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## FRENCH (Ph.D.)

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*Executive Officer:* Professor Peter Consenstein

The Graduate Center

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### **FACULTY (AS OF JULY 2009)**

André Aciman ■ Marlene Barsoum ■ Maxime Blanchard ■ Antoinette Blum ■ Michele Bocquillon ■ Royal S. Brown ■ Jerry W. Carlson ■ Mary Ann Caws ■ Peter Consenstein ■ Sam Di Iorio ■ Giuseppe C. Di Scipio ■ Evelyne Ender ■ Edouard Glissant ■ Marilyn Hacker ■ Hermann W. Haller ■ David Andrew Jones ■ Andrea Khalil ■ Paul LeClerc ■ Giancarlo Lombardi ■ Clement Mbom ■ Nancy K. Miller ■ Julia Przybos ■ Bernd Renner ■ Helena Anna Christina Rosenblatt ■ Rémy Joseph Roussetzki ■ Francesca Canadé Sautman ■ Lucienne J. Serrano ■ Eve Sourian ■ Thomas Spear ■ Domna C. Stanton ■ Kathryn M. Talarico

*For the most up-to-date faculty listings and specializations, see the program's Web site.*

### **THE PROGRAM**

In addition to its strong traditional training in the history, periods, genres, and theories of French literature, the Ph.D. Program in French offers an emphasis on interdisciplinary study. It stresses the relations between French literature and the arts, including music and film, between literature, French civilization, philosophy, political thought, psychology, and psychoanalysis, as well as between French and other literatures. Attention is given to textual analysis, stylistics, semiotics, and critical theory, as well as to feminism and to Francophone literature.

An option in Translation covers theories, techniques, terminology, and specific applications. A practicum provides for individual projects supervised by a faculty committee.

An option in Comparative Studies includes courses in the theory and methods of comparing literatures, the relations of French literature to the visual arts and to other disciplines, and courses tailored to the student's particular interdisciplinary interests. An individual project will be worked out with a committee of faculty.

An option in French Cultural Studies stresses the connections between French literature and other disciplines, the need to develop new theoretical frameworks for French studies, to prepare doctoral candidates to teach civilization courses to undergraduates, and to think critically about a French curriculum that incorporates a variety of cultural issues considered along interdisciplinary lines.

An option in International Issues in the French-speaking world focuses on questions of human rights and citizenship. This option draws in particular on a solid preparation in Francophone literature that provides a rich exploration of voice, identity, creolization, transnationalism, and migration. It also make use of courses addressing literature and politics and

combines with credits taken outside of the French program in other disciplines, such as law, history, or political science, as well as other literatures. The option includes an internship with a human rights organization and a postinternship theoretical unit of study.

An option in French Literature and Performance Studies recognizes the increasing importance given to art, media studies, and the relationship of body, text, and space in French studies. It stresses the importance of other modes of communication beyond the mere verbal text in performing arts. It incorporates the study of literary and visual texts with a strong theoretical preparation—and with practical explorations of theoretical and creative modes in relation to performance in the French-speaking world. Students are encouraged to choose additional courses in related disciplines. See also the Certificate Programs in Film Studies, Medieval Studies, Renaissance Studies, and Women's Studies.

All courses are given as seminars at the Graduate Center, the great majority in French, some in English. All students enrolled in the program must have an excellent working knowledge of the French language. A list of courses and descriptions may be procured from the French office and the Web site. All courses are scheduled in the afternoon and evening. Teacher training is mostly done on-site at the various CUNY campuses through courses and workshops. Colleges in the CUNY system, as well as other colleges and universities in the New York area, frequently hire our students as part-time instructors. A majority of the doctoral students teach or have taught, and others are encouraged to gain experience as teachers.

