The following courses are offered in France:

Introduction to Poetry Writing: ENGL 2620

Prerequisites: ENGL 1020

In Paris, the Tour Saint-Jacques

Swaying like a sunflower

Sometimes against the Seine its shadow moves among the tugboats...

-André Breton, "Vigilance," translated by Mary Ann Caws

Students will read modern and contemporary poetry by "expats" who live(d) in France and by French poets in translation. Visiting France will give us access to experiences mentioned in the poems; therefore the assigned reading's accessibility will be enhanced. We will complete writing exercises inspired by our responses to these poems.

Students will have the opportunity to write poems in response to artwork in some of the world's finest museums. Poem assignments will also explore our reactions to aural and other experiential data which comes to us as visitors: outsiders looking in.

Students in a summer version of Introduction to Poetry Writing produce many poems in a short period of time. Since Paris, our main location, is vibrant and exciting, it is an ideal location for churning out work.

For more information about this course please see the course syllabus.

Statistics and Probability: MATH 1530

Prerequisites: None

The students will be expected to gather and analyze statistics about the French culture (including but not limited to demographic, economic, political, entertainment, historical data). This data will be gathered on various excursions, from various sources, etc. The data would include: museum statistics (number of visitors, value of items, etc.), monuments (visitor stats, age of monuments, etc.), church/cathedral statistics (size, type, denomination, visitor stats, active/inactive, etc.), demographics (population, ages, gender breakdown, socioeconomic data, etc.) and other relative items. The data would be analyzed and compared to domestic data for the purpose of understanding concepts. This would help develop a deeper meaning of both the culture and the application of statistics. This will aid in the student developing a sense of meaning for the difference in types of data and types of data analysis.

For more information about this course please see the course syllabus.

Music Appreciation: MUS 1030

Prerequisites: None

Students will broaden their listening skills and understanding of music by developing an appreciation of the rich, traditional music of French composers such as Claude Debussy, Gabriel Faure, Hector Berlioz and many others. Students will benefit greatly from experiencing significant cultural venues as the Cathedral of Notre Dame where many composers worked and the Opera de Paris Garnier which is one of the most famous opera houses in the world. It was used as the setting for Gaston Leroux's 1911 novel The Phantom of the Opera and the novel's subsequent adaptations in films and Andrew Lloyd Webber's popular 1986 musical. In addition, students will have an opportunity to visit historical and cultural landmarks, including the Eiffel Tower, The Louvre, Musee d'Orsay, the Luxembourg Gardens, the Pere Lachaise Cemetery (where French/Polish composer Frederic Chopin is buried), and the famous market streets like Rue Mouffetard.

For more information about this course please see the course syllabus.

Introduction to Film Studies: ENGL 2810

Prerequisites: ENGL 1010

France is a world capital of cinema, with a reputation for film production and film studies going back to the first filmmakers in history. Students will visit locations associated with France's significant contributions to the technological and creative history of movies.

The City of Light is home to institutions that are unique in the history of films. The Cinémathèque Française holds one of the largest archives of films, documents, and film-related objects in the world. Students in Paris may have the opportunity to go behind-the-scenes at a working film school, as well as the studios of the state-owned France Télévisions station group.

Paris is also the stage for some of the classics of cinema. Travelling on the famous Paris Métro, student groups will explore of the city and hunt down the locations of some of the finest films in history; they will also visit the Parisian landmarks featured in Woody Allen's film Midnight in Paris. All students receive Métro passes good on trains, buses, and trams.

Some of the must-see places with strong film ties that we will visit are Montparnasse, The Latin Quarter, Montmartre, and The Right Bank, along with the major cafés (many of which are still in business since the 1920s) that were frequented by famous filmmakers and actors.

Of course, no trip to France would be complete without visits to the cultural landmarks of Paris. Student excursions in years past included the Eiffel Tower, Notre-Dame de Paris, the Louvre, the Tuileries and Luxembourg Gardens, the Arc de Triomphe, the Catacombs, and Sainte-Chapelle. We also plan day-trips of interest to film students to the royal château of Versailles and the D-Day landing beaches of Normandy.

Classes consist of excursions, lectures on the history and techniques of film, as well as screenings of some of the most significant movies in film history.

For more information about this course please see the course syllabus.

Survey of American History II: HIST 2020

Prerequisites: READ 0892 and ENGL 0892

The purpose of the course is to provide students with an understanding of U.S. history from 1877 to the present with an overview of cultural, political, social, economic and intellectual movements during the period. Race, class, ethnicity, and gender are also integral to the course.

Traveling to France will help inform students of U.S. history about common themes in American history in a new way. The course will focus on issues of immigration, war, and diplomacy. By internationalizing these themes in U.S. history the student will gain a fuller understanding of the United States during the covered time period. Allowing students to study these themes in France will be a life changing experience for them.

Students may have the opportunity to visit sites of great importance to American history, including many sites important to WWI and WWII. In Paris, we may visit the Museé del Armeé, Eiffel Tower, Louvre, Notre Dame, Versailles, and have possible excursions outside the city.

For more information about this course please see the course syllabus.

American Literature: Colonial to 1865: ENGL 2110

Prerequisites: ENGL 1010 and ENGL 1020 Formerly ENGL 2210

"Salons, Letters, and the Composing of America" – Many Americans today are not aware of the long standing relationship America has had with France. This relationship, however, proved inextricable to the development of the American identity both before and after the American Revolution. While a national identity was in the process of development, French authors corresponded with American colonists and shaped them into becoming future revolutionaries. Additionally, this epistolary relationship between the leading intellectuals of the two peoples fostered a relationship that in revolutionary thought surpassed the relationship the colonial Americans had with Britain, so much so that France became America's first ally, and many Americans later went to France to support its own revolution. This class will explore the nature of this relationship, one that is paramount to the creation of a discrete American identity in culture, politics, and literature. Through a study of French salon culture, the Republic of Letters, and an examination of the analogs these have to the literature from leading American authors, students will gain insights into their own 21st century American identities and the indivisible relationship those identities have with the French Republic then and now.

For more information about this course please see the course syllabus.