Fall 2019 Featured Courses

FRENCH 651  Studies in Medieval Literature: Theory, Criticism, and the Romance of the Rose  
Peggy McCracken  Mon 1-4 pm  #30695  
This seminar has two primary goals. The first is to read the Romance of the Rose, one of the most influential literary texts of the French Middle Ages, and we’ll take the entire semester to explore this complex work. The second goal of the seminar is to use the Romance of the Rose to explore a wide variety of approaches to medieval literature (and to literature more broadly). We will explore readings of the romance through narratology, psychoanalysis, historicism, ecology, classical reception, translation theory, feminist theory, gender theory, and queer theory, among other approaches.

ITALIAN 415  Topics in Italian Studies: Italy and the Muslim World/ISLAM 490  Advanced Topics in Islam  
Karla Mallette  MW 2:30-4 pm  #30917/ #33141  
In this course, we will study the long, entangled history that links Italians and Muslims, in the Italian peninsula and beyond. We’ll start with the history of Sicily as Islamic state and Italian trade with Muslim cities throughout the Mediterranean. The course will cover the Crusades in the eastern Mediterranean – as conflict and as a period of intensified cultural and commercial exchange. And we’ll study contemporary topics like the migration crisis that has brought hundreds of thousands of Muslim migrants to Italian shores; mosques in Italy; films made by Italians about the Muslim Mediterranean, and made by Muslims about Italy; and Italian clothing designers’ collections of hijabs and modest clothes for the modern Muslim woman. Taught in English.

ITALIAN 422  Politics and Literature: Global Fascism: Legitimizing State Violence Across the Atlantic  
Meets-with  INTLSTD 470.001 International Studies: Special Topics & HISTORY 445.002 Topics in History  
Giulia Riccò  MW 11:30 am-1 pm  #28115 / #33176/ #34862  
How can an ideology that seems to fit so perfectly the needs of a particular national experience adapt to many different historical, social, and economic contexts? In its global approach to fascism, this course aims to show that since its theorization in the early twentieth century, this ideology has produced similar trends in state violence in disparate geographical spaces. Taught in English.

ROMLANG 528  Teaching Romance Languages  
Stephanie Goetz  Mon 9 am-12 pm  #20233  
This course provides incoming language instructors with opportunities to explore their own beliefs about foreign language learning and teaching, through an overview of communicative language instruction readings and discussions related to theoretical issues and the practical implications of theory.

ROMLANG 681  Introduction to Graduate Study  
Alejandro Herrero-Olaizola  Fri 10 am-1 pm  #16933  
In their first term, graduate students take the Introduction to Graduate Studies Seminar, designed to introduce students to the various dimensions of graduate education.

SPANISH 640  Minority Literature and Cultures of the Iberian Peninsula: Medieval Iberian Otherness  
Meets-with  COMPLIT 730.001 Seminar in Literary Movements and Periods  &  MEMS 611.001 Special Topics in Medieval and Early Modern Studies  
Ryan Szpiech  Wed 1-4 pm  #33487/#36082/#26968  
This seminar will explore cultural production in the Iberian Peninsula dealing with otherness, difference, and foreignness in the Middle Ages.

SPANISH 829  Literature and Politics in Latin America: Race and Space in 19th Century Latin America  
Ana Sabau Fernandez  Thurs 1-4 pm  #30728  
Racialized modes of seeing, imagining, mapping, and living space played a fundamental role in forging the nation-state in 19th Century Latin America. In this graduate seminar, we will explore how different forms of written and visual culture mediated the contested production of “racial geographies” in the aftermath of struggles for independence in the region. Primary sources will include novels, poetry, political essays, legal codes, maps, and other forms of visual media. Secondary reading materials will include scholarly texts and critical theory on racialization and the production of space.

SPANISH 855  Special Topics Seminar: Histories of Architecture Against  
Ana María León  Tues 1-4 pm  #39463  
This course focuses on the challenges of writing histories of architecture, the built environment, and its representation in opposition to capital, the state, and other types of power. We will examine the ways in which power is exerted over territories and subjects, the work of agents within, against, or outside these systems, and the challenges of writing about these spatial struggles. Readings complicate art and architecture historiography with the work of Postcolonialism, the Black Radical Tradition, Latin American Marxism, Decolonization theory, intersectional feminism, and other groups.