The French major seeks to provide training in literary and cultural analysis and linguistic expression through the study of selected texts from the French-speaking world. Emphasis is placed on the changes in form and subject matter from the early modern period to the contemporary era.

The major consists of nine courses above the 102 level. One of these courses must be the 400-level senior seminar during the student's final year at the College.

Students entering the major program at the 200-level may, with the permission of the Department, choose as part of their major program, one course in Art History, History, Philosophy, Comparative Literature or other subjects that relate to and broaden their study of French. Students entering the major program at a very advanced level may, in some cases and with the permission of the Department, include two such courses in their major program.

Working with the major advisor, the student will formulate a curricular plan that will ensure balance and coherence in courses taken. Such balance and coherence will be based on the above areas of literary and cultural investigation. Prospective majors should discuss their program with the major advisor by the end of their sophomore year. This is especially imperative for students who are planning to spend a part or all of their junior year in France.

Inasmuch as all courses in French assume the active participation of each student in discussions conducted in the foreign language, regular attendance at class meetings is expected.

MAJOR—FRENCH STUDIES

The major in French Studies is an interdisciplinary program that provides students with the opportunity to acquire skills and knowledge embracing the cultural, historical, social, and political heritage of France and the Francophone world. The program allows for an individualized course of study involving work in several departments and the opportunity to study abroad.

Students electing the French Studies major should register with the French Studies faculty advisor during their sophomore year. At that time, they should submit a feasibility plan that articulates their projected program.

The French Studies major consists of ten courses satisfying the following requirements:

- at least three courses in French language and/or literature above the French 102 level;
- the senior seminar during the student's final year at the College;

Electives: The remaining courses needed to complete the major must be drawn from at least three different departments and relate primarily to an aspect of the culture, history, society, and politics of France and the Francophone world. These courses will be selected in consultation with members of the Department of Romance Languages. Appropriate electives might include:

- History 331 The French and Haitian Revolutions
- Religion 301 Psychology of Religion
- All courses in French literature, culture and language above the 103 level

at least two literature courses that are taught in French.

THE DEGREE WITH HONORS IN FRENCH

Students majoring in French may apply to be admitted to the Honors Program in French upon demonstrating the following: (1) fluency of spoken and written language; (2) potential for successful independent research, as demonstrated by strong performance in advanced-level coursework; (3) interest and motivation; and (4) overall quality and feasibility of the proposal.

By May 15th of their junior year, candidates will have found a thesis advisor, and given the Department a three- to five-page proposal and a preliminary bibliography. (In some cases, upon consultation with the Department, candidates will have the option to choose a second reader in addition to their primary advisor; for example, when the thesis is interdisciplinary enough in nature that it requires the expertise of an additional reader). This proposal will be discussed by the Department; by June 1st, the candidate will be informed whether he/she can proceed with the thesis, and if so, what changes need to be made to the focus and scope of the project. The summer before the senior year will be spent compiling a more detailed bibliography and reading.

Upon their return to Williams, candidates will devote to their theses two semesters of independent study (beyond the nine courses required for the major) and the winter study period of their senior year (493-W31-494). The thesis will be written in French and will usually not be shorter than fifty pages. By the end of the Fall semester, students will normally have a clear outline of the project, have done substantial research, and produced the draft of at least the first half of the project. During January this draft will be suitably rewritten and edited with a view to a final version, while the candidates will also begin work on remaining chapters.

Candidates will submit what they have written to the department on the last day of Winter Study.

On the Tuesday of the first week of the spring semester candidates will make a presentation of the project at a departmental colloquium in French. The thesis will be promptly discussed and evaluated to determine whether or not the student should continue in the honors program. The second semester of independent thesis work will be spent writing more chapters, as well as revising, rewriting, and polishing the project where necessary. The completed thesis in its final form will be due on April 25th. At the end of the Spring term,
the student will present and defend the final project before members of the Department and others by invitation. The grade will be awarded once members of the Department have consulted after the defense.

THE CERTIFICATE IN FRENCH
The Certificate in French Language and Cultures consists of a sequence of seven courses for which the student must earn a cumulative grade average of B or higher. In addition, the student must take a proficiency test and achieve a score of “Advanced.” The test will be administered by the department once a year during the month of April to all students desirous of obtaining the Certificate. Those interested should express their intent to the chair of the department by March 1 or earlier.

For students with no prior study of French, the course sequence will consist of RLFR 101-102, RLFR 103, RLFR 104, and three additional courses, with at least one of these at the 200-level or higher taken at Williams. For students starting the sequence at RLFR 103, five additional courses must be taken, including at least three French courses at the 200-level or higher. For all students starting at the French 103 level or higher, two electives may be taken in other departments: one elective should be in French or Francophone culture (art, literature, theatre, music) and the other in French or Francophone civilization (history, political science).

See French Studies Major description above for list of possible electives in other departments.

PLACEMENT
A placement test in French is administered at Williams at the opening of the fall semester. Incoming first-year students who register for any French course above the 101-102 level must take this test, regardless of their previous preparation.

STUDY ABROAD
French majors are strongly advised to complete part of the requirements for the major by studying abroad either during the academic year or the summer. Most American study-in-France programs require applicants to have completed a fifth-semester, college-level French course (French 105, for example) before they go abroad. A special affiliation with the Hamilton Junior Year in France program enables Williams students (who have completed 105) to participate in a comprehensive academic and cultural experience in a French-speaking environment. Credit for up to four courses towards the major can be granted at the discretion of the Department: up to 4 major credits for a semester or full year abroad. The final assignment of credit will be authorized in consultation with the student's major advisor once the student has returned to Williams. Such credits can only be determined by review of course format, course materials, and evidence of satisfactory academic performance. Students interested in studying abroad need to consult with faculty members in French by the second semester of their first year. Early planning is essential. Because the academic quality of certain programs of study in France may well be beneath the pedagogical standards normally associated with a Williams education, students will receive major credit for only those programs recommended by the Department. Please consult a faculty member to find out which programs are acceptable. Normally, the Department does not administer proficiency exams (for study abroad) to any student who has not completed a French course at Williams. You can find general study away guidelines for French here.

RLFR 101(F) Introduction to French Language and Francophone Cultures
This year-long course offers a complete introduction to the French language and is designed to help you become fully conversant in French by focusing on four fundamental language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Through daily practice, class activities, interactive discussion, listening exercises, written work, reading assignments, and active engagement with music, video, and film, you will quickly gain confidence and increasing facility with your abilities to speak and understand both spoken and written French. In addition, our study of grammar, vocabulary, and communication skills will be organized around an engaging and dynamic introduction to a variety of French-speaking cultures around the world, from France and Belgium, to Québec and Martinique, to Sénégal and Morocco. Conducted in French.

Class Format: the class meets five hours a week
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation in both semester-long courses will be based on active class participation, workbook exercises and compositions, chapter tests, midterms, and final exams

Extra Info: students registered for RLFR 101-102 are required to attend and pass the sustaining program during the winter study period; credit granted only if both semesters (RLFR 101 and 102) are taken not available for the fifth course option
Prerequisites: none; for students who have never formally studied French; students who have previously studied French must take the French Placement Test during First Days
Enrollment Preferences: first- and second-year students and those with compelling justification for admission
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 20
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Fall 2016
LEC Section: 01   MW 09:00 AM 09:50 AM   TR 08:55 AM 09:45 AM Instructor: Brian Martin

RLFR 102(S) Introduction to French Language and Francophone Cultures
This year-long course offers a complete introduction to the French language and is designed to help you become fully conversant in French by focusing on four fundamental language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Through daily practice, class activities, interactive discussion, listening exercises, written work, reading assignments, video-observations, and film-viewing, you will quickly gain confidence and increasing facility with your abilities to speak and understand both spoken and written French. In addition, our study of grammar, vocabulary, and communication skills will be organized around an engaging and dynamic introduction to a variety of French-speaking cultures around the world, from France and Belgium, to Québec and Martinique, to Sénégal and Morocco. Conducted in French.
Class Format: the class meets five hours a week
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation in both semester-long courses will be based on active class participation, workbook exercises and compositions, chapter tests, midterms, and final exams
Extra Info: students registered for RLFR 101-102 are required to attend and pass the sustaining program during the winter study period; credit granted only if both semesters (RLFR 101 and 102) are taken
Prerequisites: none; for students who have taken less than two years of high school French
Enrollment Preferences: first- and second-year students and those with compelling justification for admission
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 20
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Spring 2017
LEC Section: 01   MWF 09:00 AM 09:50 AM   TR 08:55 AM 09:45 AM Instructor: Sophie Saint-Just

RLFR 103(F) Intermediate Studies in French Language and Francophone Cultures
This first-semester intermediate course builds on RLFR 101-102, with added focus on French-speaking cultures around the globe. The course prepares students for future study in French by increasing comprehension and communication skills, by refining lexical and cultural awareness, and by improving reading and writing. Daily work involves an expanded review of core grammatical structures and an exploration of various media, including film, music, and print. Conducted in French.
Class Format: lecture four hours a week with the professor, plus a fifth hour conference meeting with the French Teaching Assistants
Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, online workbook exercises, compositions (2 drafts), weekly quizzes, midterm, and final examination
Prerequisites: RLFR 101-102 or examination placement
Enrollment Preferences: first- and second-year students and those with compelling justification for admission
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 20
Dept. Notes: students should seriously consider taking RLFR 103 AND 105 if they intend to enroll in more advanced French literature courses at the 200-level and above, or if they anticipate studying in France or a Francophone country during their junior year
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Fall 2016
LEC Section: 01   M-F 09:00 AM 09:50 AM   TR 08:55 AM 09:45 AM Instructor: Annelle Curulla
LEC Section: 02   M-F 10:00 AM 10:50 AM   Instructor: Annelle Curulla

RLFR 104(S) Intermediate French II: Advanced Intermediate Studies in French
As a continuation of French 103, this course "Images vivantes dans les arts et la littérature" is primarily conceived to enable students to express themselves with fluency and to comprehend easily the spoken and written language. The course is based on the concept that one can read images in any art form (portraits, landscapes, etc...) and pair them with passages taken from French fiction or poetry, comparing them, exploring their meaning, developing a wide range of vocabulary. How does Maupassant's prose compare to a landscape painted by Corot, for instance? Students will read creatively and in depth, express their ideas orally and in writing, and listen to interviews of artists and writers and if applicable extend the art form to film. As for grammar, we will build on what you already know through an in-depth advanced review of grammar structures. Conducted in French.
Class Format: class meets three hours a week plus a fourth conference hour with French teaching associates
Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, short papers, oral class presentations, quizzes and exams
Extra Info: not available for the fifth course option
Prerequisites: RLFR 103; this course is primarily for continuing RLFR 103 students; students who have placed at the advanced intermediate level on the placement exam should register for RLFR 105
Enrollment Preferences: continuing 103 students and potential French majors
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 20
Dept. Notes: after successfully completing RLFR 104, students may register for RLFR 201
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Spring 2017
LEC Section: 01   TR 11:20 AM 12:35 PM   Instructor: Nicole Desrosiers
CON Section: 02   W 02:10 PM 03:00 PM   Instructor: Nicole Desrosiers

