

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA, COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES

GREAT FRENCH LOVE STORIES

IN TRANSLATION

FRT 3001-001: T-R 3:30-4:45pm CPR 463

COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT SPRING 2008

AN EXIT COURSE TAUGHT IN ENGLISH

By Dr. GAËTAN BRULOTTE

DISTINGUISHED UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

OUTSTANDING RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2004

PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR FACULTY EXCELLENCE 2003

ASKOUNES-ASHFORD DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR AWARD 1999

PHI KAPPA PHI ARTIST/SCHOLAR OF THE YEAR 1998

Romantic and passionate love is not a natural given of the human condition. It is a cultural phenomenon that has been created in the early stages of civilization and has become a universal concern of mankind. The course will focus on the substantial French contribution to the history of romantic and passionate Love. It will recreate the evolution of this major cultural theme from the early Middle Ages to present.

From a courtly art in the Middle Ages, Love was transformed through mythical figures of seduction such as Don Juan or Casanova and reshaped as it was confronted to the "Age of Reason" during the 18th century when it gave birth to the "libertine" conducts and the cult of seduction for conquest's sake, before becoming a quest for the absolute and a devastating passion during the 19th century, a stroke of luck and a pure wonder at the turn of the 20th, and the only positive intimate and anti-racist value left to the human condition at the beginning of the 21st century.

Get to know the most famous Love stories that have inspired literary masterpieces and fairy tales as well as great painters and sculptors, folk songs and crafts, musicians and filmmakers.

Get familiarized with major issues of this crucial concept of Love and get to understand how it created enduring myths that were among the great seminal ideas of the Western world.

The class will be taught in English but students may elect to read material and submit their assignments in French or in English.

WHAT DID PAST USF STUDENTS THINK OF THIS COURSE IN THEIR FINAL EVALUATION?

"The most amazing course I've ever taken in my life," "by far the best course I have taken during my entire college experience," "definitely my favorite class of all time," "best class and professor I have ever had!" "awesome," "absolutely fantastic," "outstanding," "innovative," "a most memorable experience," "surveys love throughout 2000 years," "excellent," "very interesting," "beautiful," "brilliant," "a delight," "I would recommend anybody who has a heart to take this class," "powerful," "wonderful," "intriguing," "insightful," "profound," "exciting," "thorough," "moving", "unlike others," "enriching," "crucial," "a magnificent course," "a phenomenal experience," "truly exceptional," "a rarity," "I am sad that it is over," "I would take this course again."

OVER PLEASE FOR MORE STUDENTS' COMMENTS

GREAT FRENCH LOVE STORIES IN TRANSLATION

WHAT DID PAST USF STUDENTS THINK OF IT IN THEIR FINAL EVALUATION?

- “The intensity, the depth, the acquisition of knowledge achieved in this class made learning a joy –it was truly what education is all about. This was the best course I have taken at USF –bar none”
- “I have never developed as a student in the ways that this course forced me to. Not only is the work demanding, but it is also very fascinating! Everyday I left class enlightened. My friends want to borrow my notebook just to be as educated as I have become.”
- ”my favorite course ever”
- “this was an amazing class and I cherished every moment of it”
- “my favorite elective throughout the entire university”
- “one of the best I have ever taken at college level”
- “Best course at USF, learned so many different things about literature and life. Very historical as well. Got my money's worth. Awesome experience. Awesome teacher. Awesome!!!”
- “This is my favorite class for the past 5 years that I have been here. It was fun, interesting, and I learned a great deal about love.”
- “It explored the issues of love over many centuries and showed the different trends throughout the years. I will never look at love in the same way. This class was wonderful, I loved it!!”
- “This is an innovative and most beneficial course (...) I have learned and gained so much”
- “I really enjoyed this course and I was given a new perspective in culture, literature and history”
- “I am extremely thankful that I had the opportunity to take this course. (...) I was delightfully amazed at the depth of the content. I was actually surprised that the university allowed for a class with such innovation to be taught. (...) So much more is learned other than the theme of love. I believe it is crucial for our intellectual and cultural cultivation.”
- “extremely interesting. I was able to see the history of our world mirrored through the French Literature of the past 2000 years. I was able to read authors that I haven't had the opportunity to in any other course.”
- “It's not just a class about love, it's a class that teaches the student to think more about how they write, the world around them, the significance of each century, etc. This class probably taught me more history than the majority of so-called history classes I've been exposed to throughout my entire life's education.”
- “learned so much in so little time”
- “a fantastic class and I will recommend it to everyone”
- “This is one of the courses I have enjoyed from the beginning to the end and it will influence my point of view in our everyday life”
- “Our vast coverage of literature was a great experience”
- “I have really enjoyed everything that we have read and a lot of things affected my way of thinking in my own life! It's a wonderful survey of 2000 years that anyone should appreciate...”
- “a very moving class (...) I learned so much (...) it was awesome”
- “a wonderful and intriguing course”
- “A very insightful class! (...) a powerful and intriguing journey (...) Bravissimo!”
- “Great course! This class opened my eyes to a wealth of information that was fascinating”
- “It's taught me so many things that I don't think I would have learned anywhere else”
- “I come out of this class looking at things in a different perspective.”
- ”one of the greatest courses that I have ever taken”
- ”a fantastic exit requirement”
- “College is supposed to make persons into more cultured, educated students. This course has done just that for me”
- “This is by far the most enjoyable class that I have taken at USF.”
- “needs to become mandatory since it is such a credit to USF”
- “an amazing course never would I have given up the opportunity to take this class.”
- ”crucial to the education we get for life”

For more information: Walk-ins, CPR 424: T, W, R: 5-6:00pm

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