RL CLASSES TAUGHT DURING THE 2010-2011 ACADEMIC YEAR

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**FALL 2010**

**RL 407/507: Seminar on Literature and Testimony- Lollini**
This course is based on primary sources, mostly testimonial accounts of personal and historical traumas, and addresses the problem of representing these events in writing. We will discuss how testimonial accounts relate to autobiographical and/or fictional narratives. Is it personal testimony a way of representing historical events from an individual point of view? Or does testimony put itself beyond the limits of representation and of subjectivity? Is this possible? What is a political testimony? Who are the “true” witnesses? The “heroic” individual? The “ordinary people”? The disappeared? The writers? How can a literary work bear witness to an historical and personal trauma? What is the “truth” of testimony? Is it the truth of writing or is it something not accessible through writing? We will explore different approaches to testimony in literature and philosophy including the ethics of Emmanuel Levinas. Readings: Antonio Gramsci's Letters from Prison (selections); Primo Levi, If this is a Man and The Drowned and the saved; Robert Antelme’s The Human Race; Charlotte Delbo, Auschwitz and After; George Semprun’s Literature or life; Italo Calvino's Autobiographical Essays (selections), Albert Camus' The Plague, Vincenzo Consolo’s The Smile of the Unknown Mariner, and I, Rigoberta Menchu, by Rigoberta Menchu, Elisabeth Burgos-Debray, and Ann Wright.

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**RL 608: Workshop on Teaching Methodology -Davis**
This course is an introduction to the basic principles of second language acquisition and their application in classroom settings. Topics covered include instructional techniques for developing the three language modes (presentational, interpretive, interpersonal), standards for foreign language learning, proficiency assessment, content-based instruction (CBI), techniques for...
addressing learner variables, and the role of culture in the L2 classroom. In addition to the theoretical readings and discussions, students will develop a portfolio of teaching materials ready for classroom use. (All lectures and readings are in English; individual projects are prepared in your target language.)

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WINTER 2011

RL 620: Graduate Study in Romance Languages- Middlebrook
Discussion of purposes, problems, and methods of graduate study in Romance languages. Elements of critical method, research techniques, scholarly writing, and professional development.

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SPRING 2011

RL 407/507: Idea of Europe- Gould & Moore
The Idea of Europe is a team-taught, multi-disciplinary course that explores the meaning(s) of Europe past and present, and the conundrum that is European identity. Guest faculty from a variety of disciplines on campus (humanities, social sciences and the arts) lecture weekly on the European legacy as we explore cultural, historical, political and social institutions that continue to inform our ideas of Europe today. While the overall framework is historical, the course is a creative investigation into different perspectives, texts, issues, and disciplinary assumptions--often incompatible or competing--that shape "Europe" as an object of study. Each lecture and selected readings open an aspect of Europe from antiquity to the present. While the course is taught in English, it may bear credit for all degree programs in Romance Languages. Individual exploration of original materials in the European languages is encouraged. Students will be required to keep a reaction journal and to complete a term paper or project on some aspect of Europe. Period 1, 2, 3, 4.

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RL 623: Cultural Legacies of the Haitian Revolution in the Romance Language World- F. Moore & Triana
The Haitian Revolution is the only revolution in the Age of Enlightenment fought for racial equality. Yet this raison d'être often accounts for its consistent omission from historical and literary narratives of this period. We aim to redress this absence by re-centering the Haitian revolution to examine an event with profound hemispheric and transatlantic reverberations. We will examine the philosophical questions raised by the revolution itself as well as its impact on the political and cultural imagination of the modern world. The seminar will include guest speakers to expose students to critical and theoretical issues central to the study of the Haitian revolution in Romance languages and literatures. Readings will combine historical and theoretical approaches (C.L.R. James, Michael Dash, Michel-Rolph Trouillot, Laurent Dubois, Sybille Fisher, David Geggus, Sue Peabody, Jeremy Popkin, Anibal Quijano) with primary
sources including films (by Gillo Pontecorvo, Gloria Rolando, Raoul Peck, Maya Deren), drama (Olympe de Gouges, Lamartine, Aimé Césaire, Maryse Condé), and fiction from the eighteenth century to the present (possible authors include: Antenor Firmin, Claire de Duras, Victor Hugo, Alexandre Dumas, Alejo Carpentier, Rene Depestre, Pedro Mir, Edwidge Danticat, Lyonel Trouillot, Dany Laferrière, Marie Chauvet, Isabel Allende, Madison Smartt Bell, Pablo Armando Fernandez, Myriam Chancy, Dionne Brand, Nalo Hopkinson). While the course is taught in English, it may bear credit for all degree programs in Romance Languages. Period 2, 3, 4. 

SUMMER 2011

**RL 407/507: Travel Literature in the Age of Exploration** (4) July 18-August 12
Travel Literature in the Age of Exploration This course examines French, Italian, and Spanish travel narratives by men and women who traveled in Europe, the Americas, Africa and Asia 1300-1700. Prereq: One 300-level course in any Romance language. return to course list