

ROML 3406 – SPRING 2026 - ROMANCE CULTURES OF NEW ORLEANS - 3 CRS.
Prof. MANUEL GARCÍA-CASTELLÓN

COURSE DESCRIPTION



Time: M / W, 12:30 – 1:45

Text: Richard Worth: *Voices from Colonial America: Louisiana, 1682-1803*.

National Geographic Magazine, 2006. **Available through Amazon.com**

Colonial New Orleans flourished under the influence of two powerful Romance cultures: France, which founded the settlement and shaped its French character, and Spain, which provided its administration, laws, defense, commerce, and much of its architecture. This Romance identity was later reinforced by the arrival of French Acadians from Canada, settlers from the Canary Islands, and Italians from Naples and Sicily. Even today, it continues to be nourished by the steady influx of migrants and refugees from Latin America, particularly following the Katrina disaster in 2005.

Conducted in English, this course introduces students to key concepts of Romance linguistics—such as the dialectal features of Cajun French, Mexican and Caribbean Spanish, and Calabro-Sicilian Italian—as well as the popular culture grounded in those traditions: poetry, songs, storytelling, and festivities. Understanding the nature of these diverse influences will deepen students' appreciation of New Orleans as a unique melting pot of Romance cultures coexisting harmoniously with the American mainstream.

Prerequisite: SP 2002 or departmental consent.

Requirements: Two major tests, approximately four brief quizzes, and a final 7-page essay (with bibliography) written in the language of the student's major. *Non-majors may submit the final essay in English.*

Spring 2026

Romance Languages Course Descriptions

SPAN 3031 Spanish Conversation

Professor Sebastián Figueroa T/TH 11:00-12:15 pm

Prerequisite: SPAN 2002 - Intermediate Spanish II



This class is designed for students who want to improve their communicative abilities in Spanish and their knowledge of Hispanic cultures. In this class we will emphasize fluency, pronunciation, listening, vocabulary, reading comprehension, grammar, and cultural knowledge through different communicative contexts based on real life situations with linguistic and cultural significance. We will use a variety of materials ranging from films, music, and readings to interactions with pairs and guest speakers. Students are expected to prepare the assigned materials before the class and actively participate in group activities that include everyday conversations, presentations, and discussions of current topics of the Hispanic world such as migration, politics, and the environment. We will also discuss Hispanic cultures in New Orleans. Class assignments contemplate weekly homework, written and oral exams, language exchange with Spanish speakers, oral presentations, and events participation. Assignments, tests, and instructions for final presentations and language exchange will be announced in Canvas and in the course syllabus. Readings and other class materials will be provided by the professor in a timely manner. The class will be in-person and conducted entirely in Spanish with some instructions and lessons in English.

SPAN 3042-P001 Advanced Spanish Composition and Syntax

Instructor: Clifton M Sutton

11:00 - 12:15



Prerequisite: Spanish 2002 or consent of department. In this course students will read short stories in Spanish with special focus placed on grammar points in those stories. The students will complete multiple activities online to put those grammar points into practice. In addition to the online assignments, students will write short essays in class every other week and be asked to write longer essays at home to demonstrate mastery of those grammar topics.

Class will be conducted in Spanish as much as possible while discussing the short stories and the grammar points.

Required text: Repase y escriba 8th edition

SPAN 4180/5180 -O001: Modern Literature Of Spain: From The Enlightenment To The 15-M Movement

Instructor: Dr. Sebastián Figueroa

Online Asynchronous



Francisco de Goya, “El sueño de la razón produce monstruos”, grabado, 1799

In this seminar we will study representative works of literature and art from Spain since the Enlightenment until the 21st century using the critical lens of race, gender, and cultural studies. The premise of the seminar is that modern Spanish literature and art, rather than the expression of monocultural *Hispanidad*, is the outcome of several racial and social identities as well as multiple geographies.

The course will be divided into three parts. In the first part, we will survey major literary trends from the 18th and 19th centuries such as Enlightenment, Romanticism, Realism, and the Generation of '98, with special consideration to Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda's Cuban-based novel *Sab* (1841), deemed the first anti-slavery literary work. During this first part, students will approach the construction of a modern Spanish culture in relation to colonialism and uneven capitalist development. In the second part, we will focus on the 20th century, analyzing art and literature from modernism, the civil war, and Francoism. In the third part of the class, we will also examine literary and artistic expressions from the democratic transition to the 15-M Movement. In these two final sections, students will reflect on the continuous as well as conflictive multiculturalism of Spain. This course will include representative works of Spanish popular culture, art, film, and media as a way of cultural and textual analysis. Student will also study relevant concepts and methodologies from racial and ethnicity, gender, and cultural studies. This course will be offered entirely in Spanish, with some critical readings in English. Readings and screenings will be provided by the instructor, but occasionally students may need to access streaming platforms.