RLFR 105(F) Advanced French: Advanced Studies in French Language and Francophone Culture
In this course, we will concentrate on expanding your vocabulary and polish your written and oral skills while focusing on the analysis of French and Francophone cultures and the concepts that define them. In particular, we will explore the idea of myths and mythologies as they relate to national identity in France, North Africa, and the French Caribbean. We will read short literary, theoretical and historical texts, and explore the production of popular culture and how it informs myth-making. At the same time, we will review and practice advanced grammar concepts. Conducted in French.
Class Format: lecture/conference
Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, short papers, presentations and quizzes, final creative project
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis
Prerequisites: RLFR 104, placement exam, or by permission of instructor
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 15
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Fall 2016
LEC Section: 01  TF 01:10 PM 02:25 PM  Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak
CON Section: 02  W 01:10 PM 02:00 PM  Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak
LEC Section: 03  TF 02:35 PM 03:50 PM  Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak
CON Section: 04  W 02:10 PM 03:00 PM  Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak

RLFR 106(S) Advanced French: Danger and Desire in French Film and Fiction
This is an advanced course in French language designed to help you improve your speaking, comprehension, reading, and writing, through the dynamic study of short literary texts and films focusing on danger and desire in nineteenth-, twentieth-, and twenty-first-century France. Through active discussion and debate, textual and cinematic analysis, grammatical review, and careful writing and revision, you will improve your command of spoken and written French, strengthen your ability to express complex ideas, expand your vocabulary, and deepen your understanding of French fiction, film, and culture. This is an ideal course to prepare for study abroad or for more advanced coursework in French literature and cinema. As a focus for improving your French, we will examine a broad range of texts and films on danger and desire in France from 1830 to 2010, with an emphasis on passion and ambition, infatuation and seduction, betrayal and vengeance, courage and cruelty, warfare and resistance. Works to include nineteenth-century texts by Chateaubriand, Duras, Balzac, Mérimée, Flaubert, Maupassant, Zola; twentieth-century texts by Colette, Camus, Sartre, Beauvoir, Duras, Ernaux, Guibert, Quint, Lindon, Vilrouge; and twenty-first-century films by Caron, Ozon, Ducasteel, Martineau, Dercourt, and Becker. Conducted in French.
Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, grammar exercises, short papers, midterm, and final exam
Extra Info: not available for the fifth course option
Prerequisites: RLFR 105; or by placement test; or permission of the instructor
Enrollment Preferences: French majors and certificate students; and those with compelling justification for admission
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 20
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Spring 2017
SEM Section: 01  TR 09:55 AM 11:10 AM  Instructor: Brian Martin

RLFR 201 The Voice and the Book: Studies in Medieval and Early Modern France
We are a society of silent readers. Our eyes move back and forth over words on a screen or page, and the act feels private, interior. In earlier times, however, people interacted differently with texts. Besides silent reading, texts were transmitted through recitation and improvisation for groups of listeners. This course offers an introduction to the key periods, artistic movements, and genres of medieval and early modern France as they come to bear on the relationship between literature and orality. How did literary forms circulate and develop before and after the invention of the printing press? When did people who write become "writers?" Who read, heard, and performed texts? Who didn’t? Over the course of the semester, students will complete regular creative and analytical exercises, visit the Chapin Library and Special Collections, meet with guest speakers, and practice declamation and performance. Readings to include anonymous authors as well as Marie de France, Villon, Labé, Ronsard, Molière, La Fontaine, Lafayette, Voltaire, Rousseau. Conducted in French.
Class Format: lecture/seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, weekly online postings, three short papers, recitation, micro-performance, and final examination
Prerequisites: RLFR 105, or by French placement exam, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: French majors and those with compelling justification for admission
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 20
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
LEC  Instructor: Annelle Curulla

RLFR 202 War and Resistance: Two Centuries of War Literature in France, 1804-2004
Crosslistings: RLFR 202/WGSS 201
In 1883, Maupassant called on his fellow war veterans and writers to join him in speaking out against warfare and violence, crying "Let us dishonor war!" From the Gallic Wars against Caesar (during the first century BC) to France's controversial role in the "War on Terror" (at the opening of the twenty-first century), the French literary tradition is rich in texts that bear witness to war and speak out against its monstrous inhumanity. While war literature in France can be traced back to ancient and medieval texts on Vercingétorix, Charlemagne, William the Conqueror, and Joan of Arc, this course will focus specifically on literary representations of war during the nineteenth- and twentieth-centuries, from the Napoleonic Wars, to the First and Second World Wars, to the Algerian and Cold Wars, and the "War on Terror." Discussions will examine the impact of war on soldiers and civilians, patriotism and pacifism, history and memory; the implications of war as invasion and conquest, occupation and resistance, victory and defeat; the relationship of war to gender, sexuality, and ethnicity; and the role of war in colonialism and genocide. Readings to include novels, short stories, and poems by Balzac, Stendhal, Hugo, Rimbaud, Daudet, Maupassant, Zola, Cocteau, Wiesel, Duras, Camus, and Fanon. Films to include works by Resnais, Renoir, Carion, Jeunet, Malle, Angelo, Pontecorvo, and Duras. Conducted in French.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, two short papers, an oral presentation, and a final paper
Prerequisites: exceptional performance in RLFR 105; strong performance in RLFR 106 or 107; successful performance in RLFR 201 or 203; or by French placement exam; or by permission of instructor.
Enrollment Preferences: French majors and certificate students; Comparative Literature majors; Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors; and those with compelling justification for admission
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 20
Distribution Notes: meets Division 1 requirement if registration is under RLFR; meets Division 2 requirement if registration is under WGSS
Distributional Requirements: Division 1

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM Instructor: Brian Martin

RLFR 203(F) Introduction to Francophone Literatures (D)
Crosslistings: RLFR 203/AFR 204/COMP 282
In this course we will read a wide range of literary and visual texts from the francophone world. We will also examine the idea of francophonie and the ways in which it has been interrogated and redefined.
Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: presentation, journaling, final project, participation
Prerequisites: RLFR 105 and above, placement exam or by permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: French majors and certificate, Africana and Comp. Lit
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 20
Distribution Notes: meets Division 1 requirement if registration is under RLFR or COMP; meets Division 2 requirement if registration is under AFR
Distributional Requirements: Division 1
Exploring Diversity
Other Attributes:
GBST African Studies Electives
GBST Borders, Exiles + Diaspora Studies Electives

Fall 2016
SEM Section: 01 TR 09:55 AM 11:10 AM Instructor: Sophie Saint-Just

RLFR 204 Intro to French Literature: French Drama from Classicism to the Theatre of the Absurd
What can we learn about French society through its theater? This course proposes to examine the evolution of French plays from the 17th to the 20th century within their political, social and cultural contexts. Readings plays by Molière, Beaumarchais, Musset, Anouilh, Becket and Ionesco will allow students to see how the theater as a genre engages the public through self-reflection and analysis. Readings will be complemented by theoretical texts and film versions of the plays. Questions regarding the nature of the play itself (dramatic structure), the role of space and the role of language, the importance of acting and the public's involvement will be examined and will evolve, into a mini staging of our own.
Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: one short response paper weekly; 2 short essays and one final paper
Prerequisites: RLFR 105 or permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: open to those who have completed RLFR 105, 107 or a 200 level course; if overenrolled, preference will be given to French majors
Distributional Requirements: Division 1

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM Instructor: Nicole Desrosiers

RLFR 206 Outsiders in French and Francophone Film: Cinematic Adaptations of Literary Texts (D)
In this course students will examine the figure of the outsider (queer, black, woman, intruder, loner) in several French and Francophone literary texts and their film adaptations and will explore questions such as: how are such outsiders translated onto the screen? To what extent does outsider status help maintain, challenge or reveal hegemonic discourse? This course fulfills the college Exploring Diversity requirement because its asks in what ways do non-Western and Western filmmakers (re)cast power and privilege through the figure of the outsider in their film adaptations (of Western canonical texts). Students will read original French and Francophone literary texts and apply theories of film adaptation to their analyses.

**Class Format:** seminar

**Requirements/Evaluation:** one 6-page paper, first draft, journaling on film elements, presentation

**Extra Info:** not available for the fifth course option

**Prerequisites:** RLFR 105, 106, or 107, and permission of instructor

**Enrollment Preferences:** French majors and certificate students, those who have completed RLFR 105, 106, or 107, or those who have placed into this level from the French Placement Test

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Expected Class Size:** 20

**Distributional Requirements:**
- Division 1
- Exploring Diversity

**Other Attributes:**
- FMST Core Courses

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**RLFR 224 Sexuality and Seduction in Nineteenth and Twentieth-Century France (D)**

**Crosslistings:** RLFR 224/WGSS 224

In 1857, both Flaubert's *Madame Bovary* and Baudelaire's *Les Fleurs du mal* were put on trial for sexual indecency and "crimes against public morality." In 1868, *Le Figaro* attacked Zola's novel *Thérèse Raquin* as "putrid literature" for its depiction of adultery, murder, and scandalous sexuality in nineteenth-century Paris. A century later, Gide, Colette, and Duras continued to shock French readers with their extraordinary novels on male and female homosexuality, inter-generational lovers, and bi-racial relationships. In this course, we will examine a wide range of issues on eroticism and sexuality in nineteenth- and twentieth-century French literature, including marriage and adultery, seduction and desire, love and betrayal, prostitution and fetishes, gay and lesbian identity, cross-dressing and gender representation, exoticism and colonial (s)exploitation. Readings to include novels, short stories, and poems by Chateaubriand, Constant, Duras, Balzac, Flaubert, Baudelaire, Zola, Maupassant, Barbey d'Aurevilly, Gide, Proust, Colette, Duras, and Guibert.

**Conducted in French.**

**Class Format:** seminar

**Requirements/Evaluation:** active class participation, two short papers, an oral presentation, and a final paper

**Prerequisites:** RLFR 106 or 107; another 200-level course such as RLFR 201, 202, 203; or by placement test; or by permission of instructor

**Enrollment Preferences:** French majors and certificate students; Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors; Comparative Literature majors and those with compelling justification for admission

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Expected Class Size:** 20

**Distribution Notes:** meets Division 1 requirement if registration is under RLFR; meets Division 2 requirement if registration is under WGSS

**Distributional Requirements:**
- Division 1
- Exploring Diversity

**Not Offered Academic Year 2017**

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**Instructor:** Sophie Saint-Just

**SEM**

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**RLFR 230 Introduction to French Stylistics: The Art of Pastiche (W)**

Generally speaking, *pasticheurs* are derivative artists. Yet many of France's most original authors were agile *pasticheurs*, among them La Bruyère, Proust, and the experimental writers of the OuLiPo movement. What might the art of pastiche suggest about the relationship between imitation and creation, tradition and innovation, and past and present? Discussion of such questions will be grounded in the study of short texts by Rimbaud (as Villon), Zalmanski (as Madame de Sévigné), Janin (as Diderot), Flaubert (as Chateaubriand), and Queneau (as Proust). Analysis and explication of pastiches will strengthen students' technical grasp of French. In the second half of the semester, students will apply their rhetorical, syntactical, and stylistic knowledge through weekly pastiche exercises, submitted as a final portfolio at semester's end. *Conducted in French.*

**Class Format:** seminar

**Requirements/Evaluation:** active class participation, individual meetings, biweekly postings, 3 compositions (2 drafts each) and final portfolio

