PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH AND ITALIAN

GRADUATE COURSES
SPRING 2021

FRE 500 – Second Language Acquisition
Friday – 1:30-4:20PM
Course Description
Designed to provide future teaching assistants with the knowledge and conceptual tools needed to reflect critically on pedagogical practices in the second language classroom. Examines issues related to teaching language and culture in a university setting, highlighting the relationship between theory in Second Language Acquisition and language pedagogy and helping students understand the practical implications of theoretical frameworks in the field.

Instructor: Christine Sagnier
csagnier@princeton.edu

FRE 513 – Seminar in French Literature of the Renaissance: Renaissance Margins
Wednesday – 1:30-4:20PM
Course Description
Seminar explores the 'margin' as a defining textual and cultural space during the 16th century. We consider how the margin functions as a space of exclusion (ethnically, religiously, linguistically, politically, geographically, typographically, etc.) while also opening new possibilities of resistance, invention, and radical alterity. Readings include primary works (Marot, Labé, Léry, Montaigne, La Boétie, Paré) as well as theoretical & secondary works in book history, feminism, deconstruction, post-colonialism, ecocriticism, & social history that will provide us with methodological guides as we ask how to read in, and from, the margins.

Instructor: Katie Chenoweth
kac3@princeton.edu
FRE 524 /HUM 524 20th-Century French Narrative Prose: Albert Camus: Writing in Motion

Thursday – 1:30-4:20PM

Course Description

We examine the works and figure of Albert Camus - to redefine them. Through the study of his most acclaimed narratives, plays, essays, but also his more obscure juvenilia, notebooks, and up to his last, unfinished novel, we see what confirms the canonical (sometimes sanctified) dimension of Camus, and what challenges it. Looking at his critical reception and his own assessments, we assess his greatest accomplishments, his shortcomings and even (self-proclaimed) failures. Always in between, eternally moving, we reconsider Camus as concerned as much by politics as he was by poetics.

Instructor: André Benhaïm
abenhaim@princeton.edu

FRE 526 /COM 525 - Seminar in 19th- and 20th-Century French Literature: Money in the 19C Novel

Monday, Thursday – 11:00AM-12:20PM

Course Description

A study of the circulation of money in French fiction alongside the economic history of publishing and the financial position of writers in the period 1820-1880. The central figure is Balzac, but comparisons are also made with English and Russian fiction of the period. Students are asked to pursue individual research tasks within the field. The aim is to elucidate what has become obscured by changes in society, language, culture and the economy, and to restore some degree of clarity to the drama and romance of the money plots of many major works of 19C literature.

Instructor: David Bellos
dbellos@princeton.edu
FRE 527 - Seminar in French Civilization: Thinking With Animals
Tuesday – 1:30-4:20PM
Course Description
A study of the 'animal question' in French literature and philosophy from Montaigne to Derrida and beyond. Lévi-Strauss noted, famously, that animals were good to 'think with,' and we try to do so here - looking at fables, novels, poems, and philosophical texts - while avoiding their reification into mere things or symbols in the 'anthropological machine' (Agamben). But we can also try to 'think (along) with 'non-human animals, as J.-C. Bailly suggests, and, more urgently, interrogate their enigmatic presence anew against the backdrop of the sixth extinction. Topics: fables, language, mind, rights, conservation, companionship, extinction.

Instructor: Göran Magnus Blix
gblix@princeton.edu

FRE 542 - Racial Imaginaries
Monday – 1:30-4:20PM
Course Description
The focus of this course is the representation of race across media (literature, film, visual arts, multimedia) and in various discourses (scientific, political, philosophical) in France, particularly from the 19th century to today. The first weeks of the course provide an earlier history of racial theorization and representation in France. Then we discuss themes such as scientific and bureaucratic racism, exoticism, intercultural influence, and the ways in which colonialism, immigration, and globalization have changed depictions of race in French cultural production.

Instructor: Christy Wampole
cwampole@princeton.edu