Course Description

This online course is an advanced study of phonetics for teachers of Spanish as a second language, for heritage Spanish speakers and native English speakers who wish to improve their pronunciation in Spanish. In this course, students will learn the articulatory properties of Spanish sounds, how to transcribe these sounds using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), understand and differentiate the main phonological features of regional varieties of Spanish.

There will be class activities, tests and oral assignments, a midterm exam, and a final project. Classes will be conducted in Spanish.

Required Texts: Required Textbook: Morgan, T.A (2010). *Sonidos en contexto: una introducción a la fonética del español con especial referencia a la vida real*. Yale University Press.

Print: ISBN: 9780300149593, 030014959X **e-text:** ISBN: 9780300165579, 0300165579 and other required materials will be made available in Canvas in a timely manner.



SPAN 6190-O001 STUDIES IN MEDIEVAL SPANISH LITERATURE

Love's Dialogues and Monologues in 15th-Century Spanish Prose and Poetry

Online Asynchronous

Dr. Elaine S. Brooks

3 Credits

Seduction and illicit love create many verses and narrative lines in this course through two kinds of prose: Diego de San Pedro's sentimental fiction, *Cárcel de Amor* (1492) and Fernando de Rojas' parody of courtly love in *La Celestina* (1499), now considered by many critics to be the first Spanish novel. We will also study 15th-Century *cancionero* poetry in which the court poets of Castile battled with each other in verse form to show their versatility and poetic prowess within the parameters of the courtly love arena.

Crazy love in the medieval text constitutes a sickness with symptoms such as an overall death wish, including loss of sleep and appetite, as we will observe in the *Cárcel de Amor* and in *La Celestina*. Love's attack against the lover comes armed not only with sickness but also with a host of deadly sins: lust, greed, avarice, sloth and a healthy portion of deceit. Melibea's lover, Calisto, in *La Celestina* also perishes at the hand of worldly love when he falls to his death after attempting to climb over the garden wall of Melibea's house; a fall that exemplifies a parodic death of the tormented medieval lover. We will examine narrative techniques and medieval thematic structures in poetry and prose as they relate to the above texts.

Course requirements: 1) Homework assignments on Canvas forums; 2) Online Midterm on Canvas; 3) a final paper of 12-14 pages.

Texts: 1) Diego de San Pedro. *Cárcel de amor*. Cuarta edición de José Francisco Ruiz Casanova. Ediciones Cátedra, 2006. ISBN 13: 978-8437613642

2) Fernando de Rojas. *La Celestina*. Edición de Dorothy Severin. Ediciones Cátedra. ISBN 13: 9788437607009

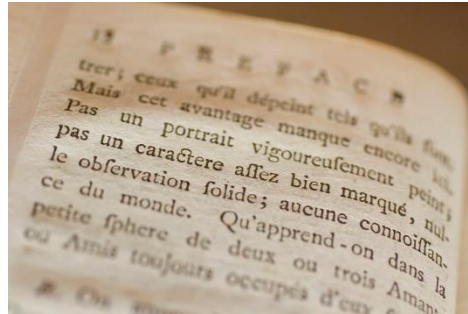
3) Materials from the *cancioneros* will be uploaded and posted in our course shell in Canvas.



FREN 3042-P001 Advanced Composition and Syntax in French

Professor Juliana Starr

T/TH 2:00 - 3:15 pm



Prerequisite: French 2002 or consent of department. This course will be conducted mostly in French, with some oral translating into English, for the benefit of appreciating the language. Your written assignments will put into practice classroom exploration and discussion of various linguistic functions and types of writing. The emphasis is on increasing your proficiency in written expression while expanding your knowledge of vocabulary and grammatical structures. You will have the opportunity to revise preliminary drafts of your writing. Your grade will be based on classroom participation, six compositions, and a final exam.

TEXT: Students will be provided a custom-made set of vocabulary, grammar, and writing exercises, **in Canvas**.

FREN 4201/5201-O001 FRENCH CIVILIZATION I

Professor Juliana Starr

Online Asynchronous

4201 (undergraduate)

5201 (graduate)



This course provides an overview of French political, intellectual, cultural, and artistic history from its Gallic origins to King Francis I (1515). We will study the major events of this period, follow the evolution of intellectual and cultural life, encounter key characters and discuss artistic developments. There will be 5 discussion boards, 4 quizzes, a midterm exam, and a final exam. Graduate students will answer two essay questions on discussion boards and exams, whereas undergraduate students will answer one question on discussion boards and exams. Graduate students will also have additional readings. Finally, graduate students will give an 8-minute Teams presentation or write a 4-page paper, whereas undergraduates will give a 4-minute Teams presentation or write a two-page paper. The subject of the presentation or paper (in French) will be a movie treating the Middle Ages. Each student will make the personal choice of the film as well as the choice of paper or oral presentation. The course and assignments will be conducted entirely in French.