**Prerequisites:** RLFR 105-106 or examination placement

**Enrollment Preferences:** French majors and those completing a French Certificate

**Enrollment Limit:** 19

**Expected Class Size:** 19

**Distributional Requirements:**
- Division 1
Writing Intensive

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM     Instructor: Annelle Curulla

RLFR 240(S) The Banlieue in literature, Music, and Film (D)
Crosslistings: RLFR 240/AFR 241/COMP 281
In this course we will read, watch, and listen to various constructions of the banlieue in French music, film, and literature to focus on the contestatory and affirmative dimensions of these narratives.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: journaling, presentation, in-class discussion, and final project
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option
Prerequisites: RLFR 105 and above
Enrollment Preferences: French majors, certificate, Africana and Comparative literature students
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 15
Distribution Notes: meets Division 1 requirement if registration is under RLFR or COMP; meets Division 2 requirement if registration is under AFR

Distributional Requirements:
Division 1
Exploring Diversity
Other Attributes:
FMST Core Courses

Spring 2017
SEM Section: 01   MR 01:10 PM 02:25 PM   Instructor: Sophie Saint-Just

RLFR 250(S) Women in Print: Gender, Power, and Publishing in Seventeenth-and Eighteenth-Century France
What did it mean to publish—or not—as a woman in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century France? Why did writers adopt or reject a feminine pen name at a time of women's legal, economic, and social subordination? Readings from Scudéry, La Fayette, Guilleragues, Graffigny, Gouges, and Duras will be informed by contemporary theoretical and historical work on gender, authorship, and women's participation in political, religious, and public life. Conducted in French.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, two short presentations, two short papers, final paper
Prerequisites: French 201, 202, or 203, or by placement test, or by permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: French, Comparative Literature, Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors, and those with compelling justification for admission
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 20
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Spring 2017
SEM Section: 01   MW 11:00 AM 12:15 PM   Instructor: Annelle Curulla

RLFR 260 Reading Comics from the French-Speaking World
Crosslistings: RLFR 260/COMP 260
From political cartoons and satire of the 19th century to contemporary graphic novels, the bande dessinée has a long history in the French-speaking world. We will read early political cartoons, classics such as Asterix and Tintin, and contemporary BD from France, Québec, Côte d'Ivoire, Morocco, Rwanda, and Guadeloupe to analyze how they tackle subjects such as nation, empire, sexuality, biography, war and human rights. We will pay attention to the visual form and critical theory of the genre. Conducted in French.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: weekly response papers, 5-page paper, graphic-form paper, final research project
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option
Prerequisites: RLFR 201, 202, or 203, or by permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: French majors and certificate students, Comparative Literature majors
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 15
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM     Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak

RLFR 261(F) Haitian and French Caribbean Literatures and Films (D)
Crosslistings: RLFR 261/AFR 261/COMP 283
This course focuses on Haitian and Francophone Caribbean literature and film as critical interventions that bring into focus slavery, identity, imperialism, culture, and (non) sovereignty.
Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: in-class discussions, journaling, steps towards final project, final project and presentation
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option
Prerequisites: French majors, French certificate, Africana and Comparative Literature students
Enrollment Preferences: 105 and above, French majors, French certificate, Africana and Comparative Literature students
Enrollment Limit: 15
Expected Class Size: 10
Distribution Notes: meets Division 1 requirement if registration is under RLFR or COMP; meets Division 2 requirement if registration is under AFR
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1
Exploring Diversity
Other Attributes:
FMST Core Courses

Fall 2016
SEM Section: 01   MR 01:10 PM 02:25 PM   Instructor: Sophie Saint-Just

RLFR 309 Contemporary Short Stories from North Africa: Fast Cars, Movies, Money, Love and War
Crosslistings: RLFR 309/AFR 307
Today the countries of North Africa are experiencing rapid social change. Rap music can be heard spilling out of windows while television sets broadcast a call to prayer. In the market place, those selling their goods compete to be heard over the ringing of cell-phones. Old and new exist side by side, albeit sometimes very uncomfortably. During the past decade, literature has emerged in both French and Arabic examining the effects of globalization: unequal modernization, unemployment, cultural change and cultural resistance. In this course, we will read short stories that address these issues as well as analyze films, sociological texts and Moroccan, Algerian and Tunisian newspapers on the web in order to explore contemporary transformations of life in North Africa. Readings by Maïssa Bey, Abdelfattah Kilito, Zeina Tabi, Mohamed Zafzaf, Ahmed Bouzfour, Soumaya Zahy and Abdelhak Serhane among others. Conducted in French.
Class Format: lecture/discussion
Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, reading journal, two short papers, an oral presentation and a final paper
Prerequisites: RLFR 201, 202 or 203 or permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: French majors and those with compelling justification for admission
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 20
Distribution Notes: meets Division 1 requirement if registration is under RLFR; meets Division 2 requirement if registration is under AFR
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1
Other Attributes:
ARAB Arabic Studies Electives
GBST African Studies Electives

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
LEC   Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak

RLFR 312 Francographic Islands (D)
Crosslistings: RLFR 312/COMP 312/AFR 312
Utopia, paradise, shipwreck, abandonment, exile, death. Man's fascination and obsession with the island as place of discovery, beauty and imprisonment stretches across the centuries. In this class, we will read French literary and imagined islands alongside islands constructed by Francophone Caribbean, Indian Ocean and non-Western writers in French. What does the island symbolize in individual, community, national, and imperial imaginations? And how does the island become an agent in discussions of gender, race, modernity and history? Readings will include works by Paul Gauguin, Pierre Loti, Aimé Césaire, Michel Tournier, Ananda Devi, Maryse Condé, Patrick Chamoiseau and Edouard Glissant. Conducted in French.
Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, weekly response papers, midterm essay and final essay
Prerequisites: open to students who have taken a literature course in RLFR at Williams, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: French majors and certificate candidates, Comparative Literature majors, and Africana Studies concentrators
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 15
Distribution Notes: meets Division 1 requirement if registration is under RLFR or COMP; meets Division 2 requirement if registration is under AFR
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1
Exploring Diversity

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM   Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak
In his futurist novel *Paris in the Twentieth Century* (1863), Jules Verne envisions an era of technological superiority, complete with hydrogen cars and high-speed trains, televisions and skyscrapers, computers and the internet. But in Verne's vision of modernity, technological sophistication gives way to intellectual stagnation and social indifference, in a world where poetry and literature have been abandoned in favor of bureaucratic efficiency, mechanized surveillance, and the merciless pursuit of profit. To contest or confirm this dystopic vision, we will examine a broad range of twentieth-century novels and their focus on adversity and modernity. In a century during which Paris has been fêted as the "City of Light" for its Enlightenment legacy, its Eiffel Tower modernity, and its luminous urban energy, captured in countless paintings, photographs, and film. However, Paris is also the historical site of revolution, resistance, and riots. From revolutionary revolt (1830, 1848, 1871), to wartime resistance (1870, 1914-18, 1940-44), to reformist and race riots (1968 and 2005), Paris has repetitively sparked with incendiary passion and political protest. As fires raged during the riots in 2005, many heard the echo of Hitler's ominous 1944 question, "Is Paris burning?" and asked: why was Paris burning again at the dawn of the twenty-first century? To answer this question, we will examine the social, political, and literary landscape of Paris during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, from urbanization and modernization, to occupation and liberation, to immigration and globalization. Readings to include poetry, short stories, and novels by Hugo, Balzac, Baudelaire, Maupassant, Verne, Zola, Apollinaire, Colette, Duras, Perec, Rochefort, and Charief. Films to include works by Clair, Truffaut, Godard, Minnelli, Clément, Lelouch, Luhrmann, Kassovitz, Besson, and Jeunet. *Conducted in French.*

**Class Format:** seminar

**Requirements/Evaluation:** active class participation, two short papers, an oral presentation, and a final paper

**Prerequisites:** RLFR 201, or 202, or 203; or another RLFR 200-level course; or permission of instructor.

**Enrollment Preferences:** French majors and certificate students; Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors; Comparative Literature majors; and those with compelling justification for admission

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Expected Class Size:** 20

**Distribution Notes:** meets Division 1 requirement if registration is under RLFR; meets Division 2 requirement if registration is under WGSS

**Divisional Requirements:**

**Other Attributes:**

GBST Urbanizing World Electives

*Not Offered Academic Year 2017*

SEM Instructor: Brian Martin

**RLFR 318(F) Twentieth-Century French Novel: From Adversity to Modernity**

In his futurist novel *Paris in the Twentieth Century* (1863), Jules Verne envisions an era of technological superiority, complete with hydrogen cars and high-speed trains, televisions and skyscrapers, computers and the internet. But in Verne's vision of modernity, technological sophistication gives way to intellectual stagnation and social indifference, in a world where poetry and literature have been abandoned in favor of bureaucratic efficiency, mechanized surveillance, and the merciless pursuit of profit. To contest or confirm this dystopic vision, we will examine a broad range of twentieth-century novels and their focus on adversity and modernity. In a century dominated by the devastation of two World Wars, the atrocities of colonial empire, and massive social and political transformation, the novel both documented and interrogated France's engagement with race and ethnicity, gender and sexuality, colonialism and immigration. Within this historical context, we will discuss the role of the novel in confronting war and disease, challenging poverty and greed, and exposing urban isolation and cultural alienation in twentieth-century France. Readings to include novels by Colette, Genet, Camus, Duras, Ermou, Guibert, Begag. Lectures to include discussions of Gide, Proust, Sartre, Beauvoir, Cixous, Foucault, Jelloun, Djébar. Films to include works by Fassbinder, Anouud, Lioter, Ducastel, Martineau, Téchiné, Charief. *Conducted in French.*

**Class Format:** seminar

**Requirements/Evaluation:** active class participation, midterm exam, and two to three papers

**Prerequisites:** a 200-level course; or by placement test; or permission of instructor

**Enrollment Preferences:** French majors and certificate students; Comparative Literature majors; and those with compelling justification for admission; seniors returning from study abroad (in France or other Francophone countries) are particularly welcome

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Expected Class Size:** 20

**Distributional Requirements:**

**Division 1**

*Fall 2016*

SEM Section: 01  MW 11:00 AM 12:15 PM  Instructor: Brian Martin

**RLFR 326(S) Molière in Performance**

Like Shakespeare, the work of France's greatest playwright is less a timeless monument than a living body perpetually in motion. This course offers a dual approach to the theater of Molière. The first half of the semester will focus on readings and analysis of printed plays in the context of the seventeenth century. The second half of the semester focuses on a collective project that combines student research and performance of a single play. Possible works: *Les Femmes savantes, L'Ecole des femmes, Le Misanthrope, L'Avaré, Le Bourgeois gentilhomme.* Throughout the semester, we will explore the dynamic relationships between tradition and innovation, elite and popular culture, actors and audience, past and present. *Conducted in French.*

**Class Format:** seminar

**Requirements/Evaluation:** active class participation, one presentation, two short papers, final performance project and accompanying final paper
Prerequisites: French 201, 202, or 203, or by placement test, or by permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: French, Comparative Literature, Theater, and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors, and those with compelling justification for admission
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 20
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Spring 2017
SEM Section: 01   MR 02:35 PM 03:50 PM   Instructor: Annelle Curulla

RLFR 336(F) Renegotiating Subjectivity with Foucault and Deleuze: Power, Resistance, Becoming (W)

