



Map attributed to the Abbé Claude Bernou charting lands identified by Marquette and Jolliet while en route to Louisiana.

# NEW ORLEANS AND FRANCOPHONE LOUISIANA

In New Orleans and Louisiana, French is a living language. In no other city or state in the Union is French culture so integrally built into the urban fabric and its heritage still so vitally in play. The strong appeal of our nationally and internationally program both demonstrates that place matters: students who choose Tulane understand the compelling logic of pursuing their passion in a city so thoroughly steeped in its Francophone past. Located in what is often referred to as "the northernmost city of the Caribbean," Tulane is at the crossroads of the two Americas and the larger Atlantic world, and in proximity to Haiti and the French Antilles. Students at Tulane have unique opportunities for exploring the French, Creole and Cajun cultures of Louisiana. Our location af.ords us a privileged vantage point from which to observe other situations of localized or marginalized languages and cultures in their relationship to broader, often hegemonic forces: France's regional languages (Occitan, Breton, Alsatian, etc.) in conflict with the official language revered as a symbol of national unity; immigrant cultural practices in conflict with French cultural norms; creole languages stigmatized as corrupt forms of the standard; etc. In our

GRADUATE STUDIES IN FRENCH AT TULANE UNIVERSITY

various fields of research, a focus on the local provides both a revealing lens through which to view the global and a healthy check on universalizing theories of culture and language.

Students at Tulane benefit from access to rich archival resources on campus and in the city, including the Hogan Jazz Archives, the Amistad Research Center (primary source materials pertaining to the history of America's ethnic minorities, race relations, and civil rights), the Historic New Orleans Collection, the Cabildo (formerly the seat of the Spanish government), the New Orleans Public Library and the New Orleans Notarial Archives (documents in French dating to the early eighteenth century). They also benefit from the linguistic laboratory that is "Acadiana," where they can do fieldwork on the region's vernacular varieties of French. Francophone Louisiana provides a revealing lens through which students can form distinctive perspectives marked by a focus on the local as it is shaped by, and in turn helps to shape, the global.

## GRADUATE PROGRAM

From Occitan to Louisiana Creole, from codex to hypertext, graduate study at Tulane fosters a comprehensive and integrative approach to French Studies. With an international faculty covering a broad range of research and teaching interests, our program allows students to choose from a rich variety of courses and encourages them to approach the study of language, literature and civilization through transhistorical and cross-cultural perspectives. This kind of comparative engagement provides students with intellectual depth and interdisciplinary dynamism. The program's areas of strength include Francophone and Afro-Caribbean Studies, cultural studies and cultural history, critical theory, political theory, gender studies, film theory, creole linguistics, European and African philosophy, performance studies and poetics.

Applications will be considered for admission to the M.A. or the Ph.D. program. However, for admission with financial support, preference will be given to applicants who plan to pursue the Ph.D., whether they enter our program with the B.A. or the M.A.



Students from Prof. Klingler's French in Louisiana course gather around a basin full of soft-shell crabs during a field trip to Pointe-au-Chênes.

#### PH.D. COURSE WORK

Students must complete a minimum of 54 hours including transfer work and/or work already completed for the M.A. degree. It is expected that course work will be finished by the end of the third year of study. Students graduate with a Ph.D. in French Studies and a concentration in one of four integrated areas:

Francophone colonial and post-colonial cultures. Atlantic, Caribbean and African area studies; creole(s) and creolization; Islam in France and Beur culture.

Visual cultures and technologies. Film; urbanism; new media and performance.

European studies. Human rights; political, cultural and institutional histories; medical anthropology; ethnopsychiatry.

Language and Identity. Literary theory, philosophy, ethics and law, minority languages and identities, world languages and literatures.

The Ph.D. will be conferred on the basis of completed course work, exams, and reading competence in a language pertinent to field of study, such as Arabic, Creole (both taught within the Department), Spanish, Italian, Latin, German, or Old Occitan.

## SAMPLING OF GRADUATE COURSES

#### FIELD RESEARCH ON FRENCH IN LOUISIANA

Prof. Klingler. A hands-on introduction to linguistic fieldwork using Francophone Louisiana as a laboratory. Students travel to Louisiana's Francophone communities to interview native speakers of Louisiana French and Louisiana Creole. They then transcribe and analyze the recordings in an effort to document these endangered languages and to better understand the rich complexity of Louisiana's linguistic landscape. This is a service learning course in which students contribute to the communities in which they conduct fieldwork. In recent years this contribution has taken the form of a documentary video of local Francophone culture, the latest of which is Le bijou sur le Bayou Teche.