TEXTS (all excerpts, all posted in Canvas):

De Mézeray, Anne. *Manuel d'Histoire de France*. Éditions oeuvres scolaires Saint- Nicolas. ISBN: 979-10-91663-00-7

Jean Joseph Julaud. *L'Histoire de France pour les nuls*, 2^e édition. First Editions. ISBN: 9782754054324

Ravise, Suzanne J., *Tableaux culturels de la France*, 3e edition. National Textbook Company. ISBN: 0-8442-1273-3

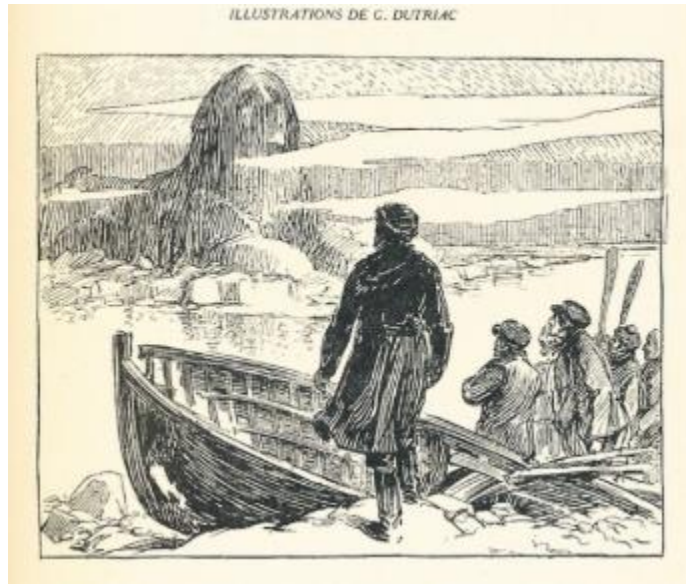
Steele, Onge. *La civilisation française en évolution I*. Heinle & Heinle. ISBN: 0-8384- 6008-9. **Graduate students only.**

FREN 6197-O001

Studies in French Literature: “Voyages... Voyages...”

Professor Denis Augier

Online Asynchronous



Voyage. Travel. Journeys to some/no - where? Perhaps both. Escaping too. To? From? A journey through space and time. No direction home. No? Through different genres – utopia, dystopia, philosophical voyage, mystery, science fiction. Voyage, real or imagined, from the XVIth to the XXIst century.

Dépaysement? Certainly. And. What we discover on the way, we get to keep. For real. Or imagined ?

One more question: will you join me on this trip ?

The class is taught online asynchronously. It will be centered on discussion of the readings. A mid-term, a final essay and a presentation.

TEXTS:

- François Rabelais. Le Tiers Livre. Points. ISBN- 10 :2020301768
- Cyrano de Bergerac. L'Autre monde (Les États et Empires de la Lune - Les États et Empires du Soleil). Folio. ISBN-10: 2070425010
- Voltaire. Candide. Petits Classiques Larousse. ISBN-10: 9782035866011
- Jules Verne. Le Sphinx des glaces. Livre de Poche. ISBN-10: 2253045721
- Pierre Drieu la Rochelle. L'Homme à cheval. Gallimard (L'Imaginaire). ISBN-10: 207072719X

FREN 6295-O001 Studies in French Culture and Civilization: THE FRENCH DOCUMENTARY FILM

Professor Olivier Bourderionnet

Online Asynchronous



This course proposes an exploration of French language documentary films produced between the 1940's and the first decades of the 21st century. We will define and question the notions of “factual” and “non-fictional” cinema and will develop analytical tools to discuss form and content. The works presented this semester will be selected on the basis of their formal relevance to the evolution of this cinematographic genre as well as on their informative and sometimes controversial quality with regards to contemporary French history and society. The film selection will include such topics as the Franco-German Collaboration during WWII, decolonization, youth movements of the sixties, urban violence, the rise of extreme right-wing ideology in 21st France as well as more introspective auteur experimentations within the documentary genre.

Each week, we will watch one or two documentary films (sometimes more, depending on their length) read scholarly articles related to them as well as a selected chapter or pages in our required texts (available in pdf on Moodle). All the films will be accessible via Moodle. In addition, your instructor will post weekly lectures in audio or video format (all in French) on Canvas.

Throughout the semester, course participants will prepare and deliver a 30-minute oral presentation in the form of a detailed film review, in French.

Each week, participants will be asked to respond in French to assigned material and questions in a “discussion forum.” There will be a mid-session exam and a final exam at the end of the session. Both exams will require the use of the Proctor U platform.