One of the most central concepts in Modern philosophy is that of the subject. At the outset, the subject is ontologically constituted within a Cartesian framework: the subject is a unified consciousness, constitutive of personal identity and endowed with universal moral and cognitive capacity. Thereby, the subject is also endowed with agency and that which can be held responsible for its actions. While still considered essential both in terms of personal identity and agency, this nuclear subject, in post-war and contemporary philosophy, came to be understood in terms of an ongoing intersubjective, social, historical and cultural construction essentially constituted in and through language. However, as investigated in the works of French philosophers Michel Foucault and Gilles Deleuze, this attempt in recent modernity to overcome the subject has resulted in new ways of re-establishing the subject as an ontological basis for self-understanding such as expressed for example in various kinds of identity politics, which in turn makes it the object for various power structures: hence, the subject understood as personal identity is in many ways being subjected to authority, power and abuse. This course proposes a joint reading of a selection of key texts of Foucault and Deleuze problematizing subjectivity and its processes in terms of subjectivation, subjectification, "asujettissement", resistance and lines of flight, in order to investigate the possibilities of renegotiating the conditions of subjectivity in our post-subjective era, in both the individual and the collective sense.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: three short papers (5-6 pages); one final 10-page essay; participation in discussions
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis

Enrollment Preferences: Philosophy majors/Critical Theory majors
Enrollment Limit: 19
Expected Class Size: 15
Distributional Requirements:
Division 2
Writing Intensive

Fall 2016
SEM Section: 01   W 07:00 PM 09:40 PM   Instructor: Fredrika Spindler

RLFR 370 Displaying, Collecting and Preserving the Other: Museums and French Imperialism

This course will explore relationships between culture and imperialism in France by exploring how the colonial "Other" has been conceived, displayed and collected in French museums, world's fairs and galleries from the 19th century to the present. Through readings in museum history and theory, we will explore the imperial histories of the Louvre and the Musée de l'Homme, the role of Parisian World's Fairs in ordering the colonial world, French colonial photography and the creation a body of consumable subjects, and the discourse of collection and preservation in French colonial architecture. Drawing on museum theory, we will also critically examine contemporary Parisian museums such as the Musée du Quai Branly, the Institut du Monde Arabe and the Cité nationale de l'histoire de l'immigration. In addition to readings and discussion, the class will engage in a semester-long group project to design a new museum of French history and identity. The group will present all aspects of their museum including location, design, exhibit concept, narrative, and more. This course will be conducted in English. For students seeking RLFR credit, select readings will be in French, and written work will be in French.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, response papers, 2 short essays and a final group project

Enrollment Preferences: for students taking the course as RLFR: RLFR 201 or above, or permission of instructor; for students taking the course as COMP or AFR: no prerequisites
Enrollment Limit: 15
Expected Class Size: 15
Distribution Notes: meets Division 1 requirement if registration is under RLFR or COMP; meets Division 2 requirement if registration is under AFR
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM   Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak

RLFR 410 Senior Seminar: Landscapes of Movement and Migration in French
How do migration and movement construct and disrupt landscapes of identity—home, city and nation—in the French-speaking world? How do migration and movement contribute to conditions of alienation, nostalgia and violence? This seminar explores such fundamental questions and asks us to think about how in an increasingly mobile and de-territorialized world, place is imagined, experienced and remembered. Over the course of the semester, we will examine theoretical texts on memory, space, identity and movement, and analyze literary and film narratives of migration that focus on: the immigration experience in France, the construction of an Atlantic identity between Africa, the Caribbean, Europe and the Americas, internal migration between the country and the city, clandestine migration between Africa and Europe, population displacement due to war, and the possibility of creating portable places of memory. Works by Nora, Benjamin, Deleuze, Barthes, Charef, Chamoiseau, Glissant, Diome, Condé, Mernissi, Poulain, Pineau, Sembene, and Binebine among others. Conducted in French.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: weekly 1-page response papers, short mid-term paper and a final research paper
Extra Info: qualified students in first, second, or third years of their career at Williams can enroll in the Senior Seminar with the permission of the instructor; however, this will not replace the senior seminar requirement in the senior year of French majors
Prerequisites: any RLFR course above 203, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: seniors French majors or completing the certificate in French, but open to advanced students of French
Enrollment Limit: 15
Expected Class Size: 10
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak

RLFR 412(S) Senior Seminar: Nineteenth-Century French Novel: Desperate Housewives and Extreme Makeovers
Crosslistings: RLFR 412/WGSS 408
In 1834, Balzac wrote that "Paris is a veritable ocean. Sound it: you will never know its depth." The same can be said of the French nineteenth-century novel and its boundless ability to echo the past and illuminate the present. From the Romanticism of Stendhal and Hugo, and the Realism of Balzac and Flaubert, to the Naturalism of Zola and Maupassant, the novel became a forum for examining illicit sexuality, institutional misogyny, social injustice, criminal passions, revolutionary struggles, and Parisian pleasures in nineteenth-century France. Characters such as the imprisoned housewife Emma Bovary, the reluctant revolutionary Jean Valjean, the socially-climbing lover Julien Sorel, the ambitious undergraduate Rastignac, and the domestically-abused Gervaise became synonymous with France's turbulent social and political landscape from the 1830s to the 1880s. And as recent film adaptations make clear, these desperate housewives and extreme makeovers continue to haunt our twenty-first century present. Reinterpreted by such authors as Gérard Depardieu, Isabelle Huppert, Uma Thurman, Claire Danes, and Jennifer Aniston, the nineteenth-century novel continues to sound out the scandalous and sensational depths of our own century. Readings to include novels by Balzac, Stendhal, Hugo, Flaubert, Maupassant, Zola. Films to include adaptations by Clément, Berri, August, Arteta, Lelouch, Chabrol. Conducted in French.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, midterm exam, and two to three papers
Prerequisites: a 200-level or 300-level RLFR literature course at Williams; advanced coursework during study abroad; or by permission of the instructor
Enrollment Preferences: French majors and certificate students; Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors; Comparative Literature majors; and those with compelling justification for admission
Enrollment Limit: 16
Expected Class Size: 16
Distribution Notes: meets Division 1 requirement if registration is under RLFR; meets Division 2 requirement if registration is under WGSS
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Spring 2017
SEM Section: 01 TR 11:20 AM 12:35 PM Instructor: Brian Martin

RLFR 415 Senior Seminar: Banned In France: Literature and Censorship in the Eighteenth-Century
Censorship is probably as old as culture itself, but recent global debates over network neutrality, media regulation, and copyright reveal a growing sense of urgency over what role, if any, censorship should play in the digital age. This seminar will explore the role of censorship in eighteenth-century France, another complex period transformed in part by unprecedented access to knowledge. Students will critically assess a range of works that were, before or after publication, repressed or altered by various religious and civil authorities, editors, publishers, and, in some cases, audiences. Discussions will focus on the formal and thematic content of each work, as well as its broader place in Enlightenment and French Revolutionary literature and culture. Analysis of such historically-specific concepts as tolerance, obscenity, and public censorship will be supported by critical work and commentary from the eighteenth century and the present day. As a central feature of the course, students will conduct a semester-long research project that will draw on readings from Voltaire, Diderot, Rousseau, Sade, Beaumarchais, Chénier, Gouges, Charrrière, Staël, and others. Key issues include copyright and the literary market, self-censorship, public opinion and public censure, gender and canon formation, blasphemy, pornography, and the politics of incitement. Conducted in French.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, weekly online postings, semester-long research project involving an abstract and annotated bibliography at mid-term, and final research paper
Prerequisites: any 200-level RLFR course
Enrollment Preferences: senior French majors or students completing the Certificate in French, but open to advanced students of French
Enrollment Limit: 15
Expected Class Size: 15
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM Instructor: Annelle Curulla

RLFR 493(F) Senior Thesis: French
French senior thesis.
Class Format: independent study
Extra Info: this is part of a full-year thesis (493-494)
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Fall 2016
HON Section: 01 TBA Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak

RLFR 494(S) Senior Thesis: French
French senior thesis.
Class Format: independent study
Extra Info: this is part of a full-year thesis (493-494)
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Spring 2017
HON Section: 01 TBA Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak

RLFR 497(F) Independent Study: French
French independent study.
Class Format: independent study
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Fall 2016
IND Section: 01 TBA Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak

RLFR 498(S) Independent Study: French
French independent study.
Class Format: independent study
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Spring 2017
IND Section: 01 TBA Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak

RLFR 511(F) Intensive French Grammar and Translation
This course is designed to offer students a thorough and systematic review of sentence structures and grammar to develop a reading knowledge of French. Through this intensive study, students will learn to decipher the subtleties of the written language, and as they become more confident they will start translating a variety of short excerpts. Students are also expected to learn and develop a wide lexical range centered on art history and criticism, but not limited to it.
Class Format: classes meet twice weekly and are conducted in English
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation will be based on class participation, papers, a midterm, and a final examination
Prerequisites: a strong interest and need to learn French
Enrollment Preferences: although this course is to serve the needs of students enrolled in the Graduate Program in the History of Art, undergraduates may enroll by permission of the instructor
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Fall 2016
LEC Section: 01 TR 08:30 AM 09:45 AM Instructor: Nicole Desrosiers

RLFR 512(S) Readings in French Art History and Criticism
This course is designed to provide Graduate Program students and interested others with knowledge of French acquired through translation and interpretation. The core of this course is based on the reading and translating of a variety of critical works covering different periods and genres in the field of art history. The material read (excerpts from museum catalogues; the Gazette des Beaux-
Arts and other publications; Salons by Diderot, Baudelaire, and Thoré; artists on their works; and critics such as Francastel, Ch. Sterling, M. Faré, Valéry, Focillon) will be analyzed in form and content, translated or summarized, in order to develop the skills and understand the techniques necessary for reading French accurately. Grammar will be reviewed in context.

Class Format: seminar

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation is based on class participation, papers, a midterm, and a final examination

Prerequisites: RLFR 511 or permission of instructor; undergraduates are welcome with permission of instructor

Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Spring 2017
LEC Section: 01 TR 08:30 AM 09:45 AM Instructor: Nicole Desrosiers

ITALIAN

RLIT 101(F) Elementary Italian
This first semester of a year-long course which offers a thorough introduction to basic Italian language skills with primary emphasis on comprehension of the spoken language. Students interact with taped materials and submit written compositions on a regular basis.

Conducted entirely in Italian.

Class Format: five hours a week with the professor

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation will be based on chapter tests (50%), a final exam (20%), completion of workbook and lab manual exercises (20%), and classroom attendance/participation (10%)

Extra Info: students registered for RLIT 101-102 are required to attend and pass the sustaining program during the winter study period; credit granted only if both semesters (RLIT 101 and 102) are taken may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

Prerequisites: none; not open to those who have had one year or more of high school Italian

Enrollment Preferences: instructor will prioritize on the basis of study abroad plans and year at Williams

Enrollment Limit: 22

Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Fall 2016
LEC Section: 01 MWF 09:00 AM 09:50 AM TR 08:55 AM 09:45 AM Instructor: Anthony Nicastro

RLIT 102(S) Elementary Italian
This second semester of a year-long course which offers a thorough introduction to basic Italian language skills with primary emphasis on comprehension of the spoken language. Students interact with taped materials and submit written compositions on a regular basis.

Conducted entirely in Italian.

