## Boosting Enrollments through Curricular Developments and Technology

Shoggy Waryn, French Studies

## A foreword

- Not a case study nor a science experiment
- The result of years of work by members of a large team of lecturers, faculty, teaching assistants and associates who are all thanked for their work over the years
- Many initiatives were started by staff members and completed by others


## Facts and figures: yearly language totals 1995-2011



## Facts and figures: average class size

Student/teacher


From 23 annual sections to 44

## Brown Foreign Language Enrollments



## Student trends

- Brown has no language requirements except for International Studies
- Fewer students have French AP or SAT exams freshman year
- Most have no French at all (100 + per year)
- Most drop French after reaching the minimal requirements for study abroad (600/1510) or requirements for a specific major
- 60 + per year study in France with Brown, 20 + study during the summer with independent programs in France, $10+$ study in the US


## Reactive teaching

## Adapting the offer to the demand:

- More sections at the beginners level (from 6/7 to 12/13 per year) with about 20 students taking an accelerated track to skip 2 classes
- Conversation hours are added to every level (small groups led by upper-class or francophone students) except Beginners 1
- No advanced conversation courses


## Adapting to the demand

- Better placement and tracking of students at the beginning of the semester and during registration
- Multiplication of "bridge courses" such as 1510 which comes in different flavors but keep the same structure and linguistic demands:
-Translation workshop -Contemporary France
-Travel and Travelers -Myths in French History
-Intro to Film Analysis -Cross-Cultural Experiments


## Content of Language Courses

| course | Books | Films | Conversation |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 100 | Campus / Scoubidou | Clips | None |
| 200 | Campus <br> Petit Prince | Auberge Espagnole <br> Paris je t'aime <br> Le goût des autres | yes |
| 300 | Paroles <br> Musée haut, Musée bas <br> Le petit Nicolas | Musée haut, Musée bas <br> Le petit Nicolas <br> Un air de famille | yes |
| 400 | Pierre et Jean <br> Grammar method | 2 films | yes |
| 500 | Debout les morts <br> Monsieur Ibrahim <br> Retour au collège | Monsieur Ibrahim <br> Etre et avoir <br> Entre les murs | yes |
| 600 | La première gorgée de bière <br> L'élégance du hérisson + <br> Two other short novels | On connait la chanson <br> Le hérisson | yes |

## Staffing

- Flexibility and rotation: no faculty stays at the same level but constantly change courses (every year/ semester)
- Team work: 70\% of the literature faculty teaches language courses (one or two per year)
- Curriculum: coordinated by the Language Committee to ensure proper progression and avoid repeating materials
- Administration of language group: Tasks are shared by all language teachers with a similar rotation scheme


## Web components

- Course websites are designed with modules that can be added to, transformed or altered by faculty teaching the course
- Best practices are shared by all, knowledge is spread, experiment is encouraged

| 哏Brown University |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Build | Teach |
| ，Course Tools |  |
| $\stackrel{\wedge}{\wedge}$ Course Content |  |
| S Announcements |  |
| 司 Calendar |  |
| ＊Discussions |  |
| 罚 Learning Modules |  |
| 試 Syllabus |  |

## FREN 0200 －Spring11 Basic French

Your location：Home Page



FREN 100－200：Second semestre


Documents à lire／imprimer


Exercices ELFE Pour pratiquer la grammaire à
votre ryhtme




Phonétique


Campus
et documents annexes

## Common Resources Outside of Course Websites

- Grammar exercises (ELFE) self-corrected on-line
- Writing software (Antidote) installed in all computer clusters as well as download server for upper-level courses
- Video Juke-Box of francophone music updated every semester
- Film collection in the library (2200+ titles)
- Comic book collection in the library (220 titles)
- Materials are accessible to non-Brown students


Brown $\Rightarrow$ French Studies $\Rightarrow$ Resources $\Rightarrow$ Elfe $\Rightarrow$ ELFE

