French Studies is a major offered by the Classical and European Studies (CES) Department. The French Studies program offers courses in topics such as medieval courtly love to French philosophy since the Enlightenment, from post-colonial Africa to social issues in contemporary France, from women in the nineteenth-century literary imagination to the art of reading and interpretation with a focus not just on the literary and linguistic but also on gender and visual art, history and medicine, post-colonialism and critical theory.

The majority of courses are offered entirely in French but some select courses are also offered in English (some of these in collaboration with the other majors offered by the Classical and European Studies department).

Bachelor’s Program

- Bachelor of Arts (BA) Degree with a Major in French Studies (ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/humanities/french-studies/french-studies-ba)

French Studies does not currently offer an academic program at the graduate level.

Program Advisor

Deborah Nelson-Campbell

Professor

Deborah Nelson-Campbell

Associate Professors

Jacqueline Couti
Julie Fette
Deborah A. Harter
Philip R. Wood

For Rice University degree-granting programs:

To view the list of official course offerings, please see Rice’s Course Catalog (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/ISWKSCAT.cat?p_action=cata)

To view the most recent semester’s course schedule, please see Rice’s Course Schedule (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/ISWKSCAT.cat)
FREN 263 - SECOND YEAR FRENCH I
Short Title: SECOND YEAR FRENCH I
Department: Cntr Lang & Intercultural Comm
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Prerequisite(s): FREN 142
Description: Continuation of FREN 142. Development of interactional competence in French (sociolinguistic and socio cultural knowledge) to communicate and interact with speakers of French. The course is based on a student-centered, critical-thinking approach to language analysis/acquisition
Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for FREN 263 and FREN 201.

FREN 264 - SECOND YEAR FRENCH II
Short Title: SECOND YEAR FRENCH II
Department: Cntr Lang & Intercultural Comm
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Prerequisite(s): FREN 263
Description: Continuation of FREN 263. Development of interactional competence in French (sociolinguistic and socio cultural knowledge) to communicate and interact with speakers of French. The course is based on a student-centered, critical-thinking approach to language analysis/acquisition
Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for FREN 264 and FREN 202.

FREN 301 - ADVANCED GRAMMAR AND ITS LITERARY AND CULTURAL APPLICATIONS
Short Title: ADV GRAM & LIT & CULTURAL APP
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Offered every semester, this course is an integrated study of literary and cultural texts as a springboard for advanced level refinements of grammar. Recommended Prerequisite(s): FREN 202 or 264 or Placement Test.

FREN 302 - WRITING WORKSHOP
Short Title: WRITING WORKSHOP
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course, offered annually and required of all majors, builds naturally on FREN 301. It emphasizes composition and exposition through the practice of such genres as narration, description, portrait, essay, and commentaire compose. Formerly FREN 336. Recommended
Prerequisite(s): FREN 202 or FREN 264 or Placement Test. Mutually
Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for FREN 302 and FREN 336.

FREN 305 - LITERARY AND CULTURAL ANALYSIS: THE ART OF READING
Short Title: LITERARY AND CULTURAL ANALYSIS
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Introduction to the unique critical skills necessary for reading and analysis across the arts and social sciences. Recommended
Prerequisite(s): FREN 202 or FREN 264 or Placement Test.

FREN 307 - THE MANY FACETS OF FRENCH CULTURAL IDENTITY I
Short Title: FRENCH CULTURAL IDENTITY I
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: With the help of nine French films and selected readings, we will discuss what it means to be French today. Recommended
Prerequisite(s): FREN 202 or FREN 264 or Placement Test.