Class Format: five hours a week with the professor

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation will be based on chapter tests (50%), a final exam (20%), completion of workbook and lab manual exercises (20%), and classroom attendance/participation (10%)

Extra Info: students registered for RLIT 101-102 are required to attend and pass the sustaining program during the winter study period; credit granted only if both semesters (RLIT 101 and 102) are taken may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

Prerequisites: RLIT 101; not open to those who have had one year or more of high school Italian

Enrollment Preferences: instructor will prioritize on the basis of study abroad plans and year at Williams

Enrollment Limit: 22

Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Spring 2017
LEC Section: 01 MWF 09:00 AM 09:50 AM TR 08:55 AM 09:45 AM Instructor: Anthony Nicastro

SPANISH

THE MAJOR IN SPANISH

Students who major in Spanish can expect to acquire linguistic fluency along with in-depth knowledge of the cultures of Spain and Latin America. Through the study of the major writers and historical events of the Spanish–speaking world, our program offers training in literary analysis and linguistic expression, as well as a deep appreciation of Hispanic civilizations.

The major consists of nine courses above the 102 level. One of these courses must be the 400-level senior seminar taken during the student’s final year at the College; another must be a course that substantially focuses on literature or cultural texts produced before 1800. Students entering at the 200-level may, with the permission of the Department, choose as part of their major program one course not conducted in Spanish but offered by faculty in Romance Languages or another Department or Program, such as Latino/a Studies, Comparative Literature, History, etc., provided that the subject matter relate to and broaden their study of Spanish. Students entering at a very advanced level may, in some cases and with the permission of the Department, include two such courses in their major program. Working with a member of the Spanish faculty, the student will formulate a curricular plan that will ensure balance and coherence in
the student will write an essay that synthesizes the content of the three related courses. Students may apply for this route by November 2 of the senior year.

In the case of both routes to the degree with honors, the department's recommendation for graduation with honors will be based on the originality and thoroughness of the finished project.

THE CERTIFICATE IN SPANISH

The Certificate in Spanish Language and Culture consists of a sequence of seven courses for which the student must earn a cumulative grade average of B or higher. Those so interested should express their intent to the chair of the department by March 1 or earlier.

For students with no prior Spanish background, the course sequence will consist of Spanish 101–102, Spanish 103 and 104, and three courses in Spanish above the 104 level, with at least one of these courses at the 200–level or higher taken at Williams. If the student starts out the sequence at Spanish 103, in addition to the three courses in Spanish beyond the 104 level (including a 200–level course or higher), two electives may be taken in other departments. One elective should be in Spanish or Latin–American cultural history (art, literature, drama, music) and the other in Spanish or Latin–American intellectual, political, or social history. Spanish 200, 201, or 208 can be counted for the elective requirement.

Electives may be considered from a variety of departments and programs. However, students should consult with the chair of Romance Languages before making any enrollment decisions.

PLACEMENT

A placement test in Spanish is administered at Williams at the opening of the fall semester. Incoming first–year students who wish to register for any Spanish courses above the 101 level must take this test.

STUDY ABROAD

Spanish majors, as well as non–majors interested in further exposure to the language and the culture, are strongly encouraged to study in Spain or Latin America for either a semester or a full-year. We recommend that you start planning for study abroad as early as possible, and that you speak to our faculty early on to go over the many possible destinations and programs available to you. Through its consortial ties with the Hamilton College Academic Year in Spain, the department offers a comprehensive linguistic and cultural experience in Madrid, but there are many other options. Credit for up to four courses can be granted at the discretion of the Department for study overseas. Those four courses count towards the certificate or the major in Spanish. Students interested in study abroad
should consult with a member of the department at their earliest convenience. You can find general study away guidelines for Spanish [here](#).

**RLSP 101(F) Elementary Spanish**
This course focuses on grammar, elementary composition, practice in conversation, and reading of easy modern prose. It is taught by the intensive oral method.

**Class Format:** the class meets five hours a week; students will complete workbook and lab exercises weekly

**Requirements/Evaluation:** evaluation will be based on participation, regular homework exercises, quizzes, a midterm, and a final exam

**Extra Info:** students registered for RLSP 101-102 are required to attend and pass the sustaining program during the winter study period; credit granted only if both semesters (RLSP 101 and 102) are taken may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

**Prerequisites:** none; this course is for students who have studied less than two years of Spanish in secondary school

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Distributional Requirements:**
Division 1

*Fall 2016*
LEC Section: 01  M-F 10:00 AM 10:50 AM  Instructor: Leyla Rouhi

**RLSP 102(S) Elementary Spanish**
This course focuses on grammar, elementary composition, practice in conversation, and reading of easy modern prose. It is taught by the intensive oral method.

**Class Format:** the class meets five hours a week; students will complete workbook and lab exercises weekly

**Requirements/Evaluation:** evaluation will be based on daily preparation and participation, regular homework assignments, and frequent tests

**Extra Info:** students registered for RLSP 101-102 are required to attend and pass the sustaining program during the winter study period; credit granted only if both semesters (RLSP 101 and 102) are taken may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

**Prerequisites:** RLSP 101; this course is for students who have studied less than two years of Spanish in secondary school

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Distributional Requirements:**
Division 1

*Spring 2017*
LEC Section: 01  M-F 10:00 AM 10:50 AM  Instructor: Kathryn Ringer-Hilfinger

**RLSP 103(F) Intensive Intermediate Spanish**
This course is a continuation of Spanish 101-102. It is designed to help students improve their proficiency in each of the major skill-groups (listening, speaking, reading and writing) while providing an introduction to the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. Classroom activities and homework are designed to increase vocabulary and improve your ability to handle daily life in a Spanish-speaking country, to express your views on complex subjects such as art and politics, and to increase your knowledge of the cultural traditions of Latin America and Spain. Film screenings and readings in Hispanic literature, culture and politics will provide material for in-class discussion and some writing assignments. This course provides the linguistic and cultural training that is necessary to engage the diverse Spanish-speaking communities of Latin America, Spain and the US; it will help to prepare students for further literary and cultural studies as well as provide skills that are increasingly essential in fields such as medicine, law, and education. *Conducted in Spanish.*

**Class Format:** class meets four hours a week

**Requirements/Evaluation:** regular attendance and active in-class participation, workbook exercises and weekly compositions, quizzes, midterm and final exams

**Extra Info:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

**Prerequisites:** RLSP 101-102 or by Spanish placement exam

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Expected Class Size:** 20

**Distributional Requirements:**
Division 1

*Fall 2016*
LEC Section: 01  MWF 10:00 AM 10:50 AM  Instructor: Jennifer French
CON Section: 02  W 02:10 PM 03:00 PM  Instructor: Jennifer French
LEC Section: 03  MWF 11:00 AM 11:50 AM  Instructor: Gene Bell-Villada
CON Section: 04  W 03:10 PM 04:00 PM  Instructor: Gene Bell-Villada

**RLSP 104(S) Upper Intermediate Spanish**
This course is a continuation of Spanish 103. It focuses on the review of grammar as well as on refining writing and speaking skills. A variety of written and audiovisual journalistic media will enable students to deepen their understanding of Hispanic cultures.

**Class Format:** class meets four hours a week

**Requirements/Evaluation:** weekly 1- to 2-page compositions, regularity of class participation, oral reports, frequent quizzes, a midterm and a final exam

**Extra Info:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis

**Prerequisites:** RLSP 103 or by Spanish placement exam

**Enrollment Limit:** 22

**Expected Class Size:** 22

**Distributional Requirements:**
Division 1

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**Spring 2017**

LEC Section: 01   MWF 10:00 AM 10:50 AM   Instructor: Mirta Suquet

CON Section: 02   W 01:10 PM 02:00 PM   Instructor: Mirta Suquet

LEC Section: 03   MWF 12:00 PM 12:50 PM   Instructor: Kathryn Ringer-Hilfinger

CON Section: 04   W 02:10 PM 03:00 PM   Instructor: Kathryn Ringer-Hilfinger

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**RLSP 105(F) Advanced Spanish Grammar and Conversation**

This course focuses on the development of Spanish linguistic accuracy and oral communication skills. Major emphasis is placed on increasing oral fluency through exposure to media, interaction with native speakers, and participation in a variety of communicative activities. In addition, students will perform regular exercises to improve writing and syntax skills. Throughout the course, they will read journalistic and literary texts in order to stimulate oral and written response and to analyze complex grammatical structures within authentic target language contexts.

**Class Format:** lecture/discussion

**Requirements/Evaluation:** evaluation will be based on homework, class participation, quizzes, a midterm and final exam and a series of communicative projects

**Extra Info:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

**Prerequisites:** RLSP 103 and 104 or by Spanish placement exam

**Enrollment Preferences:** first-years, then sophomores, then juniors, and then seniors, with priority to those considering a major in Spanish

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Expected Class Size:** 20

**Distributional Requirements:**
Division 1

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**Fall 2016**

LEC Section: 01   MWF 10:00 AM 10:50 AM   Instructor: Kathryn Ringer-Hilfinger

CON Section: 02   W 01:10 PM 02:00 PM   Instructor: Kathryn Ringer-Hilfinger

LEC Section: 03   MWF 11:00 AM 11:50 AM   Instructor: Kathryn Ringer-Hilfinger

CON Section: 04   W 02:10 PM 03:00 PM   Instructor: Kathryn Ringer-Hilfinger

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**RLSP 199 Spanish in Action: Advanced Communication & Culture for Everyday Life**

This is an advanced communication and culture course that uses real-world materials. This class serves as a bridge between Spanish 105 or Spanish 106 and advanced classes on literature and culture. Through the use of multimedia materials and engagement with local native speakers students will develop their communication and analytical skills as they improve their understanding of contemporary Hispanic/Latino culture and their ability to comprehend and respond to a variety of cultural and social issues and situations. Emphasis will be placed on activities that promote effective speaking and writing skills with the use of advanced structures and complex vocabulary. Students will complete at least one research project and related oral presentation. This course will have a service-learning component in which students engage with the Latino community.

*Conducted in Spanish.*

**Class Format:** seminar/discussion

**Requirements/Evaluation:** active participation in class discussions, engagement with native speakers, short writing assignments, and a final research paper and oral presentation

**Extra Info:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis

**Prerequisites:** RLSP 105, RLSP 106, by Spanish placement exam, or permission of instructor

**Enrollment Preferences:** students who take the Williams College Placement exam and place into RLSP 199, students who have completed RLSP 105 or RLSP 106 and are planning to go abroad, and students returning from one semester abroad

**Enrollment Limit:** 15

**Expected Class Size:** 15

**Distributional Requirements:**
Division 1
RLSP 200(S) Advanced Grammar and Composition through Literature (W)
This course is designed for advanced students who wish to further polish and refine their grammatical, lexical, and writing skills in Spanish. The course may be taken immediately after 105, by placement exam results, or even after students have begun to sample the Department's literature and culture offerings at the 200- and 300-level. Classic works of short fiction by celebrated Latin American authors such as Gabriel García Márquez and Julio Cortázar will be discussed; selected Latin American films will be viewed as well. For written and oral assignments: weekly essays, in-class presentations, and language-laboratory activities.

