

# FRENCH PLACEMENT INSTRUCTIONS

## Fall 2023

Dear Prospective French Student,

Welcome to Bard! We are delighted that you are interested in taking French classes at Bard. For us to determine the best level in which to place you, please complete the following steps between now and the end of L&T. It will make it easier for us to find the right course for you during registration advising on August 31st and Registration on September 1st.

1. ***Emmersion Placement Test:*** Reading/Grammar, Speaking

Using the Chrome or Firefox web browser, click the following link to do the test <https://app.emmersion.ai/link/3b459cddc0>. Follow the instructions to sign in. Do not stress about it, it is simply a tool to help us find the best placement for you.

2. ***An in-person meeting with prof. Eric Trudel and Marina van Zuylen,*** during Registration Advising (Thursday, August 31st and Friday, September 1st). We look forward to meeting you at the end of L&T. For any question, please contact Prof. Trudel by email at [trudel@bard.edu](mailto:trudel@bard.edu)

**\*\*NOTE:** Intensive Basic French will be offered in the spring of 2024. If a student has some proficiency in the language, they should contact Professor Éric Trudel to discuss the best placement based on their current language skills.

### ***European Painting/Age of Revolution***

Course Number: ARTH 257      CRN Number: 91860      Class cap: 22      Credits: 4  
Professor: Laurie Dahlberg  
Schedule/Location: Tue Thurs 1:30 PM – 2:50 PM Fisher Studio Arts ANNEX  
Distributional Area: AA Analysis of Art  
Crosslists: French Studies; Victorian Studies

### ***Inventing Modernity: Commune, Renaissance, and Reformation in Western Europe, 1291-1806***

Course Number: HIST 184      CRN Number: 92449      Class cap: 22      Credits: 4  
Professor: Gregory Moynahan  
Schedule/Location: Mon Thurs 1:30 PM – 2:50 PM Olin 201  
Distributional Area: HA Historical Analysis  
Crosslists: French Studies; German Studies; Italian Studies

### ***Black Modernisms***

Course Number: HIST 2271      CRN Number: 92050      Class cap: 15      Credits: 4  
Professor: Tabettha Ewing  
Schedule/Location: Wed Fri 3:30 PM – 4:50 PM Olin 305  
Distributional Area: HA Historical Analysis D+J Difference and Justice  
Crosslists: Africana Studies; French Studies; Human Rights

### ***Proust: In Search of Lost Time***

Course Number: LIT 215      CRN Number: 92457      Class cap: 22      Credits: 4  
Professor: Éric Trudel  
Schedule/Location: Tue Thurs 1:30 PM – 2:50 AM Olin 101  
Distributional Area: LA Literary Analysis in English  
Crosslists: French Studies

### **Intermediate French I**

Course Number: **FREN 201**

CRN Number: **91975**

Class cap: **22**

Credits: **4**

Professor: **Odile Chilton**

Schedule/Location: **Mon Tue Thurs 8:50 AM – 9:50 AM Olin Languages Center 120**

Distributional Area: **FL Foreign Languages and Lit**

For students with three to four years of high school French or who have acquired a solid knowledge of elementary grammar. In this course, designed as an introduction to contemporary French civilization and culture, students will be able to reinforce their skills in grammar, composition and spoken proficiency, through the use of short texts, newspaper and magazine articles, as well as video. Students will meet in small groups with the French tutor for one extra hour per week.

### **Intermediate French II**

Course Number: **FREN 202**

CRN Number: **91976**

Class cap: **18**

Credits: **4**

Professor: **Gabriella Lindsay**

Schedule/Location: **Tue Wed Fri 11:50 AM – 12:50 PM Olin Languages Center 120**

Distributional Area: **FL Foreign Languages and Lit**

For students with three to four years of high school French or who have acquired a solid knowledge of elementary grammar. In this course, designed as an introduction to contemporary French civilization and culture, students will be able to reinforce their skills in grammar, composition and spoken proficiency, through the use of short texts, newspaper and magazine articles, as well as video. Students will meet in small groups, with the French tutor for one extra hour per week.

