INFORMATION AND APPLICATION MATERIALS

For a list of application requirements and to apply online go to:
http://tulane.edu/liberal-arts/french-italian

The deadline for application is February 1st
NEW ORLEANS AND FRANCOPHONE LOUISIANA

In New Orleans and Louisiana, French is a living language. In no other state in the Union – in no other city – is French culture so integrally built into the urban fabric and its heritage still so vitally in play. The strong appeal of our program both nationally and internationally 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 affords 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 an inviolable symbol of national unity; immigrant cultural practices (such as the wearing of the veil) in conflict with
French cultural norms; creole languages stigmatized as corrupt forms of the standard; etc. In our 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.

PH.D. COURSE WORK

Students must complete a minimum of 58 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; ethno-psychiatry.

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

M.A. COURSE WORK

The M.A. in French is designed to establish a comprehensive knowledge of French and Francophone literature as well as an acquaintance with linguistics, literary theory, and the techniques of literary scholarship. Successful
completion of M.A. course work will serve as a platform for advanced study in the doctoral program. The minimum course requirement for the M.A. degree in French is 34 semester hours.

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, or German.

**A 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.

**PARIS AS SPECTACLE**
Prof. Ramazani. Paris as spectacular mise-en-scène; Paris as allegory of modernity; Paris as sensation and sensation-alism; 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. Among our objects of study are poetry and novels, fashion and photography, paintings, advertisements, and political cartoons, guidebooks and newspapers, department stores and world expositions, cafés, brothels, music halls, and monuments; panoramas and wax museums; fairgrounds and circuses; sewers, crowds, and the “theater” of the morgue.

**ISLAM ET LUMIÈRES**
Prof. Falaky. This course explores the intersections of Islam and Enlightenment. Students start by examining how the representations of Islam during the Siècle des Lumières shaped relations between France and Muslims during the colonial era and still influence contemporary notions of religious identity and laïcité. They then focus on the possibility of an Age of Reason within Muslim countries. Will this Age resemble in any way the European Enlightenment? By examining how the philosophes grappled with Christianity, students investigate the many ways in which reformers in Muslim countries can rethink Islam.

Student Sarah Fishtein interviews French speaker Horace Adam outside of the town of Ville Platte as part of her course work for Field Research on French in Louisiana.

**LA PEINE DE MORT: A CHALLENGE**
Prof. Bidima. The death penalty is a major issue in philosophy and in law, and writers in both fields have made significant contributions to the debate surrounding it. The stakes of this issue could be summarized in terms of these 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? How do we deal with crime? In order to answer these political, sociological and legal ques-
Our program gives graduate students the opportunity to study areas of the world where French has historically been a means of expression as a result of colonialism and ongoing cultural and political relations between former colonizers and postcolonies. With specialists in Francophone sub-Saharan Africa, the Maghreb, the Caribbean, and Louisiana, the Department prepares students for academic careers through interdisciplinary course work informed by fields as diverse as literary and cultural studies, philosophy, anthropology, performance studies, and linguistics. It also presents students with a second, overlapping vision of the field, one which sees metropolitan France as a multicultural space that is itself postcolonial. Interdisciplinary study and research are further fostered through the Department’s course offerings in Arabic and Creole and through its strong ties to Latin American Studies and African & African Diaspora Studies at Tulane University.

DEPARTMENT COLLOQUIA

The Department organizes conferences and hosts distinguished scholars: in 2008-09, Alec G. Hargreaves, “Race and the Republic”; Visiting Mellon Professor Nélia Dias, “The Musée du Quai Branly: The Debate Between Ethnography and Cultural Diversity”; European Minister of Culture Renaud Donnedieu de Vabres, “What is the European New Frontier?”; and, under the auspices of the Yvonne Arnoult Chair in Francophone Studies, renowned philosopher Étienne Balibar, “Strangers and Enemies: From Politics to Philosophy.” The visits of Mr. Donnedieu de Vabres and Professor Balibar were co-sponsored by the Consulate General of France in New Orleans, with which the Department maintains a strong and productive relationship.

