

Department of Romance Studies



Senegal. 2007 (Jane Hale)

French and Francophone Studies

Course Offerings Spring 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/

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 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.infobac.com/>

FREN 32A Intermediate French: Conversation

(1) M/W/R/F 9:05 - 9:55 AM, Theobald

(2) M/W/R 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.

FREN 104B Advanced Lang. Skills through Culture

(1) M/W/R 12:20 - 1:10 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 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.



Lily Collins in "Emily in Paris." Netflix. <https://in.france.fr/en/>

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).* [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 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.pcma.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 186BA 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] This class concentrates on how literature is political in nature and how politics is also a form literature. We'll look at how a contemporary French novel, by the controversial author Michel Houellebecq in which an Islamist party wins the presidency both reflects current French politics and helps shape those politics. We'll also look at works by Hannah Arendt, Jean-Paul Sartre, Pierre de Corneille, and François Rabelais reflected the relationship of politics and literature.

Cross-listed with French and Francophone Studies
**ECS 100B European Cultural Studies Proseminar:
Making of European Modernity, 1250 to 1650**

(1) M/W 4:05 - 5:25 PM, Randall

Investigates how the paradigm of what we know as modernity came into being. We will look at the works of writers and philosophers such as Descartes, Aquinas, Dante, Ockham, Petrarch, Ficino, Rabelais, and Montaigne. Artwork from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance will be used to understand better what "the modern" means.

IGS 120A Inventing Oneself

(1) M/W/R 1:20 - 2:10 PM, Fauré-Bellaïche

Do our backgrounds determine our lives, or can we transcend such limits to pursue dreams of our own? This class explores themes of liberation in works by French and Francophone writers and filmmakers and the global artistic and social movements they have inspired. All works in English.



1918 World War I poster titled "Vive la France!"

Director of French Language Program and Undergraduate Advising Head for French and Francophone Studies for fall 2022:

Professor Hollie Harder (harder@brandeis.edu)

French and Francophone Studies Faculty

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

Updated 12/7/22

www.brandeis.edu/departments/roms/