### **French Through Film**

Course Number: **FREN 220**

CRN Number: **91977**

Class cap: **22**

Credits: **4**

Professor: **Odile Chilton**

Schedule/Location: **Mon Wed 10:10 AM – 11:30 AM Olin Languages Center 120**

Distributional Area: **FL Foreign Languages and Lit**

In this intermediate course we will explore major themes of French culture and civilization through the study of individual films ranging from the silent era to the present and covering a wide variety of genres. We will examine the interaction between the French and their cinema in terms of historical circumstances, aesthetic ambitions, and self-representation. Conducted in French.

### **The Quest for Authenticity: Topics in Literature in French**

Course Number: **FREN 240**

CRN Number: **91978**

Class cap: **18**

Credits: **4**

Professor: **Gabriella Lindsay**

Schedule/Location: **Tue Thurs 1:30 PM – 2:50 PM Olin Languages Center 120**

Distributional Area: **FL Foreign Languages and Lit D+J Difference and Justice**

Crosslists: **Literature**

Serving as an overview of modern and contemporary literature in French, from the 18<sup>th</sup> century to our days, this class will focus on short texts (poems, plays, essays, letters, short stories) that reflect the fragile relationship between selfhood and authenticity. From Rousseau's ambitious program of autobiography to Ndiaye's project of paranoid self-portraiture, literature in French has staged with relish the classic tension between art, artifice, and authenticity and the ways in which this tension relates to forms of politics, power and postcoloniality. This has not only inaugurated an intensely individual and unstable relationship to the notion of truth, but has implicated the reader in this destabilizing process. This class will explore how the quest for authenticity has led to radical reevaluations of literary style. Readings from Rousseau, Lamartine, Hugo, Balzac, Baudelaire, Rimbaud, Apollinaire, Édouard, Ponge, Sartre, Camus, Ernaux, Chamoiseau, Condé, Ndiaye, and others. Taught in French. By addressing the ways in which notions of authenticity interact with questions of otherness, politics, and ethics, this course fills the Difference and Justice requirement.

## ***Absolutely Modern: French Poetry from Baudelaire to the Present***

Course Number: **FREN 346**

CRN Number: **91979**

Class cap: **16**

Credits: **4**

Professor: **Eric Trudel**

Schedule/Location: **Mon 3:10 PM – 5:30 PM Aspinwall 302**

Distributional Area: **FL Foreign Languages and Lit**

Crosslists: **Literature**

This course surveys some of the major trends and figures in modern and contemporary French poetry, from the mid-nineteenth to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Will be considered, in turn, Charles Baudelaire's "disfiguration" of poetry into prose; Mallarmé's determination to "cede the initiative to words;" Guillaume Apollinaire's embrace of the "Spirit of the New;" André Breton's surrealist tactics; Césaire's revolutionary lyricism; Francis Ponge's materialism; Anne-Marie Albiach's minimalism; and Emmanuel Hocquard's littéralisme. We will also study radical experiments by the likes of Pierre Alferi, Olivier Cadiot and Anne Portugal who, more recently, have attempted to reinvigorate a genre often deemed to have become "inadmissible." Throughout the semester, our aim will be to retrace the legacy of the lyrical tradition over the course of a century and a half, as we compare many competing accounts of an ongoing "crise de vers" (a "crisis of verse") and interrogate the fate of a progressively emaciated "I". Close reading will be at the core of this seminar; students will be asked to engage regularly in translation. Works by Alferi, Baudelaire, Apollinaire, Aragon, Bonnefoy, Breton, Cadiot, Cendrars, Char, Doppelt, Éluard, Fourcade, Foglia, Guillevic, Hocquard, Jaccottet, Mallarmé, Michaux, Perros, Prigent, Ponge, Portugal, Rimbaud, Roche, and Valéry, among others. Taught in French.