTER IN BESANÇON

A one-semester program of intensive language study at the Centre de Linguistique Appliquée of the University of Besançon. A Wooster graduate who teaches at the Centre serves as the College's agent there. Particularly appropriate for students at the beginning or early intermediate level in French.

DICKINSON IN TOULOUSE

Semester or academic year program offering courses in a variety of disciplines both at the Dickinson Study Center and at the universities and specialized schools in Toulouse. Possibility of internships in business, education, the arts, and applied sciences.

SCHOOL FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAINING (SIT).

SApproved programs in Morocco, Madagascar, Switzerland, and Tunisia. SIT offers field-based, experiential programs with a variety of themes.

For more details, see the website of the Office of Off-Campus Studies.