Class Format: lecture/discussion
Requirements/Evaluation: a weekly essay based on the stories read in class, written lab exercises, participation in the grammatical and literary discussions, quizzes, a mid-term and a final
Prerequisites: RLSP 105, any course 201+, placement exam or permission of instructor
Enrollment Limit: 19
Expected Class Size: 10-19
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1
Writing Intensive

Spring 2017
LEC Section: 01   MWF 11:00 AM 11:50 AM   Instructor: Gene Bell-Villada

RLSP 201 The Spanish Labyrinth
Do Spaniards really dance flamenco and have dinner at 10:00 pm? Does everyone in Barcelona speak Catalan? How can you learn to separate the stereotypical images of Spain from reality? How can we talk about one "Spain", when the country a complex composite of ancient and diverse cultural remnants mixed with recent influxes? How has the vulnerable peninsula survived centuries of violent upheavals and divisiveness; dramatic economic rises and collapses?
In this course we will approach Spain by studying examples of its literary and artistic production, from periods of brilliant cultural exchange, as well as in times of censorship and repression. Some topics of focus will be the Inquisition, the Civil War and contemporary Spain's obsession with its own recent past. Secondary texts will also be provided for historical and socio-political background and reference.
Conducted in Spanish.
Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: active participation in class discussions, oral presentations, short writing assignments, and a final essay
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option
Prerequisites: RLSP 105, or RLSP 200, or results of Williams College Placement Exam, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: Spanish majors and certificate candidates
Enrollment Limit: 18
Expected Class Size: 18
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM   Instructor: Soledad Fox

RLSP 202 Spain's Fin de Siglo and the Crisis of Ideas
In this class we will read the works of some of modern Spain's influential writers from the late part of the nineteenth century and the first three decades of the twentieth. Our aim is to understand how fiction and philosophy represented this significant time in Spain's history. The loss of the war with the U.S. in 1898, the turbulent shifts of power within the country, Spanish regional identities, and the cultural and intellectual movements that shaped Spain on the eve of the Civil War are among the key issues we will address. Our primary sources—largely fiction and poetry by artists such as Miguel de Unamuno, Azorín, Antonio Machado, Pío Baroja—will be complemented with a rigorous study of the cultural landscape of Spain at that time. Our principal engagement with philosophy will be through José Ortega y Gasset, in particular his output from the 1920s.
Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: 2 short papers, one long research paper, and oral presentations
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option
Prerequisites: RLSP 105, or RLSP 200, or results of Williams College Placement Exam, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Limit: 25
Expected Class Size: 15
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM   Instructor: Leyla Rouhi

RLSP 203 From Modernismo to El Boom de la Novela (W)
A survey of some of the leading imaginative writers of Hispanic America. Readings will begin with the modernista poets and go on to include fiction of Mexico by Rulfo, a wide sampling of verse by Pablo Neruda, and narratives of the "Boom" period by authors such as Borges, Cortázar, Lispector, and García Márquez. Conducted in Spanish.

Class Format: seminar
Prerequisites: RLSP 105, or RLSP 200, or results of Williams College Placement Exam, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Limit: 19
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1
Writing Intensive
Other Attributes:
GBST Latin American Studies Electives

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM Instructor: Gene Bell-Villada

RLSP 204 Icons and Imaginaries: Culture and Politics in Latin America (D)
This course provides an overview of Latin American culture and politics by focusing on some of the most recognizable names and faces from the continent's turbulent history: Christopher Columbus, Hernán Cortés and Malintzin, Simón Bolívar, José Martí, Pancho Villa, Eva Perón, Frida Kahlo, Che Guevara, Rigoberta Menchú and Hugo Chávez. In addition to exploring the controversies surrounding each figure and her or his influence within a specific historical context, we'll also unpack some of the overarching issues of Latin American culture and politics: How are nations and nationalism constructed through processes of representation, and what roles do specific iconic figures play in that process? How can popular culture challenge elite representations of the nation and its heroes/heroines, and how durable are the images it produces as expressions of collective will? What opportunities are available to women and sexual minorities in a political culture that has been historically dominated by macho military types? This course fulfills the EDI requirement by enabling students to appreciate the figures that have influenced generations of Latin American women and men and their sense of what is politically possible, while challenging the class to identify the operations of power at work in the construction of the figures themselves. Conducted in Spanish.

Class Format: lecture/discussion
Requirements/Evaluation: political and cultural essays, literature and films, three 5-page papers
Prerequisites: RLSP 105, or RLSP 200, or results of Williams College Placement Exam, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: Spanish majors and qualified first-year students
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 20
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1
Exploring Diversity
Other Attributes:
GBST Latin American Studies Electives

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
LEC Instructor: Jennifer French

RLSP 205 The Latin-American Novel in Translation
Crosslistings: RLSP 205/COMP 205
A course specifically designed to enable students who have no knowledge of Spanish to read and discover those Latin-American authors who, in the twentieth century, have attracted world-wide attention. Among the texts to be discussed: Borges, Labyrinths; Cortázar, Blow-up and Hopscotch; Lispector, the Hour of the Star lesser works by Fuentes and Puig; and by Nobel Prize-winner Gabriel García Márquez, One Hundred Years of Solitude.

Class Format: lecture
Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, two brief papers, a midterm, and a final exam
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 22
Expected Class Size: 22
Dept. Notes: does not carry credit for the Spanish major or the certificate
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1
Other Attributes:
GBST Latin American Studies Electives

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
LEC Instructor: Gene Bell-Villada

RLSP 206(S) Latin-American Civilizations
An introduction to the multiple elements constituting Latin-American culture. Class assignments include readings from selected Latin-American essayists and screenings of classic films. Particular focus on the conflict between local and foreign cultural traditions. Areas to be considered: Spanish Catholicism, the influence of European liberalism and U.S. expansion, the Indian and African contribution, and the cultural impact of social revolution in Mexico and Cuba. Conducted in Spanish.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: two essays on assigned topics, one oral presentation, active discussion of the ideas and the facts presented in class, a midterm, and a final
Prerequisites: RLSP 105, or RLSP 200, or results of Williams College Placement Exam, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 20
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Spring 2017
SEM Section: 01   MR 02:35 PM 03:50 PM   Instructor: Gene Bell-Villada

RLSP 208 The Spanish Civil War in Literature and Film
The Spanish Civil War (1936-1939) has generated a vast bibliography and filmography that to this day reflect widely antagonistic interpretations of the conflict itself, its roots, and its impact. From the Spanish perspective, the war is the most important single event in understanding modern Spain. The ideals, passions, and consequences of the Spanish Civil War still divide Spaniards and have been recreated and relived by writers, artists, and filmmakers, and debated by historians. The course will begin with a historical introduction to the origins, development, and outcome of the war. Was the Spanish war a national struggle or an international struggle played out on Spanish soil? Along with studying internal Spanish political divisions, we will also consider the impact of the foreign policy positions of other countries—including Germany, Italy, the United States, and Russia—vis-à-vis Spain, as well as the role of the thousands of foreign volunteers who formed the International Brigades and came from all over the world to fight against Franco. With this historical basis, we will see how the themes and issues of the war are reflected in Spanish poetry, short fiction, novels, and films from the time of the war up through the present day. Readings will include works by Ayala, Cernuda, Neruda, Goytisolo, Sender, Fernan-Gomez, and Matute. Films will include documentaries as well as classic and contemporary features. Conducted in Spanish.
Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluations will be based on lively class participation, an oral report, short written assignments, and two papers
Prerequisites: RLSP 105, or RLSP 200, or results of Williams College Placement Exam, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Limit: 20
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1
Other Attributes:
FMST Core Courses

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM   Instructor: Soledad Fox

RLSP 209 Spanish for Heritage Speakers: Introduction to Latina/o Cultural Production
Crosslistings: LATS 209/RLSP 209
This course focuses on the acquisition and improvement of critical communication and analytical skills in Spanish for use both in and outside of the United States. We address all four of the primary language skills (listening, reading, writing, and speaking), with particular attention to the unique needs of students who have received a majority of their exposure to the Spanish language in informal or domestic environments. Through the use of materials and vocabulary taken from a variety of real-life contexts, but with primary emphasis on the diverse Latina/o communities of the United States, this class aims to sharpen heritage speakers' sociolinguistic competency and ability to interpret musical, cinematic, and literary texts in Spanish. Please note that students who have completed the majority of their formal education in a Spanish-speaking country are not permitted to take this course without prior permission of the instructor.
Class Format: discussion
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation will be based on student participation, grammar homework, 2 oral exams, and 3-4 written essays
may not be taken on a pass/fail basis
Prerequisites: none; however, students who have completed the majority of their formal education in a Spanish-speaking country are not permitted to enroll in this course without prior permission of the instructor
Enrollment Preferences: Latina/o Studies concentrators or Spanish majors by seniority
Enrollment Limit: 12
Expected Class Size: 12
Distribution Notes: meets Division 2 requirement if registration is under LATS; meets Division 1 requirement if registration is under RLSP
Distributional Requirements:
Division 2
Other Attributes:
LATS Core Electives

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM   Instructor: Maria Elena Cepeda

RLSP 210 Spanish Phonetics and Phonology
This course focuses on the linguistic study of the Spanish sound system. Students will practice phonetic transcription and application of phonological rules. We will explore how pronunciation varies across dialects of the Spanish-speaking world and differences between
English and Spanish phonetics and phonology. Laboratory work will be conducted with the goal of improving student pronunciation and analyzing native Spanish pronunciation. Offered in Spanish.

Class Format: lecture
Requirements/Evaluation: active participation in class discussions, laboratory work, final research paper and presentation
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option
Prerequisites: RLSP 105, RLSP 106, RLSP 199, RLSP 209 or permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: priority will be given to students who have completed RLSP 105/106, RLSP 199, RLSP 209
Enrollment Limit: 15
Expected Class Size: 15
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
LEC Instructor: Kathryn Ringer-Hilfinger

RLSP 211(F) A Survey of Spanish Literature from the 11th to the 17th Centuries (D)
This course will introduce the student to some of the major works of Spanish literature from its beginnings through the Golden Age. We will study the historical context in which the works were written as well as the literary history of the periods in question. Students will learn methods of textual analysis through readings of relevant literary criticism. Readings will include selected canonical prose, poetry, and drama of the periods; special emphasis will be given to the myth of the coexistence of three religions in Iberia and the often misguided idea of dividing this literature into the categories of 'medieval' and 'Renaissance'. Conducted in Spanish. This course fulfills the pre-1800 requirement for the Spanish major
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation will be based on class participation, short paper assignments, and a final paper
Prerequisites: RLSP 105, or RLSP 200, or results of Williams College Placement Exam, or permission of instructor
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1
Exploring Diversity

