

# Curriculum

## World Language

### A STUDY OF FRENCH THROUGH FILM

Supports Academic Learning Expectation # 1

**Students and graduates of Ledyard High School will read and write critically and effectively for a variety of purposes**

Supports Academic Learning Expectation # 2

**Students and graduates of Ledyard High School will speak clearly and communicate ideas accurately in a variety of settings**

## A STUDY OF FRENCH THROUGH FILM

### **Course Description:**

This course is designed for students with two or more credits in French. Through the study of French cinema, students will enhance their language skills and further appreciate French culture.

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of French I and French II.

Offered odd years. (.5 credit-- meets alternate days for one semester)

### **GOALS:** Students...

- Improve listening skills through films viewed and topics discussed
- Improve conversation skills through films viewed and topics discussed
- Become familiar with diverse accents and speaking patterns of various regions of France and French-speaking countries
- Learn common gestures and facial expressions used in communication
- Develop more confidence in speaking skills through conversations generated by films viewed and topics discussed
- Practice written expression via worksheets and projects
- Broaden vocabulary while learning new idiomatic and/or slang expressions and understanding the context in which they may be used
- Review major grammar points as observed being used in context and put them into practice
- Acquire a greater understanding of the history of film in general and the history of French film in particular
- Acquire a greater understanding of the French historical, social and cultural context which constitute the background of the films studied

### **Connecticut State Standards**

This course covers the following standards in the Connecticut World Language Curriculum Frameworks:

B1.5, B1.7, B1.9,  
B2.1, B2.3, B2.8, I2.2, I2.7  
I3.1, I3.3  
B4.1, I4.2, I4.5  
B5.1, B5.3,  
B6.1, B6.2  
B7.3, I7.1, 7.4  
B8.1, B8.2, B8.3, B8.5, I8.1, I8.3, I8.5  
B9.3, I9.4

## Course Syllabus

DAY 1—2	Pretest Preferences Sheet Generate “Favorite Movies” List	[Share Analyze Discuss]
DAY 1—4	History of Film, Part 1—Creating Motion Illusion	
DAY 5	Create Flip Books Samples and models Describe action (en français) Reaction (en français)	
DAY 6—7	Shadow Theater Flashlight Story Develop original storyline Write script and title Rehearse	
DAY 8—9	Create puppets Perfect scripts Perform plays Reactions and critiques	
DAY 10—12	History of Film, Part 2—The Pioneers Topics for PowerPoint projects Research	
DAY 13	Research Computer Lab	
DAY 14—15	Presentations Lumière clips + Méliès clips	
DAY 16	<i>Voyage à la lune</i> Summaries [present tense – regular and irregular verbs]	
DAY 17—18	Choose paper topics [directors, actors, filmographies, movements] Research Computer Lab	
DAY 19—20	Guest Speakers: Early movie-going experiences (1930’s—1950’s) Research Computer Lab	

- DAY 21 Present Cocteau & Surrealism papers  
View *Blood of a poet*, Part 1  
Worksheet
- DAY 22 View *Blood of a poet*, Part 2  
Go over worksheet  
Vocabulary study
- DAY 23—24 Present papers  
View Cocteau's *La belle et la bête* (sans sous-titres)  
<<As-tu déjà...>> Plus other worksheets  
Related activities [Past tense, future proche]
- DAY 25 Disney's *La belle et la bête* (sans sous-titres)  
Vocabulary study
- DAY 26 *Le ballon rouge*—Film and book  
Personal reaction: Quand j'étais jeune... [Imperfect tense, Possessives]
- DAY 29—30 *Les 400 coups* (Related worksheets, idiomatic expressions/literal translations)  
Personal reaction: Si j'étais lui, je... [Conditional tense]  
Story extension [Future tense]
- DAY 31—32 Present papers  
*Jean de Florette* (Related worksheets)  
Sentence stems [Subjunctive]  
Character studies: Feuilles de Patates  
Vocabulary
- DAY 33—34 *Manon des Sources* (Related worksheets)
- DAY 35—40 Present papers  
Three other contemporary films: class choice  
Discussion: French vs. American humor
- DAY 41—44 Cross cultural comparison of a French film and its American remake  
Discussion: Differences between French/European film & American film
- DAY 45 Exam and discussion of exam results  
Student survey  
Course critique and feedback

#### TEXTS:

*French Cinema/Apprentissage du cinéma français* [www.pullins.com/text/FrenchCinema.htm](http://www.pullins.com/text/FrenchCinema.htm)

*Sequences – Intermediate French Through Film* [www.buy.com/prod/sequences-intermediate-french-through-film/q/loc/106/204183751.html](http://www.buy.com/prod/sequences-intermediate-french-through-film/q/loc/106/204183751.html)

*Cinéphile French Language and Culture through Film*

*Cinema for French Conversation, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition* *Le cinéma en cours de français* -- Anne-Christine Rice

#### FILMMAKERS

Pioneers: Lumière Brothers, Méliès, Jean Cocteau, René Clair, Jean Renoir, Jacques Tati,

New Wave: Jean-Luc Godard, François Truffaut, Eric Rohmer

Contemporary: Agnès Varda, Alain Resnais, Louis Malle, Claire Denis, Diane Durys, Jean-Jacques Annaud, Victoire Thivisol, Anne-Laure Folly, Djibril Diop Mambety, Jean-Pierre Bekolo

#### WEBSITES

[Worldfilm.about.com/od/frenchfilm/French-Films.htm](http://Worldfilm.about.com/od/frenchfilm/French-Films.htm)

[Frenchjournal.typepad.com/French\\_journal/2007/08/french-movie-li.html](http://Frenchjournal.typepad.com/French_journal/2007/08/french-movie-li.html)

[Trinity.edu/bharris/frenchcinema2.htm](http://Trinity.edu/bharris/frenchcinema2.htm)

[Learnlab.org/uploads/mypslc/publications/elearn.doc](http://Learnlab.org/uploads/mypslc/publications/elearn.doc)

[Teamsugar.com/forum/topic/457107](http://Teamsugar.com/forum/topic/457107)

[Instruct1.cit.cornell.edu/courses/frfrom395/](http://Instruct1.cit.cornell.edu/courses/frfrom395/)

#### RESOURCES

CT College French Film course // French Film Festival – Cable Car Cinema, Providence, RI

The Teaching of French Civilization through Film... *The French Review*, Vol. 50, No.2 (Dec., 1976), pp. 227-235

*The French through Their Films* – Robin Buss

Course goals and objectives: French Through Film 206

[www.web.Lemoyne.edu/~goodisma/fr206.htm](http://www.web.Lemoyne.edu/~goodisma/fr206.htm)