NOTES ABOUT SPRING 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) 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

If you have never studied French before: Email Professor Harder (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), 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). 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) to ensure correct placement.

FREN 10A Beginning French
(1) M/T/W/R 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 104B Advanced Lang. Skills through Culture
(1) M/W/R 12:20 - 1:20 PM, Niehaus
Prerequisite: A 30-level FREN course or the equivalent. Permission required (please see instructions to left). 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 20B Continuing French
(1) M/T/W/R 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.

Gold Medalists Gabriella Papadakis & Guillaume Cizeron of France at the Olympics flower ceremony, Beijing, China. February 14, 2022.
REUTERS/Susana Vera. https://www.infobae.com/
FREN 105A The Francophone World Today: Advanced Language Skills through Culture II
(1) M/W/R 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/R 12:20 - 1:10 PM, Theobald
Prerequisite: FREN 105a, or equivalent. Permission required (please see instructions in box on first page, center). [DI; 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 126B La place de la nature dans le monde culturel francophone / The place of nature in Francophone cultures
(1) M/W/R 1:20 - 2:10 PM, Harder
Prerequisite: FREN 106b, equivalent, or permission of instructor. This course invites students to examine interactions between humans and the environment in texts and images created in Francophone cultures (France, Haiti, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Algeria, Morocco, Quebec, and the fictional nation of the Democratic Republic of Coto [based on the Democratic Republic of the Congo]). Students will discover key notions that have shaped ideas about nature in the Francophone world. By engaging with literary texts, films, and visual arts, they will trace, interpret, and evaluate the rapport between humans in Francophone areas and the natural world from the sixteenth century (when the French nation was established) to the present day.

Lyon's annual Festival of Lights, which uses state-of-the-art LED technology, consumes no more energy than a standard household. The festival is one of the reasons Lyons was named a 2019 European Capital of Smart Tourism. (Brice Robert/Tourism Lyon) https://www.pern.org/

FREN 162B From Les Confessions to Instagram: Self-Writing in Contemporary French and Francophone Literature
(1) M/W/R 11:15 AM - 12:05 PM, Fauré-Bellaïche
Prerequisite: FREN 106b, equivalent, or permission of instructor. Through the works of major writers, the main goal of the course will be to study the many variations of autobiographical writing that characterize contemporary French and Francophone literature, and to relate them to the renewed exploration of the post-modern subject. We will examine along the way how the self relates to the others, how it engages with filiation, memory and history - (especially World War II and the Franco-Algerian War) - and we will put an emphasis on the notions of self-fashioning and performance.

FREN 168BA Literature and Politics
(1) M/W 2:30 - 3:50 PM, Randall
Prerequisite: FREN 106b, equivalent, or permission of instructor. [WI, Cross-listed with COML, ECS, HOID] We will be interested in how the literary is political and the political literary. We will organize the class around the relationship of the individual and the community. Texts include: Montaigne's Essais, Corneille's Horace, Genet's Les nègres, Arendt's What is Politics?, Dumann's Essays on Individualism, Fanon's Peau noire, masques blancs, Houellebecq's Soumission.

Cross-listed with French and Francophone Studies

ECS 100B European Cultural Studies Proseminar: Making of European Modernity, 1250 to 1650

Director of French Language Program and Undergraduate Advising Head for French and Francophone Studies for fall 2022:
Professor Hollie Harder (harder@brandeis.edu)

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