Fall 2016
LEC Section: 01   MWF 12:00 PM 12:50 PM   Instructor: Leyla Rouhi

RLSP 214 "Ecologismo": Literature, Culture and the Environment in Latin America (D)
Crosslistings: RLSP 214/ENVI 218
How have Latin American authors and artists responded to environmental concerns, from the logging and rubber booms that threatened the Amazon in the early 20th century to contemporary global warming? How do the realities of Latin American societies—including massive disparities of wealth and poverty; the cultural and political impacts of the region's indigenous populations; and the complex histories of colonialism, dependency and neoliberalism—inform Latin American responses to environmental issues? How does Latin America's "environmental imaginary" differ from those of the US and Europe? In this course we will explore these issues and more through literature and other cultural texts from Latin America. We will consider short stories and novellas by authors including Horacio Quiroga (Uruguay), Luis Sepúlveda (Chile), Mempo Giardinelli (Argentina), and Ana Cristina Rossi (Costa Rica); poetry by Esthela Calderón (Nicaragua), Juan Carlos Galeano (Colombia), Homero Aridjis (Mexico); the paintings of Tomás Sánchez (Cuba); and feature films as well as shorter documentaries. In Spanish. This course satisfies the EDI requirement because it is inspired by and organized around Arturo Escobar's notion of "the political ecology of difference": our work throughout the semester aims to understand the myriad ways in which "difference"—economic, ecological, and cultural— informs Latin American responses to environmental degradation. We will also explore some of the ways that contemporary artists and intellectuals attempt to revise forms of subjectivity understood as characteristically Western and modern through creative cultural engagement with Amerindian knowledge and forms of expression.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation based on three 5- to 7-page essays, reaction papers, oral presentations, active and informed class participation
Prerequisites: RLSP 105, or RLSP 200, or results of Williams College Placement Exam, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: Spanish majors, Envi majors and concentrators
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 15
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1
Exploring Diversity

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM Instructor: Jennifer French

RLSP 215(S) The Other Caribbean: Identity, Subalternity, and Resistance (19th-21st Centuries)
The Hispanic Caribbean has been viewed as an exotic place since colonial times. This perception was exploited in the Golden age of Hollywood and has been revived in contemporary times through a neo-exotic lens focused on touristic consumption. In this way, region is reproduced in the imaginary as a place of enjoyment and pleasure. This course critically analyzes this imaginary and focuses on the cultural complexity of the Hispanic Caribbean in order to highlight the traces of traumatic experiences that have marked the region: colonization, slavery, the processes of creolization and transculturation, the political conflicts of the 20th century (Rafael Trujillo’s dictatorship, the Cuban Revolution and the disagreement Cuba/USA, the relationship between Puerto Rico and the United States), emigration and exile. We also explore together the quest for and critique of
national and ethnic identities through the analysis of literary works and other artistic expressions (painting, cinema, music) from the 19th century to the present. We will examine the early modern imagining of the uncivilized island savage (emblematized by the figures of Prospero and Caliban), and then we will approach the voice of the slave Francisco Manzano (Autobiografía) and the romantic representations of 19th century anti-slavery narrative (Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda’s Sab). We will study the mulata myth and the imaginary of the monster (in Cirilo Villaverde’s Cecilia Valdés). The course will also delve into the symbol of the “stain” (“mancha”) in relation to the consolidation of Creole identity (Luis Lloró’s La mancha de plátano) and the representation of guilt as a negative mark: the complicity of intellectuals with power (Juan Bosch’s “La mancha indeleble”). We will study important Caribbean authors such as Luis Palés Matos, Nicolas Guillén, René Marqués, Rosario Ferré, Luis Rafael Sánchez, Ana Lydia Vega, Reinaldo Arenas, Heberto Padilla, among others. Conducted in Spanish.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation will be based on lively class participation, an oral report, short written assignments, and two papers
Extra Info: not available for the fifth course option
Prerequisites: RLSP 105, or placement exam, or Department recommendation
Enrollment Preferences: majors in Spanish, certificate students in Spanish, Latino/Latina Studies students
Enrollment Limit: 19
Expected Class Size: 15

Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Spring 2017
SEM Section: 01   TF 01:10 PM 02:25 P   Instructor: Mirta Suquet

RLSP 217T Love in the Spanish Golden Age (W)
The principal focus of this course is the Spanish "comedia" of the seventeenth century (with supplemental readings from prose and poetry) to provide us with a dynamic and critical understanding of the theme of love as constructed by the greatest dramatists and authors of the period. Works by Lope de Vega, Tirso de Molina, Calderón, Cervantes, San Juan de la Cruz, and others will show us how the theme was treated from diverse perspectives, and how it related to key concepts such as honor, religion, and artistic creativity. Conducted in Spanish or English depending on student ability.

Class Format: tutorial
Requirements/Evaluation: students will meet with the instructor each week in groups of two, one student will read a 5-pg paper, left in advance for the tutorial partner, and the other will critique the paper; evaluation is based on the quality of the wkly essays& critiques
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis, not available for the fifth course option as well as evidence of preparation, punctuality of submission, and quality of discussion; by the end of the semester each student will have produced around 25 pages of writing
Prerequisites: RLSP 105, or RLSP 200, or results of Williams College Placement Exam, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: students with a background in literature
Enrollment Limit: 10
Expected Class Size: 10

Distributional Requirements:
Division 1
Writing Intensive

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
TUT   Instructor: Leyla Rouhi

RLSP 220 Women on the Verge
Crosslistings: RLSP 220/WGSS 222
From the early twentieth century to the present day, the radical changes in the lives of Spanish women have clearly reflected the tug of war between progress and tradition in recent Spanish history. The dramatic upheavals in Spanish politics have marked and transformed the lives of women to such a great extent that one can often gauge the political and social climate of any given historical moment by considering how the role of women was defined by the law, the Catholic church, education, and other social and political institutions. Using literary and historical texts as well as films and graphic materials, this course will look at the transformations in the public and private lives of Spanish women during the following periods: the turn of the century, the Second Republic, the Spanish Civil War, the Franco years, and the transition to democracy.

Class Format: seminar
Prerequisites: RLSP 105, or RLSP 200, or results of Williams College Placement Exam, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: Spanish and Comparative Literature majors
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 20
Distribution Notes: meets Division 1 requirement if registration is under RLSP; meets Division 2 requirement if registration is under WGSS
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Not Offered Academic Year 2017
SEM   Instructor: David Colbert-Goicoa
RLSP 223T Colonial Landscapes: Latin America’s Contemporary Environmental Literature (D) (W)

Crosslistings: RLSP 223/ENVI 223/COMP 263

"It is not by coincidence that our societies are both racist and anti-ecological," wrote the Chilean sociologist Fernando Mires in his new-classic study, *The Discourse of Nature*. This tutorial explores works of contemporary literature that implicitly and explicitly link Latin America's ongoing environmental crisis to the region's long and multi-layered history of colonialism: novels by Sylvia Iparraguirre (Argentina), Mayra Montero (Puerto Rico), Giaconda Belli (Nicaragua), Luis Sepúlveda (Chile); poetry by Homero Aridjis (Mexico); essays by Octavio Paz (Mexico), Eduardo Viveiros de Castro (Brazil), and more. Representing a wide variety of geographies, literary styles and ideological perspectives, these writers nevertheless converge in challenging us to consider the effects of environmental crisis within structures of power that are radically unequal at the local, national, and global levels; and to recognize that consciousness of environmental vulnerability can prompt new forms of inclusion and community as well as exclusion. Topics to be explored also include the role of indigenous cosmologies in contemporary environmental politics, the place of urban ecologies within the environmental imaginary, and the ongoing debates among academic critics and others regarding the scope and methodologies of ecocriticism as an approach to Latin American literature.

Students have the option of tutorial in Spanish or in English; partners will be assigned accordingly. Each tutorial pair will meet with me for one hour during the week, during which time we will discuss a 5-page paper that one of the partners has submitted the night before. This adds up to a substantial amount of (reading and) writing for each student in the course, i.e., six 5-page essays over the course of the semester. This tutorial meets the goals of the Exploring Diversity Initiative by challenging students to position themselves, intellectually and imaginatively, in the space of those excluded from modernity's material benefits as they struggle to brace themselves against its catastrophic environmental effects.

**Class Format:** tutorial

**Requirements/Evaluation:** each tutorial pair will meet with me for one hour during the week, during which time we will discuss a 5-page paper that one of the partners has submitted the night before

**Extra Info:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis, not available for the fifth course option

**Prerequisites:** RLSP 105, or RLSP 200, or results of Williams College Placement Exam, or permission of instructor

**Enrollment Preferences:** students majoring in Spanish or Environmental Studies

**Enrollment Limit:** 10

**Expected Class Size:** 10

**Distributional Requirements:**

- Division 1
- Exploring Diversity
- Writing Intensive

**Other Attributes:**

- ENVI Humanities, Arts + Social Science Electives

*Not Offered Academic Year 2017*

TUT Instructor: Jennifer French

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RLSP 225(F) Subalternity, Dictatorship, and the Dream of Emancipation: Paraguay, 1811-Present (D) (W)

Paraguay is at once the most "typical" of Latin American countries and the most enigmatic. With a predominantly Guarani-speaking population, enormous disparities of wealth and poverty, and a political tradition that favors authoritarian dictatorship, Paraguay is also celebrated, in certain circles, as the only Latin American nation that actually achieved economic and political independence when the other republics were fast becoming economic dependencies of Britain and the US in the 19th century. This course explores the subjects of subalternity, dictatorship, and the "dream of emancipation" in Paraguay's cultural production of the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. We will examine together the writings of the brilliant novelist Augusto Roa Bastos, especially *Son of Man* and *I the Supreme*; stories and poems by Teresa Lamas, Josefina Pla, and others; Paraguay's rich and vibrant tradition of visual art; and works of classic and contemporary film. *Conducted in Spanish.* This course fulfills the goals of the EDI requirement by challenging students to analyze the ways that structures of power and privilege, articulated at the national and international levels, are manifest in Paraguay, as well as the strategies Paraguayan artists and intellectuals have developed to undermine or contest those structures through creative cultural work. Our explorations will be undergirded by theoretical readings in the fields of postcolonial studies, subaltern studies, and psychoanalysis.

**Class Format:** seminar

**Requirements/Evaluation:** three essays of 5-7 pages, shorter writing assignments, discussion-leading, active and engaged class participation

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Preferences:** Spanish majors

**Enrollment Limit:** 19

**Expected Class Size:** 10

**Distributional Requirements:**

- Division 1
- Exploring Diversity
- Writing Intensive

*Fall 2016*

SEM Section: 01 TF 02:35 PM 03:50 PM Instructor: Jennifer French

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RLSP 301 Cervantes' "Don Quijote" (D) (W)

We will devote the entire semester to the study of one novel: Miguel de Cervantes' *Don Quijote*, published in the early part of the 17th century. We will try to understand the reasons for the novel's immense and ongoing influence on Western literature and thought. To do
so, we will study Cervantes' masterful handling of issues that continue to have an uncanny relevance to our lives today: relationships between men and women, the perception of Muslims by Christians and vice versa, the role of fiction in life, the shapes of mental illness, how we decide who we are, how our governments and families and friends decide who we are, the fun and annoyance of going on a totally disorganized road trip with someone else, the meaning of justice, and the meaning of storytelling, to name a few things. In the process, we will continually set things in context and make sure that we understand what was going on in Cervantes’ world that might better explain what goes on in his novel. Finally, we will find that even an entire semester is not enough to engage fully with this extraordinary work, but we will be very glad that we made some headway.