Previous guests have included Sylviane Agacinski, Leïla Ahmed, Dudley Andrew, Christian Biet, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, Louis-Jean Calvet, Ross
LAGNIAPPE

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 festivites.

FACULTY

JEAN-GODEFROY BIDIMA

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Department is committed to our graduate students’ professional development in both formal and informal contexts. In their first semester, graduate students enroll in the Graduate Proseminar, which serves as a gateway to the profession, helping students develop research skills and establish connections to major libraries, colloquia, journals, and institutes in the U.S., France, and the Francophone world. The Department also organizes seminars, workshops, and “brown-bag lunch” sessions to help graduate students conceive and write grant proposals, prepare abstracts and conference papers, revise papers for publication, compose résumés and job letters, and prepare for job interviews.


The Department is also active in planning and participating in international meetings held in New Orleans. These include the 2009 Conseil International d’Etudes Francophones, the 2010 Congrès Mondial de Linguistique Française, the 2010 American Comparative Literature Association and the 2012 Modern Language Association.
FAYÇAL FALAKY

HOPE GLIDDEN
Ph.D Columbia. Kathryn B. Gore Professor of French. Current research is on critical approaches to Renaissance humanism, cultural property, and human geography as it relates to French identity. A book project entitled Wealth of Nations: Nation, Language, Patrimony in France is in progress. Prof. Glidden has recently taught the following courses: French Feminisms, French poetry and poetics, sixteenth-century French writers, and a seminar on the Beautiful. She has also taught graduate courses on “La Renaissance du patrimoine,” sixteenth-century prose (Rabelais, Marguerite de Navarre, Montaigne) and French Poetry and Poetics. Articles are forthcoming on laughter in Renaissance texts and on ambiguity as a trope in the Renaissance.

THOMAS KLINGLER
Ph.D. Indiana. Associate Professor. Chair. French linguistics; Creole studies; Louisiana French; dialectology; lexicography. Recent 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).

FELICIA MCCARREN
Ph.D. Stanford University. Professor. 19th-21st century French, English and comparative literature and literary theory; visual culture and performance; science and technology studies; history of medicine and psychoanalysis; film history and theory; Francophone studies and post-colonial theory. Publications include two books: Dance Pathologies; Performance, Poetics, Medicine (1998) and Dancing Machines; Choreographies of the Age of Mechanical Reproduction (2003), articles on performance and cinema in Critical Inquiry and L’Esprit Créateur, and recent work on the cultural impact of immigration, transculturation and technology transfer in France and Francophone countries: “ Téléphone Arabe: From Child’s Play to Terrorism; The Poetics and Politics of Postcolonial Telecommunications,” (Journal of Postcolonial Writing) and “52 days to Timbuktu (62 days to Rabat),” (Critical Interventions: Journal of African Art History and Visual Culture).

ELIZABETH POE
Ph.D. Princeton. Professor. Research interests include troubadour poetry, Occitan narrative, textual transmission, 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 currently engaged in a project on medieval Occitan grammars. She has published two books: From Poetry to Prose in Old Provençal (1986) and Compilatio: Lyric Texts and Prose Commentary in Troubadour Manuscript H (2000).

VAHEED RAMAZANI
Ph.D. University of Virginia. Professor. 19th-century French literature and culture. His research is broadly concerned with psychoanalysis, rhetoric, and narrative theory. His recent publications focus on the articulation of historical trauma through the intersecting tropes of gender and national identity. His current work examines representations of terrorism and war in contemporary Western media. Professor Ramazani is the author of The Free Indirect Mode: Flaubert and the Poetics of Irony (University Press of Virginia) and of Writing in Pain: Literature, History, and the Culture of Denial (Palgrave Macmillan). His articles have appeared in Nineteenth-Century French Studies, Romanic Review, PMLA, Boundary 2, Cultural Critique, SubStance, and Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East.
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 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.

EDGAR DEGAS, Le bureau de coton à la Nouvelle-Orléans

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’île de Cayenne avec les nouvelles découvertes de la rivière de Mississippi ou Colbert by Claude Bernou, 1681.

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