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Resources

Department of French Studies
Brown University
Box 1961
34 Prospect Street
Providence, R1 02912
French_Studies@brown.edu
401-863-3517

## ELFE Exercise List

## Elementary French Exercises

1/Choose a chapter (or follow the instructions from your syllabus)

ELFE Part I: Verb Forms ELFE Part II: Function Words ELFE Part III: Sentence Patterns

- Present
- Passé Composé
- Imperfect
- Future
- Condiltional
- Perfect Tenses
- Simple Past
$\qquad$
- Determiners
- Prepositions
- Adjectives
- Adverbs
- Pronouns
- Negatives
- Imperatives
- Reflexives
- Interrogatives
- Infinititives
- Passlves
- Relatives


## Present 1 - Verbs like "Acheter"

Please remember to CHECK each answer before proceeding!
Your scores will not be saved if you do not complete each question in the exercise.

Mettez au présent le verbe entre parenthèses.

Return to previous question $<=\quad 2 / 28 \quad$ Skip to next question $=>$
(amener) Jacques $\}$ sa soeur.


Check Hint


- Dominique A http://www.cinq7.com/dominiquea/
- Dans un camion (2005)
- Abd al malik
- Gibraltar
- Air http://www.pocket-symphony.com/
- Allizée http://www.alizee-officiel.com/
- Moi, Lolita (2000)
- Anais http://www.anaisinyourface.com/
- Mon coeur, Mon amour (2009)
- Amadou et Mariam http://www.amadou-mariam.com/ (Mali)
- Dimanche à Bamako
- Sénégal Fast-Food
- Je pense à toi
- Dick Annegarn http://www.annegarn.com
- Bruxelles (1978?)
- Jean-Louis Aubert http://www.jeanlouisaubert.com/
- Alter-Ego (2001)
- Isabelle Aubret http://www.isabelle-aubret.com/
- Arno http://www.arno.be/
- Mourir à plusieurs (2007)
- Chic et pas cher (2007)
- Cedric Atlan http://www.cedricatlan.com/
- Natacha Atlas
- Mon amie, la rose (1964-2001
- Akhénaton >> Voir MCM Musiaue

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## Resources

Language Resource Center Brown Library

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## La Bande Dessinée Française et Francophone

All books are in the Rock Reserve room unless indicated. For availability and location, click on the link. ( Updated 04/1/11)


## Auteurs variés: Histoire de France en 16 Volumes

Vol 1. ler siècle av. JC au 5e siècle ap. JC. De Vercingétorix à Attila

Vol 2. Vle au Xe siècle - De Clovis aux Vikings

Vol 3. Xe au XIle siècle - Des Capétiens aux croisades

Vol 4. XIlle siècle - De Philippe Auguste à Saint Louis

## Events become teaching moments



The Providence French Film Festival (created in 1996 by Sylvie Toux) is now integrated in the curriculum at every level:

- Access to film trailers
- Transcription of film trailers
- On-line discussions in each level including beginners

10 days in Spring. Over 2600 tickets sold


All films presented in French with English subtitles

## 3 p'tits cochons (3 Little Pigs)

DIRECTED BY Patrick Huard
Québec I 2008 I 124 mn
CAST Claude Legault, Guillaume Lemay-Thivierge, Paul Doucet As their mother lies comatose in a hospital bed, three brothers dutifully keep vigil. Not the expected set up for comedy. But, as the days go on, their standard topics of conversation - marriage, children, money - are exhausted. Things become interesting when they start talking about their sexual lives, fantasies, and the pros and cons of infidelity.
View trailer (in French)
View transcript (in PDF)

## L'Arnaccour (Heartbreaker)

DIRECTED BY Pascal Chaumeil
France I 20101105 mn
CAST Romain Duris, Vanessa Paradis, Julie Ferrier
Alex's specialty is breaking up couples - for a fee. He and his two associates will not be deterred. Their latest challenge: to stop the wedding of a rich heiress. Their problem: they only have ten days. An unpretentious romantic comedy, fast-paced and funny. This will probably be remade soon by Hollywood studios. Come see the original..
View trailer (in French)
View website (in French)
View transcript (in PDF)