Conducted in Spanish

Class Format: lecture/discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation; two to three short projects and one final research project

Prerequisites: any 200-level RLSP course at Williams that is conducted in Spanish, or permission of instructor

Enrollment Preferences: Spanish majors and Comp Lit majors with the appropriate command of Spanish

Enrollment Limit: 20

Expected Class Size: 15

Distributional Requirements:

Division 1

Exploring Diversity

Writing Intensive

Not Offered Academic Year 2017

LEC Instructor: Leyla Rouhi

RLSP 303 Cervantes "Don Quixote" in English Translation

Crosslistings: COMP 350/RLSP 303

A close study of one of the most influential and early European novels. Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes (1547-1616 C.E) was a hit in its day in the seventeenth century, and has not ceased to influence artists and thinkers since. Moving between humorous and serious tones, Cervantes takes on several issues in the Quixote: the point of fiction in real life, the complications of relationships between men and women, the meaning of madness, the experience of religious co-existence, the shapes of friendship, and the task of literary criticism, just to name a few. We will read the book in a fine modern English-language translation, and set it in several relevant contexts to better understand its original intellectual horizon—seventeenth-century Spain—as well as the reasons for its continuing relevance.

Class Format: seminar

Requirements/Evaluation: active participation, three short papers, and a final project designed in consultation with the instructor

Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis

Prerequisites: any 200-level literature course in foreign languages, COMP, or ENGL, or permission of the instructor.

Enrollment Preferences: Comparative Literature majors and upperclass students

Enrollment Limit: 30

Expected Class Size: 30

Dept. Notes: does not count toward the major in Spanish

Distributional Requirements:

Division 1

Other Attributes:

ENGL Literary Histories A

Not Offered Academic Year 2017

SEM Instructor: Leyla Rouhi

RLSP 306T(S) Latino Writing: Literature by U.S. Hispanics (W)

Crosslistings: RLSP 306/COMP 302

Writing by U.S. Hispanics constitutes a new voice in American letters. In this tutorial, we will read and discuss work by U.S. Latinos and examine the social backgrounds to their texts. The experiences of immigration and assimilation, and the specific complexities of being both Hispanic and North American will be addressed. Authors to be studied: Jose Antonio Villarreal, Tomas Rivera, Richard Rodriguez, Sandra Cisneros, Rudolfo Anaya, Piri Thomas, Oscar Hijuelos, Cristina Garcia, Junot Diaz and historical texts by Carey McWilliams, and Rodolfo Acuña. Given the absence of a critical consensus around these recent titles, our task is to gain some sense of their common traits as a tradition, and place them within the larger body of literature of the Americas and the world. The tutorial will examine one work or set of authors per week. A student will bring, written out in full, an oral presentation focusing on the artistic features and sociocultural content of the assigned reading. Questioning of the presenter, on the part of the second tutee and the tutor, will follow.

The course is designed to accommodate both Spanish and English speaking students. A student able to read and speak Spanish will be paired with another student of similar proficiency. Students who neither read nor speak Spanish will be paired together.

Class Format: tutorial

Requirements/Evaluation: five short oral presentations/papers (about 20-25 minutes) and a final longer one (about 40-45 minutes)

Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis

Prerequisites: some previous course work in any literature beyond the 100 level is helpful; students selecting the Spanish option for credit toward the Spanish major must have taken at least one 200-level RLSP course or seek permission of the tutor

Enrollment Limit: 10

Distributional Requirements:

Division 1

Writing Intensive

Other Attributes:
RLSP 308 The Subject of Empire: Race, Gender and Power in the Colonial Era (D)
This class studies Latin American literature of the colonial era (1492-1898) from the perspective of the constitution of the subject: the autobiographical 'yo' that is both the subject of discourse and the object of sovereign power. Our readings will include the most outstanding texts of the group collectively known as the Chronicles of the Conquest—the letters of Christopher Columbus and Hernán Cortés and Bernal Díaz del Castillo's True History of the Conquest of New Spain, among others—whose authors endeavor to establish their historical authority and legitimate their actions before the Spanish king. We will also read later works in which racially and sexually marginalized subjects struggle to contest the identities and the conditions imposed on them by a distant sovereign through far-reaching institutional networks: the mestizo historian known as El Inca Garcilaso de la Vega, the cross-dressed soldier Catalina de Erauso, the poet Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, and the slave Juan Francisco Manzano.

This course fulfills the objectives of the Exploring Diversity Initiative by challenging students to examine the historical negotiation of individual and collective identities within the context of violent, exploitative and exclusionary structures of power.

Class Format: lecture/discussion
Requirements/Evaluation: one short (7-page) paper, one longer (15-20 page) paper, proposal, bibliography, discussion-leading
Prerequisites: one RLSP course at the 200-level or above or permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: Spanish majors
Enrollment Limit: 19
Expected Class Size: 12
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1
Exploring Diversity
Other Attributes:
GBST Latin American Studies Electives
Not Offered Academic Year 2017
LEC Instructor: Jennifer French

RLSP 319(F) Dictatorship and the Latin-American Novel
Military dictatorship is among the most crucial factors in Latin-American society and history, and some of the continent's leading novelists have taken upon themselves to depict the experience in their work. In this course we will examine both the fact of dictatorship itself and the diverse representation thereof in Spanish-American fiction. Novels by García Márquez, Vargas Llosa, Poniatowska, and Tomas Eloy Martínez will be closely studied. Students will also read Absalom! Absalom! by Faulkner, whose influence on Latin-American authors' techniques of representation has been decisive and profound. (This course offering is a slightly modified version of a previous senior seminar, RLSP 403, "Power, Repression, and Dictatorship in the Latin-American Novel."
Conducted in Spanish.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: three 8-page papers, an oral report, a final 3-page paper, and class participation
Prerequisites: RLSP 105, or RLSP 200, or results of Williams College Placement Exam, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: Spanish majors; Latino Studies concentrators
Enrollment Limit: 10
Expected Class Size: 5-10
Distributional Requirements:
Division 1

Fall 2016
SEM Section: 01 MR 02:35 PM 03:50 PM Instructor: Gene Bell-Villada

RLSP 322(S) Islam in Spain (D)
Crosslistings: RLSP 322/ARAB 322
The presence of Islam—in all its diverse manifestations—is not new to Europe, least of all to Spain. In this course we will focus for the most part on the medieval and early modern periods, and study several works—primarily of literature, though we will supplement with other texts—in which Muslims and Islam have been portrayed in the Iberian Peninsula. We will cover a wide range of perspectives that include Christian and Muslim writers as well as converts on both sides. While the bulk of the course is focused on the period prior to 1700 CE, we will devote the final few weeks of class to the study of Islam in contemporary Spain using fiction, legal debates, and issues related to immigration. Conducted in Spanish.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: two short papers, oral presentations, one final project
Extra Info: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option
Prerequisites: any RLSP 200-level class, or results of the Williams College Placement Exam, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Preferences: Spanish majors, Arabic Studies majors
Enrollment Limit: 20
Expected Class Size: 15
**Distributional Requirements:**
Division 1
Exploring Diversity

**Spring 2017**
SEM Section: 01  MWF 09:00 AM 09:50 AM  Instructor: Leyla Rouhi

**RLSP 352 Writing after the Disaster: The Literature of Exile**

**Crosslistings:** COMP 352/JWST 352/RLSP 352

This course will consider different kinds of works (poetry, memoirs, fiction, essay) written by authors forced to live in exile as a consequence of political and/or religious persecution. Our point of departure will be the paradigmatic expulsion and subsequent diaspora of the Jews of Spain and Portugal. Most assignments, however, will be drawn from twentieth century texts written during, or in the wake of, the massive destruction and displacements brought about by the Spanish Civil War and World War II. How is the life lost portrayed? How are the concepts of home and the past intertwined? What kind of life or literature are possible for the deracinated survivor? We will discuss the role of writing and remembrance in relation to political history, as well as in the context of individual survival. Readings might include works by Nuñez de Reinoso, León, Cernuda, Semprún, Benjamin, Nancy, and Blanchot.

**Class Format:** seminar

**Requirements/Evaluation:** active participation in class discussions, an oral presentation, several short writing assignments, a midterm paper and a final paper

**Prerequisites:** COMP 111 or an equivalent ENGL course

**Enrollment Preferences:** Comparative Literature majors

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Expected Class Size:** 20

**Distribution Notes:** meets Division 1 requirement if registration is under COMP or RLSP; meets Division 2 requirement if registration is under JWST

**Distributional Requirements:**
Division 1

**Other Attributes:**
GBST Borders, Exiles + Diaspora Studies Electives
JWST Core Electives

*Not Offered Academic Year 2017*
SEM  Instructor: Soledad Fox

**RLSP 402 Senior Seminar: Power, Repression, and Dictatorship in the Latin-American Novel**

Military dictatorship is among the most crucial factors in Latin-American society and history, and some of the continent's leading novelists have taken it upon themselves to depict the experience in their work. In this course we will examine both the fact of dictatorship itself and the diverse representation thereof in Spanish-American fiction. Novels by García Márquez, Vargas Llosa, Poniatowska, and Tomas Eloy Martínez will be closely studied. Students will also read *Absalom! Absalom!* by Faulkner, whose influence on Latin-American authors' techniques of representation has been decisive and profound. *Conducted in Spanish.*

**Class Format:** seminar

**Requirements/Evaluation:** three papers based on the readings, one oral report on the life and personality of a given dictator, and a final exam

**Prerequisites:** any 300-level RLSP course or two 200-level RLSP courses or permission of instructor

**Distributional Requirements:**
Division 1

*Not Offered Academic Year 2017*
SEM  Instructor: Gene Bell-Villada

**RLSP 402(S) Senior Seminar Madrid: 1939-2004**

In this course we will examine life in Madrid during two key periods: the Franco Dictatorship (1939-1975), and the first four decades of democracy (1975-2016). We will consider how representations of urban landscapes (churches, convents, prisons, museums, slums, bars and schools) have shaped and reflected the lives of madrileñas and madrileños past and present. We will study works by 20th century and contemporary Spanish authors, filmmakers, photographers, and journalists, as well as period advertisements and examples of popular culture. How was Madrid's image as international capital of art, sun, soccer and bullfighting forged? What remnants of the past lurk behind this appealing façade? How do the Atocha train Station bombings of 2004 relate to unresolved political tensions from 1939?

**Class Format:** seminar

**Requirements/Evaluation:** active participation in class discussions, oral presentations, short writing assignments, and a final essay

**Extra Info:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

**Prerequisites:** any 300 level RLSP course or permission of instructor

**Enrollment Preferences:** Spanish majors and certificate candidates

**Enrollment Limit:** 10

**Expected Class Size:** 10

**Distributional Requirements:**
Division 1
**Spring 2017**
SEM Section: 01   W 01:10 PM 03:50 PM   Instructor: Soledad Fox

**RLSP 493(F) Senior Thesis: Spanish**
Spanish senior thesis/
**Class Format:** independent study
**Extra Info:** this is part of a full-year thesis (493-494)
**Distributional Requirements:**
Division 1

**Fall 2016**
HON Section: 01   TBA   Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak

**RLSP 494(S) Senior Thesis: Spanish**
Spanish senior thesis/
**Class Format:** independent study
**Extra Info:** this is part of a full-year thesis (493-494)
**Distributional Requirements:**
Division 1

**Spring 2017**
HON Section: 01   TBA   Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak

**RLSP 497(F) Independent Study: Spanish**
Spanish independent study.
**Class Format:** independent study
**Distributional Requirements:**
Division 1

**Fall 2016**
IND Section: 01   TBA   Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak

**RLSP 498(S) Independent Study: Spanish**
Spanish independent study.
**Class Format:** independent study
**Distributional Requirements:**
Division 1

**Spring 2017**
IND Section: 01   TBA   Instructor: Katarzyna Pieprzak