



Department of French and Francophone Studies
Residential Program – Gregory College House
T: 6-7PM - W: 6-7PM

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MAISON FRANÇAISE
FREN 180-301
Syllabus Fall 2020



The standing stones of Carnac

Course description:

La Maison Française is a Modern Languages Program (MLP) that meets twice a week. It intends to develop conversational skills in French for Gregory residents, and to expose them to French culture and contemporary debates.

La Maison Française will meet on Zoom on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6 to 7PM: <https://upenn.zoom.us/j/92519786421>. It is open to everyone!

Stay tuned and join our new group 'Maison Française Fall 2020' on GroupMe: https://groupme.com/join_group/61335427/ctquHZIm. All are welcome!

Course Credit:

Gregory residents can register for Advanced French in Residence FREN 180-301 with departmental permission and earn ½ credit per semester. Grades will be based on class attendance and participation. Each student is expected to take part in the discussions in class and to participate in the elaboration of the FH News numeros. Because of the online format, each student will be also asked to lead a 30 minute discussion on the subject of their choice over the semester (date of their choosing).

The Maison Française remains open to all Penn students for non-credit.

Absences:

You may not miss more than the equivalent of one week of class during the semester (**i.e. 2 classes**). After 2 absences your final grade in the class will be lowered by one sign with each subsequent absence. (So if a student were to receive a A, but has had one more absence than authorized, their grade would be lowered to a A-. If the student missed another class, the grade would be lowered to a B+, etc). Repetitive lateness will count as one absence.

- If you have more than 2 absences, you will be given the possibility to submit a written assignment on a topic of your choice (either a small essay in French or in English; or additional article(s) in the French House News). These extra works will prevent you from having your final grade lowered in case of several absences.**

Sessions:

Our weekly sessions alternate between (1) informal conversations about French news: “*Cette semaine en France*,” and (2) culturally focused activities: “*Point Culture*.”

- (1) “***Cette semaine en France***” traces contemporary developments in France through the media. We will look at French news through different media (articles, audio, video) and discuss current French issues.
- (2) “***Point Culture***” explores the French culture and its history. The students will be immersed in French culture through readings, games, creative writings, etc. while having the opportunity to review their French grammar and expand their vocabulary.

These sessions aim to provide a meaningful context of what it is to live in France and to be French nowadays, in comparison to students’ native culture. Sessions will be supplemented and occasionally supplanted entirely by special events, including but not limited to guest lectures, film screenings, and other cultural events accessible online.

If you would like to broaden your understanding of some particular French aspects you are interested in or curious about, you are encouraged to propose ideas of discussions and/or activities in order to stay involved in our Fall program. All suggestions are welcome!

FH News:

Once a month, we will dedicate one hour to summarize, in English, the main topics discussed during the previous weeks. The project is to organize these summaries into columns in order to create a French House newspaper. Students can also write on other French or Francophone topics not addressed in class.

The FH News is intended to be a monthly paper which will be circulated within Gregory College House and Penn's French department.

CALENDAR FOR FALL 2020 SEMESTER						
Week:	Date:	Event:	Note:			
1	T 09/08/2020	Introductory Meeting and Games				
	W 09/09/2020	Cette semaine en France	Le tour de France*			
2	T 09/15/2020	Point Culture	Le système scolaire français			
	W 09/16/2020	Cette semaine en France	La rentrée scolaire en période de pandémie*			
3	T 09/22/2020	Movie: <i>Les quatre cent coups</i> (no meeting, please watch the movie accessible on Kanopy: https://upenn.kanopy.com/video/400-blows)				
4	T 09/29/2020	Point Culture	La Nouvelle Vague* + discussion sur le film <i>Les quatre cent coups</i> *			
	W 09/30/2020	FH News n° 7 (no meeting, please send your articles to lguihard@sas.upenn.edu)				
5	T 10/6/2020	Cette semaine en France				
	W 10/7/2020	Point Culture	Suggestion?			
6	T 10/13/2020	Cette semaine en France				
	W 10/14/2020	Jeu de piste virtuel dans les rues de Paris à l'aide de Google Maps				
7	T 10/20/2020	Movie: <i>Comme un chef</i> (no meeting, please watch the movie accessible on Kanopy: https://upenn.kanopy.com/video/le-chef)				
8	T 10/27/2020	Point Culture	La gastronomie française + discussion sur le film <i>Comme un chef</i> *			
	W 10/28/2020	FH News n° 8 (no meeting, please send your articles to lguihard@sas.upenn.edu)				
9	T 11/3/2020	Cette semaine en France				
	W 11/4/2020	Point Culture	Le système politique français			
10	T 11/10/2020	Trivia: testez vos connaissances sur la France et la culture française				
	W 11/11/2020	Point Culture	La Première Guerre Mondiale* (anniversaire de l'armistice)			
11	T 11/17/2020	Movie: <i>La Reine Margot</i> (no meeting, please watch the movie accessible on Kanopy: https://upenn.kanopy.com/video/queen-margot-la-reine-margot)				
	W 11/18/2020	Point Culture	Les guerres de Religion* + discussion sur le film <i>La Reine Margot</i> *			
12	November 24-25		Thurs-Fri Class Schedule on Tue-Wed			
13	T 12/01/2020	FH News n° 9 (no meeting, please send your articles to lguihard@sas.upenn.edu)				
14	T 12/8/2020	Movie: Suggestion ? (See Kanopy's selection of French Language Cinema: https://upenn.kanopy.com/s?query=&sort=most-popular&sm_vid_14=French&sm_vid_3=World%20Cinema)				

	W	12/9/2020	Discussion sur le film* + discussion (au choix: Point Culture/Cette semaine en France)*
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*: You can lead your 30 minute discussion on the days marked by an asterisk, open to suggestions, or where no subject is specified. If you choose a “Point Culture” slot, then you must present on a cultural topic. If you choose a “Cette semaine en France” slot, then you must present on recent French or Francophone news. Please email any material (articles, videos, drawings, etc) that you may use to your instructor at least 24h before your presentation, these will be shared with the rest of the class beforehand.

=> **Note: Syllabus is subject to change.**