## HISTORY OF FRENCH LANGUAGE

Prof. Poe. If you have ever wondered why French ville does not rhyme with fille, why fils 'son' has an s in the singular, or why the 3rd pers. sg. of dormir is dort even though there is no t in the stem, then FREN 6210 History of the French Language is the course for you! FREN 6210 traces the development of French from the 1st through the 15th centuries. It also teaches the basic grammar of the French preserved in literary texts of the 12th and 13th centuries. By studying the factors that transformed Latin into French, students will learn to recognize these same "vulgarizing" factors at work in spoken French and English today.

## PARIS AS SPECTACLE

Prof. Ramazani. Paris as spectacular mise-en-scène; Paris as allegory of modernity; Paris as sensation and sensationalism; Paris as sublime cliché: this course explores the central role of the myth of Paris in the late nineteenth-century visual and literary construction of the French national imaginary. We consider an array of cultural artifacts and practices, including boulevards, flânerie, and early forms of mass spectatorship, and we seek to understand the emergence of film in the context of pre-cinematic techniques and technologies. We look as well at some classic and contemporary films that either perpetuate or problematize the idea of Paris as France's privileged symbol of identity and power.

#### L'HOMME MACHINE

Prof. Falaky. This course seeks to trace the literary genesis of the android. From the legends of the golem and the homunculus to the popular automata of the eighteenth century and the robot culture of contemporary society, we shall analyze the different literary manifestations of artificial creatures. The purpose of this course is to explore the reasons that push man to assume a power belonging a priori to the Creator, and to try to understand what this simulacrum of Genesis tells us about how man perceives and conceives himself in the world and in life.

## FRENCH CULTURAL STUDIES

Prof. McCarren. French Cultural Studies students will become familiar with the definition and history of Cultural Studies, from its origins in the UK and application across humanities departments in US universities to the current range of French/Francophone cultural studies research in French and in English. Readings on cultural history and practices, elite and popular culture, culture dominante and the state ( la politique culturelle, l'exception culturelle), cultural encounter, notions of cultural identity, performance and resistance, and French debates around multiculturalism.

#### LA PEINE DE MORT: A CHALLENGE

Prof. Bidima. The death penalty is a major issue in philosophy and in law. The stakes of this issue could be summarized in terms of questions: does the transgression of law justify the suppression of life? How and why do our postmodern societies, with their rhetoric of the rule of law and the preservation of the environment, accept the death penalty? Is there any alternative to the death penalty? How do our societies, with their democratic views, still act within the framework of vengeance? In order to answer these political, sociological, and legal questions, we call upon various theorists, including the Italian philosopher Beccaria, the scientist Arthur Koestler, the novelist Albert Camus, the poet Victor Hugo, and the philosopher Michel Foucault. This course raises ethical and political questions regarding this important and challenging issue.

## WRITING ALGERIA: TRAUMA, MELANCHOLIA, FICTION

Prof. Tamalet. This course explores representations of trauma and processes of memorialization in postcolonial Algeria. Through a study of literary, cinematic, and cultural texts, we will examine multiple challenges to FLN-sponsored readings of national history and the myth of the national liberation struggle. What roles do literature and culture play in the elaboration of collective memory? How do reimaginings of the past on the mythical or historical modes foster a political praxis of the present? Drawing from the corpus of Memory Studies, Trauma Studies, and Postcolonial Theory, as well as theoretical texts on post-Freudian concepts of melancholia, we will investigate issues of allegory, amnesia, testimony, myth, utopia, and deterritorialization. Representative authors include Kateb, Farès, Camus, Daoud, Bachi, Mokeddem, Djebar.

#### **TEACHING FRENCH**

Prof. Sojic. "Teaching French" is a seminar and practicum course providing teaching assistants with an understanding of the underlying principles of learning and teaching a second language, as well as opportunities to acquire practical skills to apply when teaching French. Topics include classroom management, organization of subject matter, detailed lesson planning, development of formative and summative assessment, and the use of technology in the French classroom. Course activities include micro-teaching experiences within the seminar, observation in college classrooms, teaching experience in a lower-level French class, discussion, review of pedagogical techniques and evaluation of textbooks.

