

## CAT 125 GS: Bon Appetit: French Culture at the Nexus of Food, Cheese, & Wine

In this class, we will explore narratives of French food and wine across media, from travel writing to filmic representations. From stories of immigration in *Secret of Grain* to the decadence of *Chocolate* and narratives of the hierarchical nature of French cuisine, how do narratives about food convey ideas about culture, place, and nation. We would pay particular attention to thinking at the intersection of leisure and immigration in the French Riviera. This area is at once a tourist destination and a border on the forefront of immigration conversations. Using food as the nexus to explore different facets of, for instance, the wine industry or the particular tastes of the region inflected by cuisines from Lebanon, Algeria, and more. As we travel throughout the area, we will think about how these narratives craft particular conceptions of space, participate in the tourist industries, and/or what might be missing in these experiences. Our assignments will focus on crafting a well-researched long-form piece that takes a particular lens—immigration, leisure, borders, French history, etc.—towards French food that bridges the gaps between these fictional representations (and fiction of the past) and our own experiences in the spaces we wander through.

### Assignments:

1. 3 short reflections on excursions
2. Lead (in a group) one student-led excursion
3. Final Personal Travel Narrative (Proposal, Draft, Final Draft)

## Literature 172GS: Imagining France through Television & Film

This media studies course will look at how French films imagine France, from the rural countryside to cities and the French Riviera. We will pay particular attention to how narratives of class, race, and gender shape representations of both region and nation in French cinema and television. For instance, the classic *La Règle du Jeu* (1939) raises questions about the end of the aristocracy, class tensions, and crime in the French countryside, while the contemporary global hit *Lupin* (2021-Present) picks up on similar conversations in the setting of Paris, adding the dimension of race, immigration, and legacies of French colonization.

### Assignments:

1. Weekly Reading Annotations
2. Film Notes
3. Final Film Paper (Rough Draft, Final Draft)

Week #	Lit Class	CAT 125	Excursions
Week 1	French Film Foundations Monday: Read excerpt from Thompson &	Travel, Taste, Identity Monday: Introductions & Orientation	Excursion: Caumont Centre d'Art & Musee Granet

	<p>Bordwell on French Cinema &amp; Andre Bazin, <a href="#">What is Cinema?</a></p> <p>Due: Annotations #1</p> <p>Tuesday: Watch: <i>Amelie</i> (2001) OR <i>La Citee des Enfants Perdue</i> (1995)</p> <p>Due: Film Notes</p> <p>Wednesday: Guest Speaker</p>	<p>Tuesday: Watch: <i>The Secret of Grain</i> (2007)</p> <p>Wednesday: Writing Workshops</p> <p>Due: Weekly Reflection/Journal #1</p>	
<b>Week 2</b>	<p><b>The Country &amp; Class</b></p> <p>Monday: Read: TBD Article on French Crime Films Due: Annotations #2</p> <p>Tuesday: Watch: <i>La Règle du Jeux</i> (1939) &amp; <i>Jean de Florette</i> (1986)</p> <p>Due: Film Notes</p> <p>Wednesday: Discussion</p>	<p><b>The French Kitchen</b></p> <p>Monday: <i>The Taste of Things</i> (2023)</p> <p>Tuesday: Student-Led Excursion #1</p> <p>Wednesday: Writing Workshops</p> <p>Thursday: Excursion</p> <p>Due: Article Proposal</p>	<p><b>Excursion: Market Tour &amp; Cooking Class</b></p>
<b>Week 3</b>	<p><b>The City &amp; Violence</b></p> <p>Monday: Read: TBD Article on French Noir Due: Annotations #2</p> <p>Tuesday: Watch: <i>Caché</i> (2005) &amp; <i>Breathless</i> (1960) (Recommended: <i>Lupin</i>)</p>	<p><b>Destination Nice</b></p> <p>Monday: Watch: TBD</p> <p>Tuesday: Read: James Baldwin and/or Gertrude Stein in Paris &amp; Excerpt of Benjamin Arcades</p>	<p><b>Weekend Excursion: Nice</b></p> <p><u>Weekend Excursion to Nice &amp; French Riviera &amp; Student Led Excursion #2</u></p>

	<p>Due: Film Notes</p> <p>Wednesday: Prepare for Excursion</p> <p>Weekend Excursion</p>	<p>Wednesday: Writing Workshops</p> <p>Due: Weekly Reflection/Journal #2</p>	
<b>Week 4</b>	<p><b>Mediterranean, Luxury, and Noir</b></p> <p>Monday: TBD Reading on Noir</p> <p>Tuesday: Watch: Watch: <a href="#">Masquerade</a> (2022) Film Notes Due</p> <p>Wednesday: Watch: <i>Visions</i> (2023)</p>	<p><b>Travel, Leisure, Art</b></p> <p>Monday: TBD Essay on Art Tourism in France</p> <p>Tuesday: Student Led Excursion #3</p> <p>Wednesday: Writing Workshops</p> <p>Due: DRAFT of Article for Peer Review/Writing Workshops</p>	<p><b>Excursion: Camp de Milles</b></p>
<b>Week 5</b>	<p><b>American Crime Comes to the Mediterranean</b></p> <p>Monday: Watch: <i>To Catch a Thief</i> (1955)</p> <p>Tuesday: Watch: <i>French Connection</i> (1971)</p> <p>Wednesday: Final Paper Due</p>	<p><b>American Imagination of France: Wine/Viticulture</b></p> <p>Monday: Watch: <i>Bottle Shock</i> (2008)</p> <p>Student Led Excursion #4</p> <p>Tuesday: Writing Workshops</p> <p>Wednesday: Final Article Due</p> <p>Due: Weekly Reflection/Journal #3</p>	<p><b>Excursion:</b></p> <p>Thursday: Day Trip to Cassis, vineyard, visit with tasting, boat ride, and visit to Eden Cinema</p>