



## WINTER QUARTER 2013 COURSE OFFERINGS

### FRENCH

#### French 214 - French Fairy Tales

Denyse Delcourt

SLN 14251, MW 1:30-2:50pm plus TTH discussion section from 1:30-2:20 or 2:30-3:20pm  
5 cr., VLPA, taught in English

French fairy tales as a major trend in French literature and a continuing influence on modern fictions and films. Particular attention given to the numerous French women writers of fairy tales at the time of Charles Perrault (seventeenth century) and after. In English.

#### French 250 – French Cinema

Louisa Mackenzie

SLN 14256, MWF 9:30-11:20am  
5 cr., VLPA, taught in English

This course will look at how French cinema since the 1940s has engaged the idea of Europe as a political, cultural and economic union. As the European Union has gathered more economic and political weight, member nations have sought to strike a balance between the desire to preserve their specific histories, cultures, languages, and products, and the need to come together with other nations and identify as something else besides: as Europeans. French cinema is a fascinating site to explore the tensions inherent in this dialectic. It has often engaged the idea of Europe, whether in art films where the Union becomes a shadowy psychological metaphor (*Bleu*), or in more popular recent films which explore a generation-X fantasy of a European melting-pot (*L'Auberge espagnole*). The course will consider, among others, the following questions as they are addressed in films from the 1960s to the present day: the creation and perpetuation of national stereotypes, French and other; the perceived differences between “Western” and “Eastern” European values; the idea that French specificity is threatened by Europe; the generational differences in attitudes towards Europe; the effect of war on creating national and European identities; the effects of the “French exception” on national film production. Analysis of specific films and secondary articles will be framed by more general, timely discussions about contemporary issues in the press, such as Sarkozy’s expulsion of the Rom people from France (which raises the question of how the French state self-defines in opposition to an “Other” from within Europe), debates about immigration from France’s former colonies, the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, and the ongoing policing of the wall at Ceuta. By the end of the course, students will be able to 1) think about film analytically and at a critical distance, as a cultural product of specific determining contexts; 2) to understand how Europe is as much an *idea* as a geo-political reality; 3) to analyse how values held as European (especially Western European) and those held as French sometimes intersect and sometimes diverge; 4) to explain and analyze how these idea(l)s of Europe, and the idea(l)s of a particular French identity, work dialectically to construct each other.

The class, all assignments and materials are in English (at least subtitled). It assumes no prior knowledge of French or of film studies.

**French 304 – French Literature to 1600**

**Denyse Delcourt**

**SLN 14261, MW 9:30-11:20am**

**5 cr., VLPA, conducted in French**

Thematic and formal developments in literature of the period with emphasis on movements and texts in relation to cultural background. Prerequisite: FRENCH 303, which may be taken concurrently.

**French 307 – Francophone Literature & Culture**

**Otilia Baraboi**

**SLN 14262, TTH 11:30am-1:20pm**

**5 cr., VLPA, conducted in French**

Survey of contemporary Francophone (post) colonial literatures and cultures. Prerequisite: FRENCH 303, which may be taken concurrently.

**French 378 – The Making of Contemporary France**

**Doug Collins**

**SLN 14263, TTH 1:30-3:20pm**

**5 cr., VLPA/I&S, lectures in English/readings in French**

Study of the historical origins and subsequent development of contemporary problems and characteristics of French government and politics, economy, and society. Prerequisite: FRENCH 203.

**French 490 – Honors Seminar - READING**

**Geoffrey Turnovsky**

**SLN 14266, T 12:30-3:20pm**

**5 cr., VLPA, Instructor permission required**

This course invites students to investigate in depth an activity that is fundamental to a university education, not to mention central to modern life: that is, reading (an activity that, first in the television age and now against the backdrop of the “new media revolution,” is always assumed to be *at threat*). We’ll focus on reading *books*, though of course we have to understand book reading in the context of a wide array of other kinds of readings (periodicals, signs, leaflets, letters, and now especially, digital text). We’ll consider what reading is; and investigate its history, how reading was shaped by specific uses of the written word, whether religious, political, scholarly or social/leisurely; by developments in the technologies that offer access to texts (manuscripts; printed books; e-readers); and by changes in the various scriptural, typographic, and conceptual “rules” that help us make sense of the texts before us, that is, changes in how we expect texts to be presented on a “page” (whether paper or virtual), in type forms (say, from Gothic to Roman type), as well as in how the authority and credibility of the text is established (e.g. the importance of the Author). Throughout, we’ll be attentive to the political, civil, and economic stakes that shaped reading’s evolutions, as these are manifest in phenomena such as literacy, public opinion, and the commercial interests in expanding consumer markets for books.

The course will be conducted in English. Readings will be available in English. Most of our focus will be on early modern Europe and France. But we'll consider all relevant contexts, and final papers can investigate other times and places.

**French 499 B – Special Topics: Antisemitism**

**Doug Collins & Ruggero Taradel**

**MW 2:30-4:20**

**SLN 14268, 5 cr., taught in English**

***Meets with French 596 A, ITAL 499 B, and ITAL 596 A.***

*Course description not yet available.*

**French 590 B – READING**

**Geoffrey Turnovsky**

**T 12:30-3:20pm**

**SLN 14270, 5 cr.**

This course invites students to investigate in depth an activity that is fundamental to a university education, not to mention central to modern life: that is, reading (an activity that, first in the television age and now against the backdrop of the “new media revolution,” is always assumed to be *at threat*). We'll focus on reading *books*, though of course we have to understand book reading in the context of a wide array of other kinds of readings (periodicals, signs, leaflets, letters, and now especially, digital text). We'll consider what reading is; and investigate its history, how reading was shaped by specific uses of the written word, whether religious, political, scholarly or social/leisurely; by developments in the technologies that offer access to texts (manuscripts; printed books; e-readers); and by changes in the various scriptural, typographic, and conceptual “rules” that help us make sense of the texts before us, that is, changes in how we expect texts to be presented on a “page” (whether paper or virtual), in type forms (say, from Gothic to Roman type), as well as in how the authority and credibility of the text is established (e.g. the importance of the Author). Throughout, we'll be attentive to the political, civil, and economic stakes that shaped reading's evolutions, as these are manifest in phenomena such as literacy, public opinion, and the commercial interests in expanding consumer markets for books.

The course will be conducted in English. Readings will be available in English. Most of our focus will be on early modern Europe and France. But we'll consider all relevant contexts, and final papers can investigate other times and places.

**French 590 C – Special Seminar & Conference : Aimé Césaire and his Worlds**

**Richard Watts**

**TH 2:30-5:20pm**

**SLN 14271, 5 cr.**

With the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the Martinican poet, playwright, and politician Aimé Césaire on June 26, 1913 as the pretext, we will read not only a sampling of Césaire's poetic and dramatic works and essays, but also those of his contemporaries in Europe, Africa, and the Americas across the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In other words, we will read Césaire as a nodal point (and sometimes as a flash point) for discourses on anti-colonial and post/colonial politics, development/environmentalism, and, most notably, race. As we organize a graduate student colloquium on Césaire for the end of Winter quarter, we will aim to be attentive to other

instances of memorialization (i.e, uses) of Césaire that this arbitrary celebration enables.  
Readings in English and French (reading knowledge of French required).

**French 596 A- Literary Problems – 20<sup>th</sup> Century: Antisemitism**

**Doug Collins & Ruggero Taradel**

**MW 2:30-4:20pm**

**SLN 14272, 5 cr., taught in English**

***Meets with French 499 B, ITAL 499 B, and ITAL 596 A.***