

# Department of Romance Studies



Senegal, 2007 (Jane Hale)

## French and Francophone Studies

### Course Offerings Fall 2023

\*All schedule information is tentative. Please see <https://www.brandeis.edu/registrar/registration/schedule.html> for the latest information.\*

[www.brandeis.edu/departments/roms/](http://www.brandeis.edu/departments/roms/)

#### NOTES ABOUT FALL 2023 FREN COURSES

- All classes will be in-person.
- If you would like to enroll in a French language course (FREN 10–106), you **always** have the option of emailing the Director of the Language Program, Professor Harder ([harder@brandeis.edu](mailto:harder@brandeis.edu)) who will be happy to help you enroll.
- If you are sure of your placement, you may also place yourself on the waitlist for the class you want to take. (Do not worry if the enrollment limit is 0. This is a WorkDay workaround so that we can make sure students are placed in the right level.)
- **More details below and at:** [www.brandeis.edu/romance-studies/courses](http://www.brandeis.edu/romance-studies/courses)

- **If you have never studied French before:** Email Professor Harder ([harder@brandeis.edu](mailto:harder@brandeis.edu)) to secure your spot in FREN 10. You may also place yourself on the waitlist (don't worry if enrollment is set at 0).
- **If you are already taking a language class:** You will receive an email from our office before registration opens. Please respond a.s.a.p. to the email stating which section you prefer. We will enroll students in the order in which we receive responses.
- **If you have an AP score, Seal of Biliteracy, or other official test score:** Please email your score to Professor Harder ([harder@brandeis.edu](mailto:harder@brandeis.edu)), and she will place you in the right class for you.
- **If you have taken 1+ years of French in high school or somewhere else:** Please email Professor Harder ([harder@brandeis.edu](mailto:harder@brandeis.edu)). Most students will place in the 32 level if they have taken French for 3 or more years. You will be asked to take a placement test. This test cannot be used to fulfill the language requirement. It's only an indication of what your level might be. A conversation with Professor Harder will help you determine which class is right for you.
- **All other students in French (including heritage speakers)** should contact Professor Harder ([harder@brandeis.edu](mailto:harder@brandeis.edu)) to ensure correct placement.

#### FREN 10A Beginning French

(1) M,T,W,Th 9:05–9:55 AM, Niehaus

*For students with little or no knowledge of French language. Permission required (please see instructions above).*

What do Montréal, Paris, and Dakar have in common? What are the rules regarding how many times one kisses a friend on the cheeks? Why is France called *l'Hexagone*? Learners discover the basics of French language and culture while speaking, listening, reading, and writing about everyday situations in France and Francophone countries.

#### FREN 20B Continuing French

(1) M,T,W,Th 11:15 AM–12:05 PM, Niehaus

*Prerequisite: A grade of C- or higher in FREN 10a or the equivalent. Permission required (please see instructions to left).*

How does the attitude of a French student toward family and strangers differ from the experience of an American student? How do the French view work and vacation? Learners will deepen their knowledge of French and Francophone cultures while expanding their ability to speak, read, listen, and write in French.



<https://www.livdphotography.com/travel/>

#### FREN 32A Intermediate French: Conversation

(1) M,W,Th,F 9:05–9:55 AM, Theobald

(2) M,W,Th 10:10–11:00 AM; F 10–10:50 AM, Theobald

*Prerequisite: A grade of C- or higher in FREN 20b or the equivalent. Permission required (please see instructions to left).*

Did you study French in the past and need more speaking and writing practice plus a grammar review? This Intermediate French class is for you! Exploring social “controversies” like sexism and globalization, it focuses on essential communication skills such as comprehension, contemporary vocabulary use, and conversational practice. Our materials include videos, music, websites, articles, and short stories.



