

# Introduction to the Study of French and Romance Languages and Literature : Trends, Concepts, Methods

In view of the health context linked to the spread of the coronavirus, the methods of organisation and evaluation of the learning units could be adapted in different situations; these possible new methods have been - or will be - communicated by the teachers to the students.

5 credits	30.0 h + 15.0 h	Q2
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Teacher(s)	Cavagna Mattia ;Dufays Jean-Louis ;Hambye Philippe (coordinator) ;
Language :	French
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes	<p><b>1) Philology :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- practices and methods of philological and textual critic;</li> <li>- heuristic tools and methods from the Philological field, also valid for literary and linguistic studies;</li> <li>- standards of bibliographical description.</li> </ul> <p><b>2) Linguistics :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- main types of approaches which can be distinguished in the French (and Romance) linguistic field : synchronic or diachronic approaches, internal or external, formal or "variationists", linguistic or philological, etc.;</li> <li>- main currents of French and Romance Linguistics (historical Linguistics, Functionalism, "Generativism", Speech Pragmatics and Analysis, Sociolinguistics, automatic treatment of languages, etc.) and their main figures;</li> <li>- various linguistic concepts fundamental for the student's training (corpuses, standards, systems, variations, Romania, etc.);</li> <li>- different methods and tools for the linguistic studies, which students will be led to use during their training.</li> </ul> <p><b>3) Literature :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- main types of approaches of French and Romance Literatures : Philology, History of Literature, compared Literatures, Poetics, Rhetoric, Stylistics, Semiotics, etc.;</li> <li>- main currents of French and Romance Studies of Literatures since the 19th century;</li> <li>- main concepts and methodological tools which students will have to manipulate during their training.</li> </ul>
Aims	<p>At the end of the class, students will be able to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- apprehend with an overall view French and Romance Languages and Literatures studies : objects of knowledge, important philological, linguistic and literary currents, fundamental concepts and main methodologies;</li> <li>1 - use various methods of analysis and methodological tools at their disposal in a relevant way (bibliographical databases, methods of collecting data, methods of philological, linguistic, literary analysis, etc).</li> </ul> <p>-----</p> <p><i>The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".</i></p>
Evaluation methods	<p><b>Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change.</b></p> <p>The assessment of the course will be based on a written exam (80 % of the final mark) and on a written paper related to the tutorials (20 %of the final mark). When the paper is validated during the June session, if the global mark is not sufficient, the mark of the paper is reported for the next exam session in September.</p>
Teaching methods	<p><b>Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change.</b></p> <p>The course is given by a team of three teachers, each of them being a specialist in one of the course three main disciplines.</p>
Content	<p>The course will start with a general presentation of the links between the various research areas within the field of French and Romance studies, and of the epistemological and methodological principles that should guide students' works all along their training.</p> <p>The course part dedicated to linguistics will present a set of contemporary approaches in French and Romance linguistics (structural approach, comparative approach, historical approach, variationist approach, etc.), which</p>

will be illustrated by particular case studies. Through the description of each approach, specific concepts and methodological tools will be introduced.




Regarding literature, the course will first present a panorama of the main currents of literary criticism from the 19th century to the present days. Three specific approaches of the literary fact will thereafter be developed: formalism and structuralism, sociology of literature and reception theories.

Finally, philology will rather be approached as a research method than as a specific discipline. We will study its history, its current trends, its fields of implementation and its relationships with literary studies, linguistics, and historical disciplines (codicology, palaeography, etc.). A greater focus will be given to the use of philological knowledge for the critical edition of medieval and modern texts in Romance languages.

Tutorials will be dedicated to the mastering of bibliographic norms and to the methodology of bibliographic research.

Bibliography	Voir les documents correspondant à chaque partie du cours sur le site <a href="#">Moodle</a>
Other infos	/
Faculty or entity in charge	ROM

**Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)**

Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims
Minor in French Studies	LFRAN100I	5		
Minor in Literary Studies	LLITT100I	5		
Bachelor in Modern Languages and Literatures : General	ROGE1BA	5		
Bachelor in French and Romance Languages and Literatures : General	ROM1BA	5		