## THEATER AND LAW IN SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY FRANCE

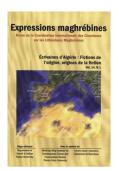
Prof. Wikström. In the 1600s both lawyers in the courtroom and actors on the stage used rhetoric, dramatic gestures and ceremonial clothing to present the story of a transgression before an assembly. This course allows students to explore the profound connections between the theater and the juridical domain during the seventeenth century, a major period of French drama. Students discuss the staging of legal themes such as crime and punishment, the juridical

status of women, the exercise of royal power and early modern international law in plays by Corneille, Molière, Racine, Chrétien, Montfleury and others. Critical perspectives are afforded by psychoanalytical theory, the philosophy of law and performance theory.

## MIGRANT, DIASPORIC AND TRANSNATIONAL LITERATURES

Prof. Sabo. This course explores "migrant" literary texts written in French by late 20th and 21st-century authors who have immigrated to France and Québec. Migrant literature will be studied as an emergent genre of contemporary literature that destabilizes linguistic national categorizations, proposing transnational frameworks for the writing reading of literature today. To understand how migration affects literary culture in a global age, political contexts as well as radical changes in the definitions publishing industry and shifting of authorship will be thoroughly considered. Students will read literary texts written by a variety of migrant authors such as Vassilis Alexakis, Ying Chen, Dai Sijie, Milan Kundera, Dany Laferrière, Anna Moï, and Gisèle Pineau, but also crucial theoretical texts in order to determine the distinctiveness of this genre.

## **EXPRESSIONS MAGHREBINES**



The Department houses Expressions maghrébines, the leading peer-reviewed journal of the Coordination Internationale des Chercheurs en Littératures Maghrébines (CICLIM), under the editorship of Edwige Tamalet Talbayev since January 2015. Inspired by Tulane's location in New Orleans, America's most Francophone

city, the Department has always prided itself in providing its students with the opportunity to study different areas of the world where French has historically been a cultural, political, and literary means of expression. With its editorial office now among us, Expressions maghrébines is one more testimony to our program's long-standing leadership in the field of Francophone Studies.

## **DEPARTMENT COLLOQUIA**

The Department maintains a rich intellectual life, organizing conferences and hosting numerous distinguished scholars every year. Recent colloquia and roundtables include "The Writing of Modernity: 19th Century French Literature and Visual Culture" featuring Peter Brooks (Princeton), Jonathan Culler (Cornell) and Richard Terdiman (UC Santa Cruz); "Politics, Ethics and Transnational Memory" with Madeleine Dobie (Columbia), Farzaneh Milani (U of Virginia) and Debarati Sanyal (UC Berkeley); and "Enough Said? Reexamining Orientalism in 2013" with participants drawn from French & Italian, Arabic, English and Communication at Tulane.

Other recent guest speakers include Christian Biet (University of Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense), Joan DeJean (Penn), Mark Dimunation (Library of Congress), Charles Forsdick (U of Liverpool), Françoise Grenand (CNRS), Timothy Hampton (UC Berkeley), Laura Hengehold (Case Western Reserve), Deborah Jenson (Duke), Suzanne Marchand (LSU), Warren Motte (U of Colorado Boulder), Mohamed-Salah Omri (Oxford), Alison Rice (Notre Dame), Marta Segarra (U of Barcelona), Domna Stanton (CUNY Graduate Center), Rebecca Walkowitz (Rutgers) and Michel Zink (Collège de France). Recent artistic speakers include Louisiana poet Kirby Jambon and Francophone authors Fabienne Kanor and Anderson Dovilas.



From left to right: Professor Zink and PhD Students Annie Doucet, Leslie Dingeldein, and Adam Dexter taking a selfie.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

In support of Tulane University's mission, the Department of French and Italian also offers great opportunities for community outreach and service related to the students' course work or research agenda. The alliance of civic engagement and academic training plays an important role in several of our courses. Community partners range from local French immersion schools to historical museums in New Orleans and the rest of Louisiana.

## **ENS EXCHANGE**

Tulane has a yearly exchange with the École Normale Supérieure. The appointments are normally given to a student in the fourth or fifth year of graduate study and include a traveling fellowship to cover airfare and living expenses. Our graduate students also have a variety of exchange opportunities for summer study in France and Belgium.

