An Exploration of French Chanson in the 20th and 21st Century

If you have heard of Jacques Brel and Edith Piaf, you know that the French take their chanson seriously. Do you know that Piaf is considered one of the last representatives of a genre of chanson that emerged in the late 19th century? Do you know that chanson incorporated jazz music very early on and with such success that a number of songs now part of the American standard repertoire were actually composed in France?

This course proposes to explore many aspects of French popular music throughout the twentieth century and beyond, with a particular focus on the transformations of the genre of chanson over time. We will look at the significance of chanson from a variety of perspectives: historical (wars, labor movements, decolonization, youth movement, etc.) cultural (evolution of the way people shared and experienced songs: cabaret, phonogram, radio, concert halls, video, internet) and literary (the relationship between chanson and the French literary tradition and movements).

We will listen and analyze a selection of songs, each week. The lyrics will be made available in pdf format via moodle where links to the songs will be posted. Students may also have to access song recordings via Youtube.

We will read a selection of articles and chapters from books in French or English (see bibliography below) that will be made available by pdf (either on Moodle or on electronic reserve at the library).

Lectures (all in French) will be posted on Moodle once a week. Twice during the summer session, students will be asked to respond in French to assigned material and questions via a discussion forum on Moodle. There will be a mid-session exam (after four weeks of class) and a final exam at the end of the session. Students will not have to purchase any books for this course but they will be required to pay exam fees ($20 to Proctor U services per test) for online testing.

Selected bibliography:

DIRECTED STUDY: BALAC ET FLAUBERT

DR. JULIANA STARR

FRENCH 6397-476  INTERNET  CLASS # 40272  3 CREDITS

This course is restricted: special departmental permission is required to enroll. Only students in need of it to fulfill a special requirement or to complete their degree will be allowed to enroll. Subjects treated this summer: Balzac and Flaubert. Students will read and discuss the following texts on the 19th-Century French Literature Reading List in preparation for the Comprehensive Exam: *Le père Goriot*, *Madame Bovary*, *Un coeur simple*. 
ROML 4005/5005-476 INTERNET
CLASS #40502 (undergraduate) and #40503 (graduate)
GREEK AND ROMAN MYTH: THE ANCIENT SOURCES - 3 CR
DR. MANUEL GARCÍA-CASTELLÓN

A survey of Greek and Roman mythology originating from the ancient texts of classical authors. Concentration will be on the multiple functions of myth and their interpretations in both the ancient and modern worlds. Further attention is directed to visual models depicting classical themes and the introduction of Greek and Latin words and nomenclature. At the beginning, the course will offer the students the opportunity to get acquainted with the basic elements of Latin.

Requirements: Answering weekly questionnaires corresponding to a particular chapter or subject from the Powell & Barry’s textbook. Discussion forum. A 10/12 page research paper for graduate students.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

SPANISH LINGUISTICS: SPAN 6007-476
CLASS #40526
DR. BRYANT SMITH
SUMMER 2018

An advanced study of Spanish phonology, morphosyntax, and semantics within the framework of older and more recent linguistic models.

This online course will introduce students to the fundamental components of linguistics (phonology, morphology, syntax, lexicon, and semantics) using data from the Spanish language. This course is designed to awaken students’ interest in Spanish linguistics and provide them with a foundation in linguistic terminology and concepts. Student performance in the course will be evaluated by (a) exams related to topics such as phonetic transcription, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics, (b) a linguistic project, and (c) their preparedness and participation in online forums (Moodle). The course will be conducted in English and in Spanish.

SPAN 6295-476: STUDIES IN HISPANIC CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION  
CLASS #40527

La cultura latinoamericana reflejada en los textos literarios

INTERNET PROFESSOR: MANUEL GARCIA CASTELLON 3 CR

This course, conducted in Spanish, will explain how historical events and political situations, coupled with native influences as well as foreign contributions, have produced a body of literature that remains distinct from others. Throughout our weekly sample readings (poetry, narrative, essay) we will follow the steps of Latin American cultural awareness: roots, colonial world, independence (e.g., Columbus, Sor Juana Inés, Simón Bolívar); the search for cultural emancipation (e.g., Rubén Darío); continuity and rupture (e.g., Leopoldo Lugones); the avant-garde (e.g., César Vallejo, the “Negrista” poets,) and the truly Latin American forms of aesthetic expression (like J. L. Borges or the “Magic Realism” of García Márquez or Isabel Allende).

Requirements: weekly readings followed by critical questionnaires to be sent to the teacher for feed up and grading. Participation in the discussion board on Moodle, as directed by the Professor.

Textbook: Voces de Hispanoamérica. Antología literaria, by Raquel Chang-Rodríguez & al
This course, taught in Spanish, is restricted: special departmental permission is required to enroll. Only students in need of it to fulfill a special requirement will be allowed to enroll.

Topics in recent semesters: Golden Age Literature including Cervantes; early Spanish Civilization; Readings on women writers’ fiction, etc.