## L'armée du crime (The Army of Crime)

DIRECTED BY Robert Guédiguian
France I 2009 I 139 mn
CAST Simon Abkarian, Virginie Ledoyen, Robinson Stévenin
This is a revealing thriller about the early days of the French Resistance when many of the movement's leaders and foot soldiers were foreigners who feared the French collaborators as much as the Germans. With an

## L'armée du crime - Transcription de la bande-annonce

## Paris 1943

Missak Manouchian : Après chaque attentat, les Allemands se servaient. Au début c'était dix otages fusillés pour un Allemand. Quand j'ai quitté le camp, c'était vingt pour un.

Soldat : [Feuer]

## Réfugiés des quatre coins de l'Europe

Marcel Rayman : Tu t'en fous, toi, t'es pas juif.
Manouchian : Tu sais ce qu'il a dit Hitler? "Qui aujourd'hui se souvient des Arméniens?" Moi, ma famille, ça fait longtemps qu'elle a disparu.

## Réunis par un même combat

Manouchian : Mais j'ai de la chance puisque vous tous, vous êtes devenus ma famille, une famille de combattants qui ne laissera aucun répit à l'occupant.

Manouchian : Ie n'ai pas peur de la mort, mais ie ne veux pas la donner. C'est une

Au début, je n'ai pas aimé bien ce film. Il est un peu lent - il y a beaucoup de dialogue et pas beaucoup de l'action. En plus, il n'y a pas une intrigue claire. A la mi- étape du film, je n'ai pas compris encore le plan des rebelles. Mais la dernière 30 minutes est plus intéressante, donc en tout, j'ai apprécié le film. Je pense que le message du film à propos de la contribution des immigrantes est un problème pertinent pour le public.

## Reply

Subject: L'armee du crime
Author: Emily Liu
Topic: L'armée du crime

Le film, L'armee du Crime, c'est une film historique dans l'epoque de la seconde guerre mondiale. Plus spécifiquement, pendant l'occupation de Paris par les allemands. L'intrigue de le film c'est vraitment et il y avait un veritable groupe de juifs, Hongrois, Polonais, Roumains, Espagnols, Italiens, Arméniens ont combattu les allemands. Par ailleurs, je pense que le film c'est très intéressant. Le groupe de Manouchian a joué brillant par les acteurs dans le film. Contrairement à les films de guerre américain, ce film concentre sur les émotions et le processus de la guerre, alors que dans les films américain, c'est seulement concentre sur le combat. Ainsi, je préfère L'armee du Crime.

## Reply

## Subject: tres bon!

Topic: L'armée du crime
Author: Melissa Chin Date: March 7, 2011 3:06 AM
« L'armée du crime » est un film que s'agit d'un groupe d'immigrants communistes qui rebellaient contre les soldats allemands qui occupaient la France pendant la deuxième guerre du monde. Ce groupe utilise des méthodes terroristes par lutter contre les politiques oppressives du gouvernement allemand. En faire ça, ils eux mettent en danger imprudemment et enfin toutes sont arrêtés et exécutés. J'ai trouve ce film très intéressant. Je pense que l'utilisation de violence imprévisible crée beaucoup de tension. Aussi crée un sentiment de choc et excitation a la fois. En tout, ce film est très bon pour ils que veulent regarder un film qu'est remplis d'un bon mélange du drame et action.

## Study Abroad is the new capstone for students

- 60 plus students coming to France each year
- Only about 10-15 will major in French
- Students' reaction to the language program are generally positive and shows good retention (with a few complaining that they have too much work in French compared to their other classes).
- The administration finally opened a new permanent teaching position in the language program

