

## FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM CONFERENCES

*Students will choose at least 2 courses and up to 4 courses.  
It is suggested to get more courses pre-approved by your advisor at your home campus  
than you expect to take in order to accommodate for scheduling conflicts, etc.*

*Conferences are taught in French and are adapted to different French Language proficiency levels. Each student will have a different final exam that will correspond to their French level.  
Each class will have PowerPoint presentations and students are provided descriptions of each class/lecture.*

*The Resident Director will help you choose your conferences upon arrival (during registration/orientation) to make sure they correspond to your curriculum/plan of study.*

**These are examples of conferences that were previously offered and will likely be offered again. These courses are subject to change.**

### **1 – ART History (300-400 level) History of Art in France, 1.5 US credits + 1 US credit (optional)**

Architecture and Sculpture ; The origins of Christian art. The Merovingian and Carolingian periods. Romanesque and Gothic art : Its beginning to the end of the Middle Age and early Renaissance.

French paintings from the Renaissance (school of Fontainebleau) to the end of the XVIIIth century.

Special focus on the XIXth century and the XXth century with study of major painters of these centuries. Projection of numerous slides in class. Students are demanded to regularly visit museums such as Cluny, Louvre, Orsay, Giverny, Centre Pompidou, Jeu de Paume, Picasso, Rodin etc...

An additional 1 credit can be earned by visits to museums and writing a final paper.

### **2 – History-Political Science-Sociology-Art (300-400 level) History of Versailles, 1.5 US credits**

« Versailles, le Château et le domaine de Louis XIII à nos jours » begins with the birth of Louis XIII and traces the life of the court, the history through Louis XIV, The Revolution and today's 5th Republic. The class explores how with the changes of French politics and society along the centuries, it impacted on the evolution of the architecture, the decorations, the gardens and style of life of Versailles. Also the music and contemporary art of the periods are being studied. The class finishes with an optional guided tour of the château led

by the curator of Versailles along with the professor that includes visit to sections of the Château not open to the public.

### **3- Political Science (400 level) - French Politics and economics, 1.5 US credits**

This course offers to the student an analysis of the principal themes that dominate current debates in French society. The course deals with French society with regard to the following aspects: the economy, politics, administration and social movements.

Each class deals with a particular subject, which, when linked with all of the other topics, should provide the student with an understanding of the cultural identity of France in an historical perspective. Also studied is the situation of France in the European Union and in the other countries of the world.

### **4 - Media - Communication- Political Science (300-400 level) Media in France, 1.5 US credits**

This course is an introduction into the history of communications in France, starting in the 17th century and finishing with present day. It covers newspapers, magazines, the radio, television, internet and marketing and how they have developed and changed. Special focus on elections.

### **5- Sociology (300 level) French Gastronomy and French Regions, 1.5 US credits**

This course deals about each region of France, its gastronomy, each specialities and their origins. There is also a special focus with all the aspects of « bien manger », « l'art de la table » and « œnologie ».

### **6- Sociology-Economy (300 level) Contemporary French Society, 1.5 US credits**

This course deals with the main problems that French society has been facing over the last 20 years: family, education, health, unemployment, culture, immigration, demography, etc.

### **7- Literature (300-400 level) Comparative Literature, 1.5 US credits**

In this course the class explores comparative littérature through specific texts from ancient greek mythology, orientalism, post colonial theories and. In each class selection of readings is given on each topic, which, linked with all of the other topics, should provide the students with an understanding of the view of the western world. Sénèque, Châteaubriand, Senghor, Conrad .....etc were studied.

### **8 - Literature (300-400 level) Francophone Literature, 1.5 US credits**

In this course the class explores texts and poems of writers from francophone countries. An analytical approach to French as a language and its importance in the world. Several authors from countries such as Senegal, Tunisia, Algeria and Canada are explored. An overview of how French differs as a language in writing and poetry.

### **9- Literature-Art-Sociology (300-400 level) Aesthetics and Symbolism, 1.5 US credits**

In this course the class explores Symbolism and Aesthetics in France in the second part of the XIXth century and how it marked the next century. Works of Baudelaire, Mallarmé, Verlaine, Villiers-de-l'Isle-Adam, Huysmans, Laforgue, Barbey d'Aurévilly, Rémy de Gourmont, Henri Muger are studied.