## **LAGNIAPPE**



Second Line Parade in the Marigny and French Quarter neighborhoods. Treme Brass Band.

In Louisiana, lagniappe refers to a little something extra storeowners give for good measure. Tulane, New Orleans, and South Louisiana offer myriad cultural events and activities that complement graduate study. On campus, these include film screenings, pause-cafés, mini-seminars, and roundtable discussions on French theory. New Orleans and Louisiana boast a vibrant cultural scene featuring such attractions as the New Orleans Museum of Art, the Ogden Museum of Southern Art, the Contemporary Art Center, the New Orleans Opera, the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, the Voodoo Festival, the Festival International de la Musique in Lafayette, Cajun and Zydeco music performances in and around New Orleans, and, of course, annual Mardi Gras parades and festivities.

## **FACULTY**

## JEAN-GODEFROY BIDIMA

Ph.D. Université de Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne. Yvonne Arnoult Chair in Francophone Studies. Research includes continental philosophy, Francophone literature and art, African philosophies, juridical anthropology and medical ethics. Publications include numerous articles and four books: Théorie critique et modernité négro-africaine: De l'Ecole de Francfort à la "Docta spes africana" (1993); La philosophie négro-africaine (1995); L'art négro-africain (1997); and La palabre: Une juridiction de la parole (1997).

## FAYÇAL FALAKY

Ph.D. New York University. Associate Professor. Faycal is a specialist in 18th-century French literature, culture and politics. His research is broadly concerned with Enlightenment philosophy and literature and the history of modernity. He has published articles in journals such as Forum for Modern Language Studies, Journal of Eighteenth-Century Studies and European Journal of Political Theory. He is also the author of *Social Contract, Masochist Contract: Aesthetics of Freedom and Submission in Rousseau* (SUNY Press, 2014).

#### THOMAS KLINGLER

Ph.D. Indiana. Associate Professor. French linguistics; creole studies; Louisiana French; dialectology; lexicography. His research focuses on documenting and describing endangered French and Creole in Louisiana, as well as on understanding the relationship between language use and identity in Louisiana's multiethnic Francophone communities. Selected publications: If I Could Turn my Tongue Like That: The Creole Language of Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana (LSU Press, 2003); "How much Acadian is there in Cajun?" (2009); co-editor, Dictionary of Louisiana French as Spoken in Cajun, Creole, and American Indian Communities (University Press of Mississippi, 2009), "Variation phonétique et appartenance ethnique en Louisiane francophone" (2014).

#### FELICIA MCCARREN

Ph.D. Stanford University. Professor. Felicia is a cultural historian and performance theorist, and the author of *Dance Pathologies: Performance, Poetics, Medicine* (1998) and *Dancing Machines: Choreographies of the Age of Mechanical Reproduction* (2003) both from Stanford University Press. Her new book *French Moves; The Cultural Politics of le hip hop* (Oxford University Press, 2013), exploring the urban dance of minorities in France, was awarded the 2014 De la Torre Bueno Prize and the Oustanding Publication of the Year 2014 from the Congress on Research in Dance. Felicia has received Lurcy and NEH funding, and has been invited to teach in graduate programs at NYU-Tisch School of the Arts, Danshogskolen in Stockholm, PARTS in Brussels, and at l'EHESS in Paris.

#### **CHARLES MIGNOT**

PhD. University of Texas at Austin. Professor of Practice. Research interests include French linguistics, second language acquisition, syntax & semantics, cognitive linguistics. He is currently completing research projects on French immersion schools and on the use of pedagogical translation in the classroom.

#### **ELIZABETH POE**

Ph.D. Princeton. Professor. Research interests include troubadour poetry, Occitan narrative, textual transmis-sion, and manuscript studies. Within the Old French literary domain, she has worked on the lais of Marie de France, the fabliaux, and the salut d'amour. She is cur-rently engaged in a project on medieval Occitan gram-mars. She has published two books: From Poetry to Prose in Old Provençal (1986) and Compilatio: Lyric Texts and Prose Commentary in Troubadour Mansucript H (2000).