FREN 311 - MAJOR LITERARY WORKS AND ARTIFACTS OF PRE-REVOLUTIONARY FRANCE
Short Title: PRE-REV FRENCH LIT
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Study of French culture, literature, and artifacts from the Middle Ages until the Revolution. Recommended Prerequisite(s): FREN 202 or FREN 264 or Placement Test.
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>FREN 312</td>
<td>MAJOR LITERARY WORKS AND ARTIFACTS OF POST-REVOLUTIONARY FRANCE</td>
<td>MAJ LIT WORKS POST-REV FRANCE</td>
<td>Classical and European Studies</td>
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<td>Study of 19th and 20th century poetry, fiction, and cinema through the major literary and artistic movements: romanticism, realism, symbolism, Dada, surrealism, and existentialism. Recommended Prerequisite(s): FREN 202 or FREN 264 or Placement Test.</td>
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<td>FREN 313</td>
<td>MAJOR LITERARY WORKS AND ARTIFACTS OF THE FRANCOPHONE WORLD</td>
<td>MAJ LIT WORKS &amp; ARTIFACTS</td>
<td>Classical and European Studies</td>
<td>Standard Letter</td>
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<td>FREN 321</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH SOCIETY AND CULTURE</td>
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<td>This course provides grounding in social, political, cultural, and economic aspects of contemporary France. The course will focus on themes such as youth culture, Europeanization, immigration, and gender debates. Recommended Prerequisite(s): FREN 202 or FREN 264 or Placement Test.</td>
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<td>FREN 322</td>
<td>FRENCH PHONETICS</td>
<td>FRENCH PHONETICS</td>
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<td>FREN 323</td>
<td>FROM EXISTENTIALISM TO CYBERPUNK</td>
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<td>This course will explore the artistic, historical, and philosophical textures of French cultures outside Europe, focusing especially on Africa North and South of the Sahara, the Caribbean, North America, and on the evolution of the concept of &quot;francophonie&quot; since World War II. Recommended Prerequisite(s): FREN 202 or FREN 264 or Placement Test.</td>
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<td>FREN 350</td>
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<td>Classical and European Studies</td>
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<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Distribution Group I</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.</td>
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<td>FREN 351</td>
<td>FREN 351 - PROVINCES OF FRANCE</td>
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<td>Classical and European Studies</td>
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<td>Seminar</td>
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<td>Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.</td>
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<td>FREN 355</td>
<td>FREN 355 - MODERN SHORT STORY: TOWARDS AN ETHICS OF FICTION</td>
<td>MODERN SHORT STORY</td>
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<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>FREN 356</td>
<td>FREN 356 - TRANSLATION AS INTERPRETATION: CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH POETS OF THE MODERN AGE</td>
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<td>FREN 370</td>
<td>FREN 370 - WOMEN IN TALES OF THE FANTASTIC</td>
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<td>FREN 380</td>
<td>FREN 380 - FLAUBERT AND THE ART OF TRANSLATION: EXPERIMENTS IN WRITING</td>
<td>WRITING FLAUBERT</td>
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FREN 401 - TRANSLATION
Short Title: TRANSLATION
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Exploration of the theory and practice of translation. Includes translation of modern texts from and into English.
Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor

FREN 403 - SPECIAL TOPICS
Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Independent Study
Credit Hours: 1-5
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Topics may vary. Please consult with the department for additional information. Taught in French. Instructor Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.

FREN 404 - BEGINNINGS OF THE LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE OF FRANCE
Short Title: THE LANG AND LIT OF FRANCE
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course includes and external history of the French language, an examination of hagiographic literature and the chanson de geste in their cultural and artistic contexts, as well as bibliographic component to acquaint the students with library tools available for research emphasizing medieval resources but not excluding those for later periods. Student will acquire a reading knowledge of Old French. Course taught in French. Cross-list: MDEM 404. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor

FREN 407 - CINEMA IN FRENCH
Short Title: CINEMA IN FRENCH
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Cinema In French – In France and the French-speaking world (especially Africa): both the canon of "auteurs" of "high culture" and commercial "mere entertainment." Discussion of this distinction, and introduction to critical and theoretical discourse in film studies.
Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor

FREN 409 - NOVELS AND FILMS
Short Title: NOVELS AND FILMS
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Comparison between French novels from the 16th to the 20th centuries and movies that have been based on them, in some cases more than one movie based on a given novel. The class will read each novel in question and then examine how the director perceived it when making the film. For example, La Reine Margot, Tous les Matins du Monde, Liaisons Dangereuses, Madame Bovary, Cyrano de Bergerac, Hiroshima mon amour. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor

FREN 411 - THE LEGACY OF COURTLY LITERATURE
Short Title: LEGACY OF COURTLY LITERATURE
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course will address the various ways that courtly literature has evolved into modern times and stages through which the themes have passed. We will study courtly themes in literature (French, English, Spanish, German, Italian), film, art, and music from the Middle Ages to modern times. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor.
FREN 412 - SAINTS AND SINNERS
Short Title: SAINTS AND SINNERS
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Study of sanctity and sin in medieval culture through literary and some historical texts.

FREN 413 - BLACK VENUS/VÉNUS NOIRE: REPRESENTATIONS OF BLACK WOMEN IN THE LONG 19TH CENTURY
Short Title: BLACK VENUS/VÉNUS NOIRE
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course explores the mythology of the black woman's body in the French/Francophone imaginary, namely in the literary rewriting of the "primitive" in the long 19th-century. Students will examine how this eroticized body bears traces of its social, political and cultural codification and symbolizes anxieties born out of the colonial encounter. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course.

FREN 414 - COURTLY LOVE IN MEDIEVAL FRANCE
Short Title: COURTLY LOVE MEDIEVAL FRANCE
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Examination of the origins of the legend of King Arthur and reasons for its popularity, particularly in literature of the French Middle Ages but also in other medieval literatures of Western Europe. Includes discussion of the legend's influence in diverse areas even in modern times. Cross-list: MDEM 436. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor.