### **10- Art - Sociology- History ( 300-400 level) Painting in Paris, 1.5 US credits**

Special focus on the XIXth century and the XXth century life style and productions of famous painters living in Paris at that time and how they are related to the changes of French history. Projection of numerous slides in class. Students are demanded to regularly visit museums such as Cluny, Louvre, Orsay, Marmottan, Giverny, Centre Pompidou, Jeu de Paume, Picasso, Rodin etc...

### **11 - Literature – History - Sociology (300 level) 17<sup>th</sup> Century and 18<sup>th</sup> Century in France, 1.5 US credits**

This course deals with the relationship of literature to the civilization and history of the period. For French literature of the 17th century, particular attention is given to the study of Corneille, Pascal, Racine, Molière, Bossuet and the “écrivains mondains,” and then on to La Bruyère and Fénelon. The classical period of the century of Enlightenment; Bayle, Fontenelle, and Montesquieu as critics and thinkers. Novel: Le Sage, Marivaux, Prevost, Laclos, Theater: the comedies of Marivaux, the works of Voltaire and his ideas. The Encyclopedia and Diderot. Rousseau: naturalism and pre-Romanticism.

### **12- Literature – History - Sociology (300 level) French Literature of the 19<sup>TH</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century: (1.5 US credits)**

Topics covered are literary feelings and taste during the period of the First Empire (B. Constant, Chateaubriand); Romanticism of 1830 and its particular French characteristics (Lamartine, Hugo, Vigny, Musset); the novel: Balzac and Stendhal; French literature during the Second Empire: Leconte de Lisle, Baudelaire, Nerval, Hugo in exile and Flaubert; after 1870: naturalism and symbolism. And presentation of the major writers of our century, in relation to changes in literary forms and contemporary thought: Apollinaire, Valéry, Giraudoux, Proust, the Nouveau Roman and Theater of the Absurd

### **13- Literature (300-400 level) Contemporary Literature in France , 1.5 US credits**

Presentation of the major novels of french literature starting 1945 to today.

Particular attention is given to Louis Aragon, Henri Barbusse, Joseph Kessel, André Gide, André Malraux, Jean-Paul Sartre, Albert Camus, Simone de Beauvoir, Virginie Despentès, Michel Houellebecq, Le Clézio, Patrick Modiano.

### **14- Literature (300-400 level) French Theater, 1.5 US credits**

In this course the class explores french theater with excerpts of plays as well as videos of the play themselves. Plays such as Les femmes savantes, Le Misanthrope, Phèdre and Cyrano de Bergerac will be studied in the text.

### **15- Literature - Art ( 300-400 level) 1.5 US credits**

In this course, artists such as Guy de Maupassant, Jacques Prévert and Guillaume Apollinaire are studied through the lens of their artistic and personal lives, as poets, writers, lovers and friends. The class reads poems, excerpts from books and watches films to gain a broader understanding of these artists and how their lives inspired their art.

### **16- Literature-Art (300 level) Music and Poetry in France, 1.5 US credits**

This is a study of french music and poetry along the centuries, with a study of famous writers such as Victor Hugo, Rimbaud, Jean Paul Satre, Boris Vian and of artists such as Jacques Prévert, Edith Piaf, Serge Gainsbourg..This course describes the evolution of thoughts and cultural transformations of french society through poetry and songs.

### **17- Literature ( 300 level) Children's Literature in France, 1.5 US credits**

This introductory course shows the culture of Literature, taught to french youth. The study begins with fairy tales (Contes de Perrault), continues with XIXth century youth literature ( Comtesse de Ségur, Jules Verne, Hector Malot) and with stories of the 20<sup>th</sup> (Le petit prince, Le petit Nicolas, Zazie dans le metro etc...). There is also a special focus on today's youth literature publishers.

### **18 - Cinema- Art- Society (300-400 level) French Cinema, 1.5 US credits**

This class presents the transformations of the cinema in the 20th and 21st centuries . Symbols and style are analyzed as well as their impact in the french society.

(Amélie Poulain, Orphée, L'auberge Espagnole, les Poupées Russes, Jules et Jim, La Belle et la Bête etc....)

Also, this class features a modern interpretation of traditional french literature expressed through film. It involves reading and comparing literary excerpts from the past with contemporary cinema, while also examining the artistic value and cinematography of each selection. Some works include : Les Misérables, Don Juan, L'Avare, Les liaisons dangereuses etc....