

French Kiss: Love and Loss in French Literature and Film

A Second 8 Weeks Course for Spring 2012
FRIT-F 125, class 34772

Professor Marc Schachter
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 5:45-7:45 pm
Film showings Wednesdays, 7:15-9:30 pm

Taught in English – No prior experience in French language or culture is necessary!

In this course, we will explore a range of meditations on the intertwined themes of love and loss through several centuries of French literature and several decades of French cinema (supplemented with one or two US-based movies). Some of the eight weekly film screenings will be directly related to readings. For example, we will read the devastating eighteenth-century libertine novel *Dangerous Liaisons* by Choderlos de Laclos and watch two filmic adaptations: *Dangerous Liaisons* directed by Roger Vadim and starring Jeanne Moreau and *Cruel Intentions* directed by Roger Kumble and starring Sarah Michelle Gellar and Reese Witherspoon.

Other text-film pairings will be more distant but hopefully no less evocative. Thus, our screening of *Paris, je t'aime*, a series of short films by various directors about love in the City of Lights, will be accompanied by several love poems from the middle ages to the twentieth century that feature Paris. Students will be expected to keep an informal weekly blog and to generate a few more formal response papers as well as two 4-5 page essays.

**Fulfills General Education requirement for World Cultures.
Fulfills College of Arts & Sciences requirement for Arts & Humanities.**