FREN 415 - COURTLY LOVE IN MEDIEVAL FRANCE
Short Title: COURTLY LOVE MEDIEVAL FRANCE
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Study of the Occitan and Old French poetry that served as the source of the kind of love that came to be called "Amour courtois" in the nineteenth century. Cross-list: MDEM 425. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for FREN 415 and FREN 515.

FREN 416 - LITERATURE AND CULTURE OF THE MIDDLE AGES: KING ARTHUR
Short Title: LIT & CULTURE OF MIDDLE AGES
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Thematic approach to examining the main political, religious, philosophical, and literary discourses of the golden age of absolutism. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor.

FREN 424 - WOMEN IN FRANCE
Short Title: WOMEN IN FRANCE
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course studies women in education, the workplace, politics, and in social and cultural institutions in French society. The class explores the history of the French women's movement and analyzes French concepts of gender and feminism in comparison to American models. Cross-list: SWGS 424.

FREN 430 - 17TH CENTURY
Short Title: 17TH CENTURY
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Thematic approach to examining the main political, religious, philosophical, and literary discourses of the golden age of absolutism. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor.
FREN 450 - READING CLOSELY THE GREAT POETS OF THE 19TH CENTURY
Short Title: READING GREAT POETS 19TH CENT
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Study of the poetry and prose poetry of the 19th century from the Romantic period to the Symbolist era, through such writers as Desbordes-Valmore, Lamartine, Musset, Vigny, Hugo, Nerval, Baudelaire, Verlaine, Rimbaud, and Mallarme. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor

FREN 451 - FRANCE - AMERICA: IMAGE AND EXCHANGE
Short Title: FRANCE-AMER: IMAGE & EXCHANGE
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This undergraduate course analyzes French and American culture and identity through transatlantic encounters. We study French intellectuals (Tocqueville, Beauvoir, Baudrillard) who traveled to the US, and images of America in French novels, comic strips, films. We also examine American gazes toward the French. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor

FREN 452 - WORLD WAR TWO IN FRENCH HISTORY, LITERATURE, AND FILM
Short Title: WORLD WAR TWO IN FRENCH HIST
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course studies the history and memory of World War Two in France. Students will learn how literature and film contributed to the making and undoing of national myths about collaboration and resistance and participation in the Holocaust. How has contemporary French society reconciled with this dark period of history?

FREN 453 - IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP IN CONTEMPORARY FRANCE
Short Title: IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course examines the impact of immigration on contemporary French society and analyzes debates over citizenship, integration, and multiculturalism. Taught in French. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor

FREN 459 - THE BATTLES OF ALGIERS: FROM CHARLES X TO CHARLIE-HEBDO
Short Title: THE BATTLES OF ALGIERS
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Historical, literary, and visual materials form the 19th century to the present will illustrate the global perception of a war that left an indelible inscription in contemporary debates on democracy and reform. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor

FREN 477 - SPECIAL TOPICS
Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Internship/Practicum, Seminar, Lecture, Laboratory
Credit Hours: 1-4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Topics and credit hours vary each semester. Contact department for current semester’s topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.
FREN 478 - THE CARIBBEAN IN FRENCH
Short Title: THE CARIBBEAN IN FRENCH
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This is the undergraduate senior version of the graduate level seminar FREN/ARCR 578. Both the course's reading list and the length of the research are adjusted to accommodate undergraduate needs. The seminar examines the history, political writings, literature and the arts of the French Caribbean from the beginning of colonization to the present. It will include figures such as Saint-John Perse, Roumain, Cesaire, Fanon, Depestre, Schwarz-Bart, Warner-Vieyra, Glissant, Conde, Chamoiseau, Laferriere, as well as the Caribbean arts and film. Taught in English. Cross-list: ARCR 478. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for FREN 478 and FREN 578.

FREN 495 - THE FRENCH AVANT-GARDE: SYMBOLISM, DADAISM, SURREALISM, CONTEMPORARY CINEMA
Short Title: THE FRENCH AVANT-GARDE
Department: Classical and European Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Short texts and films by Baudelaire, Verlaine, Rimbaud, Mallarme, Jarry, Apollinaire, Breton, Artaud, Bataille, Robbe-Grillet, Catherine Breilhat, Virginie Despentes. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor

Description and Code Legend
Note: Internally, the university uses the following descriptions, codes, and abbreviations for this academic program. The following is a quick reference:

Course Catalog/Schedule
• Course offerings/subject code for French Studies: FREN

Department Description and Code
• Classical and European Studies: CLEU

Undergraduate Degree Description and Code
• Bachelor of Arts degree: BA

Undergraduate Major Descriptions and Codes
• Major in French Studies: FREN

CIP Code and Description
1
• FREN Major/Program: CIP Code/Title: 16.0901 - French Language and Literature

1 Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) 2010 Codes and Descriptions from the National Center for Education Statistics: https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/