#### VAHEED RAMAZANI

Ph.D. University of Virginia. Professor of French, Kathryn B. Gore Chair of French Studies. Research interests include 19th-century French literature and culture; critical theory; gender studies; war and media; trauma and cultural memory; international humanitarian law and ethics. He has authored two books: The Free Indirect Mode: Flaubert and the Poetics of Irony (University Press of Virginia) and Writing in Pain: Literature, History, and the Culture of Denial (Palgrave Macmillan). His articles appear in Nineteenth-Century French Studies, Romanic Review, PMLA, Boundary 2, Cultural Critique, SubStance, and various other journals.

#### ALEXANDRA REUBER

Ph.D. Louisiana State University. Senior Professor of Practice. Academic director of summer study abroad program "Tulane in Paris." Research interests: le fantastique; gothic and horror fiction; popular culture studies; adaptation theory; second language acquisition; foreign language pedagogy. Publications include: "Creating Personalized Learning Opportunities in the Foreign Language Classroom: Integration of Online Resources into the Language Learning Process," (2015) in *The International Journal of Communication and Linguistics*, "King's Psychological Gothicism in "The Secret Window': Repression, Illusion, and Parasomnia, or ... How well did you sleep?" (2013) in *The Popular Culture Review*, "Bastille — ou la révolution des emotions," (2013) in *Le Français dans le monde*.

#### **OANA SABO**

Ph.D. University of Southern California. Assistant Professor. Oana's research and teaching interests include 20th- and 21st-century French and Francophone literature, postcolonial theory, globalization studies, migration and diaspora, book history and the contemporary novel. Her current book project, *The World in the Nation: Migrant Authors in the Global Literary Marketplace, 1980-2015,* examines the production, circulation, and reception of contemporary "migrant literature" in French and in English. She has published articles on exile, diaspora, transnationalism and multilingual literature.

## ANNETTE SOJIC

Ph. D. Tulane University. Senior Professor of Practice and Director of the French Language Program. Annette has taught a wide range of courses: from elementary, intermediate and advanced language courses to dual-level courses, including a seminar on 19th century French literature; courses on the French short story; Translation theory and practice; and, most recently, a pedagogy course entitled "Teaching French". Several of her courses are service-learning courses; they have involved community partners such as the Louisiana State Museum and local French immersion schools.

#### **EDWIGE TAMALET TALBAYEV**

Ph.D. University of California, San Diego. Assistant Professor. Research interests include Francophone Postcolonial Studies; Maghrebi literature; Mediterranean Studies; Transnationalism. Has published various articles on the intersection of modernity, postcoloniality, and transnationalism in the Maghreb and the Mediterranean contact zone. Forthcoming publications include a Transcontinental monograph, "The Maghreb: Francophone Literature in a Mediterranean Context," and a co-edited volume on the Mediterranean as a critical concept, "Critically Mediterranean: Aesthetics, Theory, Hermeneutics, Culture." Editor of Expressions maghrébines.

## **TOBY WIKSTRÖM**

Ph.D. Columbia. Assistant Professor. Toby's research focuses on sixteenth- and seventeenth-century literature and culture, with a particular emphasis on globalization, cross-cultural encounters, literature and law, performance, orientalism and Historical Formalism. He is currently working on a monograph entitled *World Theater: Staging Globalization in Early Modern France* which investigates how French theater represented Europe's interactions with extra-European cultures in the global seventeenth century and treated the complex legal issues that arose from intercultural acts of conquest, slavery and conversion. Publications include "Celebrating the Erotic Empire: Montfleury's Glorification of "Ottoman" Sexual and Legal Practices" in L'Esprit créateur (2013).

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Generous awards in the form of fellowships and teaching assistantships are available every year to incoming and continuing students. The awards include full tuition and a stipend of \$21,500 per year for up to five years of Ph.D. study (four years for students entering with the M.A. degree). Additional financial support is available on a competitive basis for research and travel to conferences.



Jacques Aman, Creole in a red turban.

#### BROCHURE CREDITS

Front cover: Guillaume Delisle's Carte de la Louisiane et du cours du Mississippi, 1718.

Page 1: Carte de l'Amérique septentrionale et partie de la méridionale depuis l'embouchure de la rivière St. Laurens jusqu'à l'isle de Cayenne avec les nouvelles découvertes de la rivière de Mississipi ou Colbert by Claude Bernou, 1681.

Back cover: Nouvelle Orléans Capitale de la Louisiane. Map from Antoine-Simon Le Page du Pratz's Histoire de la Louisiane, 1758.

Brochure designed by Alison Popper Design Studio LLC. Updated by Sophie Capmartin.

