

FALL 2015

Jean-Jacques Thomas

FR 481LEC

Special Topics - Quebec Literature, Film and Culture (Lecture)

Course description

The purpose of this course is to study the different types of French cultures (French based Creoles and Francophone languages and cultures) in North America . The main domains of study will be Quebec, Acadie and New England, as well as their extension along the Mississippi river from Ohio to Louisiana.

The origins, history, and linguistic characteristics of this French-speaking colonization will be studied during the first part of the semester while the second part will cover the contemporary status of this French-speaking enclave in North America.

Cultural, linguistic and artistic issues in each area will be studied from fictional texts, art documents, audio-visual productions as well as contemporary Quebec cinema.

Contemporary works by Acadiens, Québécois, Américains, and Cajuns writers (Nelligan, Caron, Maillet, Miron, Proulx, Tremblay, Blais, Kerouac, Des Rosiers, Laferrière, Ancelet, etc.) and filmmakers (Arcand, Pool, Lepage, Lauzon, Coté, Chouinard, etc.) will help understand the nature of this important Francophone cultural domain in the New World.

Quebec and the Francophone areas of the New World will be studied both locally and globally so as to study it as a diverse and complex macrocosm of varied cultural interests and identities.

Special emphasis will be given to literature, arts, performing arts, film and the Francophone video culture (In English).