The doctoral faculty in French, composed of scholars known for their experience in directing advanced research and for their publications, provide attentive counseling to students, supervision of independent study, and advice on placement and publication opportunities. In addition to the program's 20 professors, lecturers from other universities and from abroad are often invited to the Graduate Center for colloquia. Meetings each semester with faculty and students provide opportunities to exchange views on literary and methodological matters and to discuss ongoing projects. A library containing the essential tools for research, the standard texts and works of criticism, and many scholarly periodicals is located at the Graduate Center, including volumes donated in honor of Henri Peyre, the program's founder. The ample resources of branches of the New York Public Library, with its wide range of holdings in French literature, are available nearby.

### *En-route M.A.*

Upon completing 45 credits with an average grade of B, passing the First Examination, passing the Latin and modern foreign language examinations, and satisfactorily completing a major research paper, the student may apply for an M.A. degree. The primary focus of this M.A. may be on translation studies. The degree is awarded formally by one of the participating colleges.

### *Master of Philosophy*

Upon completion of all requirements for the Ph.D. degree except the dissertation, students may apply for the master of philosophy degree.

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## **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION**

In addition to meeting the general University requirements for admission stated earlier in this bulletin, the applicant ordinarily must have completed a bachelor of arts degree with a major in French, but students from other disciplines may be admitted where the applicant demonstrates comparable preparation adequate to pursue doctoral study in French.

## **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

The following requirements are in addition to the general University requirements for the Ph.D. stated in an earlier section of this bulletin.

*Course of Study* A minimum of 60 credits beyond the bachelor's degree are required for the Doctor of Philosophy in French. All students must take a minimum of one course in each of seven periods/areas of French literature: Medieval, Sixteenth Century, Seventeenth Century, Eighteenth Century, Nineteenth Century, Twentieth Century, and Francophone/Contemporary. They may take these required courses at any time during their course of study, provided they complete them before 60 credits. They may elect to take one of the seven as a combination of one- or two-credit courses. All students will take two 3-credit courses in theory/criticism, whether in the French program or in another program at the Graduate Center. They must complete these courses before 60 credits but may choose the area/s in which they take the course, in accordance with the list of theoretical fields prepared by the program. They are, however, urged to take at least 3 credits of theory per 30 credits.

Sixteen credits out of 60 may be taken in fields and disciplines outside of the French program and must be approved by the Executive Officer. Students with 24 or more transfer credits are allowed 9 credits of courses outside of the program. All students, upon entering the program, will be required to take a two-semester research seminar, FREN 77010 and FREN 77020, Techniques of Literary Research, along with a French literary history course, FREN 71110, in the fall semester, and a course in literary history or theory offered by the French program, at the students's choice, to be completed as early as the spring semester of the first year, and not later than the spring semester of the second year. All new students will have to complete this group of four courses within the required time. First Year students must take the two techniques courses and the French Literary history courses for 4 credits each during their first year of study. There is no 2-credit option for them in these courses..

Students who have not already studied at a European university are advised to provide for some period of study abroad in their schedules.

*First Examination* The first written examination will be completed in the core research seminar and the two literary history or theory courses, from the first to the end of the second year of study when the student successfully passes the general in-class exam given at the end of each of these four courses. The content of the exams will pertain to general literary history and to critical tools. A regular written in-class exam is given at the end of each of the three required courses. Completing all parts of the First Examination and 45 credits of coursework allows the student to move to Level II.

*Second Examination* The Second Examination consists of two sections: written and oral. The written section consists of four exams in periods of French literature, chosen by the students out of the seven they must take. A minimum of one exam must be in the premodern peri-

od, defined as Middle Ages, Renaissance, and seventeenth century. A minimum of two must be in the modern period (eighteenth to twenty-first century). Two examinations must be in English and two in French. The oral section must be taken by the end of the semester following completion of 60 credits of course work, but may be taken by 45 credits. The orals consist of three separate questions related to the prospective dissertation. They are problem-oriented and based on reflection on both primary and critical/theoretical sources, with reading lists constituted by the candidate of at least ten works per question. Two questions will be treated in French and one in English.

*Foreign Language* In addition to mastery of written and spoken French and English, students must demonstrate a reading knowledge of Latin essential to literary study and of a second modern language pertinent to the candidate's field of study. Proficiency may be demonstrated by passing a reading examination or by completion of a City University course approved by the Executive Committee (please refer to the program handbook).

