

Department of French
Bryn Mawr College
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Benjamin CHEREL

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Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

- 2001 MA in French as a Foreign Language (*Français Langue Etrangère*),
Université de Grenoble, France
- 1999 Transdisciplinary DEA (*Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies*) in Sociology and
French Literature, Université de Grenoble
- 1998 MA in Sociology, Université de Grenoble

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2006 – present Lecturer, Bryn Mawr College
- 2003 – 2006 Visiting French Instructor, Swarthmore College
- 2001 – 2003 Instructor in French Civilization and Language, CUEF, Université
de Grenoble, France
- Spring 2002 Boston University Program in Grenoble, France

COURSES TAUGHT

Bryn Mawr College, July 2006 - present:

FREN 001, 002: Elementary French

The speaking and understanding of French are emphasized particularly during the first semester, and written competence is stressed as well in semester II. The work includes regular use of the Language Learning Center and is supplemented by intensive oral practice sessions. This is a year-long course.

FREN 003, 004: Intermediate French

The emphasis on speaking, understanding, and writing French is continued; texts from French literature and cultural media are read; and short papers are written in French. Students use the Language Learning Center regularly and attend supplementary oral practice sessions. The course meets in non-intensive (three hours a week) sections that are supplemented by an extra hour per week with an assistant. This is a year-long course.

FREN 105: Directions de la France contemporaine-French Civilization

An examination of contemporary society in France and Francophone cultures as portrayed in recent documents and movies (e.g. *Entre les murs*). Emphasizing the tension in contemporary French-speaking societies between tradition and change, the course focuses on subjects such as family structures and the changing role of women, cultural and linguistic identity, an increasingly multiracial society, the individual and institutions (religious, political, educational). In addition to the basic text and review of grammar, readings are chosen from newspapers and magazines, complemented by video materials.

FREN 251: La mosaïque France-Culture course

A study that opposes the discourse of exclusion, xenophobia, racism and the existence of a mythical, unique French identity by examining 20th-century French people and culture in their richness and variety, based on factors such as gender, class, region, colonization and decolonization, immigration and ethnic background. Movies and texts by Begag, Beauvoir, Cardinal, Carles, Duras, Ernaux, Jakez Helias, Modiano, and Zobel.

FREN 260: Stylistique et Traduction-Advanced grammar, stylistics and translation

Intensive practice in speaking and writing. Conversation, discussion, advanced training in grammar and stylistics, translation of literary and nonliterary texts, and original composition.

Swarthmore College, August 2003 – June 2006:

1B, 2B: Elementary French
3B: Intermediate French
4A: French Conversation

CUEF, Université de Grenoble, France, August 2001-July 2003:

All levels: Elementary, Intermediate, Advanced French.
French Civilization

Boston University Program in Grenoble, France, February-April 2002:

French Civilization

PRESENTATIONS

“L'essor du bouddhisme en France,” *Alliance Française de Philadelphie*, January 21, 2011.

Abstract. La France est le pays occidental où le bouddhisme a connu l'essor le plus rapide ces trente dernières années. Totalement absent du paysage religieux officiel il y a moins de vingt ans, le bouddhisme est aujourd'hui reconnu *de facto* par les pouvoirs publics comme la quatrième religion des Français. Comment expliquer cette surprenante progression au pays de Descartes? Qui sont les Français touchés par le bouddhisme? A quelles couches sociales appartiennent-ils? Assiste-t-on à l'émergence d'un bouddhisme français? Nous nous appuyons notamment sur une enquête de terrain menée en France dans plusieurs centres bouddhistes depuis plusieurs années.

EVENTS ORGANIZED

Screening and discussion around the documentary *Gaspard de la nuit*, by Cathie Cambel, (54 minutes, 2004). Event co-sponsored by Africana Studies and the French Department. Discussion with the protagonist of the documentary, Marie-Adélaïde Hochart, Dec. 4, 2008

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- Center for International Studies Grant, April 2009
- “Culture and Religion” Summer Institute, Dartmouth College, 2009

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) 2011, Denver, November 18-20, 2011
- Kit pédagogique: pour une utilisation de documents audiovisuels dans les cours de français, a workshop led by Evelyne Pâquier (TV5 Monde) and Marine Bechtel (RFI), November 18, 2011, Alliance Française de Denver
- ACTFL 2010, Boston, November 19-21, 2010
- Creating a Natural Critical Learning Environment, a workshop by Ken Bain, author of *What the Best College Teachers Do*, September 17, 2010, Bryn Mawr College
- Teaching and Learning Institute (TLI) Faculty Pedagogy Seminar, Spring 2010
- The Northeast Conference on The Teaching of Foreign Languages (NECTFL), New York City, April 16-18, 2009
- “Helping your students use sources fairly, effectively, and with style”, Writing Center Faculty Development Workshop, Bryn Mawr College, February 19, 2009
- National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education (NITLE) workshops:
 - Digital Teaching: Introduction to Teaching with Technology in Liberal Education (October 13, 2008 Bryn Mawr College)
 - Technologies for teaching Writing (October 14, 2008 Bryn Mawr College)

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

- Member of the Arabic Lecturer Search, Spring 2011
- Member, French Tenure Track Search Committee, Fall 2008
- Member, Modern Languages Pedagogy Group
- Member, TRICO Foreign Language Pedagogy Group

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- ACTFL, 2010 – present
- NECTFL, 2009 – 2010
- Fédération Internationale des Professeurs de Français, 2006 – present

LANGUAGES

- French: native-speaker
- English: fluent
- Spanish: intermediate level
- Tibetan: elementary