

Department of French and Italian

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French MA and PhD Program Fall 2025

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Application deadline is January 15th, 2025



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Michela Ardizzoni

focuses on the social, cultural, and historical conditions that produce racialized and gendered bodies, expendable citizens, and unrelating narratives of closed borders and security crises in Italy and the Mediterranean. Her work explores how creative resistance practices by Afro-Italians through film and media challenge these conditions and imagine Blackness as a riotous invitation to other poetics of belonging.



Elizabeth Bloomfield

focuses on contemporary animal and environmental scholarship in France and the Anglo-Saxon world. She is currently working on a monograph entitled *Crossing* over to the "Animal Side:" Skepticism and Rationality in French Contemporary Animal Thought.



Suzanne Magnanini

OUR FACI II TY

explores representations of difference (gender, class, ethnicity and race, monstrosity) in earlymodern Italian narrative including realistic tales, fairy tales, romance, and epic poems. She is a translator and editor of early-modern texts who also published pedagogy.



Warren Motte

specializes in contemporary French literature, with particular focus upon experimentalist works that accepted notions of literary form into question. His most recent books include *Mirror Gazing* (2014), *French Fiction Today* (2017), *Pour une litterature critique* (2021), and *Reading Contemporary French Literature* (2022).



Kieran Murphy specializes in 19th century French literature and culture, and Caribbean studies. He explores the intersections of literature, science, and technology through various angles that include postcolonial Haiti, continental philosophy, the environment, water development, robots, and zombies.



Charlie Samuelson

specializes in medieval French literature and uses theoretically informed close reading to rethink critical narratives about the gender and sexual politics of medieval literary texts. His book *Courtly and Queer, Deconstruction, Desire, and Medieval French Literature* was published in 2022, and he is currently working on medieval representations of sexual consent.



Cosetta Seno

focuses on 19th and 20th century literature and culture with an emphasis on Women's Studies. She published her research in many journals both in Italy and the United States. She is also the author of two books: *Gli italiani e l'italiano nel nord America* (2010), and *Anna Maria Ortese, un avventuroso realismo* (2013). Her new booklength project analyzes the evolution of the narrative genre of reportage with specific reference to the representation of Naples.



Brian Valente-Quinn

specializes in Francophone African literature, theater, and performance, which he approaches through the lens of performance, postcolonial, and cultural studies. He is especially interested in the cultural politics of theatrical and literary production and would be happy to work with students exploring a range of Francophone contexts.



Masano Yamashita

currently writing a book on inequality, chance, and accidents in the 18th century. She specializes in the literature and culture of the Enlightenment and the French Revolution and has recently worked on the representation of time and temporality in the philosophy of Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Her course offerings range from culture course on fashion to the invention of human rights in France.