*Dissertation* The candidate is required to write a dissertation on a subject approved by a committee of the doctoral faculty. The proposal must be presented for approval within six months after the orals. After approval of the dissertation by the committee, the candidate will defend the dissertation at a final oral examination.

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## Courses

Unless otherwise stated, all courses are *either 2 credits or 4 credits*. Courses in which the topic changes may be repeated for credit with permission of the student's adviser. Please note that some courses may be offered infrequently; consult with the program for further information.

- ROM LANG 70000 Studies in Romance Philology
- FREN 70100 History of the French Language
- FREN 70300 Style and Stylistics
- FREN 70400 Textual Analysis
- FREN 70500 Literary Criticism
- FREN 70600 Contemporary French Culture and Civilization
- FREN 70700 Literature and French Film
- FREN 70900 Readings in Old French
- FREN 71000 Studies in Medieval Literature
- FREN 71110 Problems in French Literary History
- FREN 72000 Studies in Renaissance Literature
- FREN 73000 Studies in Seventeenth-Century Literature
- FREN 74000 Studies in Eighteenth-Century Literature
- FREN 75000 Studies in Nineteenth-Century Literature
- FREN 76000 Studies in Twentieth-Century Literature
- FREN 77010 Techniques of Literary Research  
*4 credits*
- FREN 77020 Techniques of Literary Research  
*4 credits*

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FREN 77100 Symbolism, Its Precursors and Its Heritage  
FREN 77200 Surrealism, Its Precursors and Its Heritage  
FREN 77300 Structuralism and Post-Structuralism  
FREN 77400 Women and French Literature  
FREN 77800 Theory and Practice of Translation I: French to English  
FREN 78000 Theory and Practice of Translation II: English to French  
FREN 78100 Genre, Mode and Theory  
FREN 78200 Literary Translation: Theories and Practice  
FREN 78300 Studies in Semiotics  
FREN 78400 Problems in Translation  
FREN 78600 Practicum in Translation  
FREN 78800 Technical Translation

*Not for credit toward Ph.D. degree*

FREN 79110 French Canadian Literature  
FREN 79120 Francophone Literature of the Caribbean  
FREN 79130 Francophone Literature in Africa  
FREN 79140 Francophone Literature of the Maghreb

### ***Seminars***

In each of the following seminars, one or more topics will be selected for detailed analysis. The seminars will carry from 3 to 5 credits. The specific subject, credits, and hours for each seminar will be announced in advance. With the permission of the student's adviser, a particular seminar may be repeated for credit when the topic changes.

FREN 80100 Special Topics in Linguistics  
FREN 80200 Evolution and Structure of the French Language  
FREN 81000 Seminar in Medieval Literature  
FREN 82000 Seminar in Renaissance Literature  
FREN 83000 Seminar in 17th-Century Literature  
FREN 84000 Seminar in 18th-Century Literature  
FREN 84200 Eighteenth-Century Novel  
FREN 84300 The Philosophical Movement  
FREN 85000 Seminar in 19th-Century Literature  
FREN 85100 Problems in the Modern Novel  
FREN 85200 From Baudelaire to the Present  
FREN 86000 Seminar in 20th-Century Literature  
FREN 86100 Intensive Study of a Major Figure in the Twentieth Century  
FREN 86200 Seminar in the Theatre  
FREN 86300 Seminar in Narrative  
FREN 86400 Seminar in the Essay  
FREN 86500 Seminar in Poetry and Poetics  
FREN 87000 Seminar in Literary Theory and Criticism  
FREN 87100 French Paradigms in Western Thought

FREN 87200 French Literature in Relation to Other Arts or Disciplines

FREN 87300 Problems in the Theory of Literature

FREN 87400 Special Topics in French Literature

FREN 87500 Independent Study

*Variable credit (1-5 credits)*

FREN 89000 Teaching French in College

FREN 90000 Dissertation Supervision

*1 credit*