Timothée Chalamet and Lyna Khoudri in Wes Anderson's “The French Dispatch.” (Searchlight Pictures)

## FREN 104B Advanced Language Skills through Culture

(1) M,W,Th 1:20–2:10 PM, Niehaus

*Prerequisite: A 30-level FREN course or the equivalent.*

*Permission required (please see instructions on first page, center).*

Students advance their speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills, while focusing on key elements of French and Francophone cultures. Through the study of films, comics, current events, and cultural comparisons, we explore the ways in which French speakers' perceptions of time and history, as well as space and nature differ from our own. We also examine issues of globalization in the Francophone world.

## FREN 105A France Today: French Conversation

(1) M,W,Th 10:10–11:00 AM, Harder

*Prerequisite: FREN 104b, or the equivalent. Permission required (please see instructions in box on first page, center).*

Improve your speaking skills while learning about and discussing socio-cultural issues that distinguish the French view of the world from that of Americans. Students will focus on expressing themselves better orally while continuing their work on reading, listening, and writing.

## FREN 106B Writing Workshop

(1) M,W,Th 12:20–1:10 PM, Theobald

*Prerequisite: FREN 105a, or equivalent. Permission required (please see instructions in box on first page, center).* [DL; WI]

Innovative strategies and online tools enable students to improve their creative and analytical writing skills. Students examine different types of texts, exploring their literary style, determining their authority, and exploring how words and images may move and manipulate readers and viewers.

Please see specific course prerequisites for enrollment in each FREN class listed below (above 106).

## FREN 110A Cultural Representations: Des Rebelles de tout genre dans le monde francophone

(1) M,W,Th 11:15 AM–12:05 PM, Harder

*Prerequisite: FREN 106b, equivalent, or permission of instructor.*

[OC; Cross-listed with COML, IGS, ECS]

While exploring art and other images, literary texts, historical events, film, and social, political, and cultural issues, students examine historical figures, fictional characters, and present-day personalities who have rebelled against cultural norms in the Francophone world from the Middle Ages to today.



Ratatouille, Pixar Animation Studios (2007), Brad Bird, director.

## FREN 149B Le Livre Illustré: Word and Image in Francophone Texts from Bestiaries to Bandes Dessinées

(1) M,W,Th 1:20–2:10 PM, Theobald

*Prerequisite: FREN 106b, equivalent, or permission of instructor.*

[Cross-listed with Art History]

Explores the theories and practices of text-image interactions in illustrated francophone books of the past and present by addressing themes such as learning, travel, sentimentality, pornography, politics, and humor. This course will include archival work in the Brandeis library.



<https://thecinemaarchives.com/2020/02/23/the-158th-best-director-of-all-time-jean-pierre-jeunet/>



Luncheon of the Boating Party (1881), Pierre-Auguste Renoir, oil on canvas, The Phillips Collection, Washington, DC

## Cross-listed with French and Francophone Studies:

## HUM 1A Tragedy: Love and Death in the Creative Imagination

(1) M,W,Th 10:10–11:00 AM, Dowden and Burt

*Enrollment limited to Humanities Fellows.*

How do you turn catastrophe into art - and why? This first-year seminar in the humanities addresses such elemental questions, especially those centering on love and death. How does literature catch hold of catastrophic experiences and make them intelligible or even beautiful? Should misery even be beautiful? By exploring the tragic tradition in literature across many eras, cultures, genres, and languages, this course looks for basic patterns.

## Undergraduate Advising Head for French and Francophone Studies:

Professor Catherine Theobald

[ctheobal@brandeis.edu](mailto:ctheobal@brandeis.edu)

## Director of French Language Program:

Professor Hollie Harder

[harder@brandeis.edu](mailto:harder@brandeis.edu)

## French and Francophone Studies Faculty

- Fauré-Bellaïche, Clémentine: [cfaure@brandeis.edu](mailto:cfaure@brandeis.edu)
- Harder, Hollie: [harder@brandeis.edu](mailto:harder@brandeis.edu)
- Niehaus, Sophia: [sophianiehaus@brandeis.edu](mailto:sophianiehaus@brandeis.edu)
- Randall, Michael: [randall@brandeis.edu](mailto:randall@brandeis.edu)
- Theobald, Catherine: [ctheobal@brandeis.edu](mailto:ctheobal@brandeis.edu)

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