



# FRENCH 330 CRITICAL WRITING IN FRENCH

## *Le Corps en crise / The Body in Crisis*

Fall 2020

Tues/Thurs 9 :30-11 :00



If we all seem to pursue bodily and mental wellness—perhaps more today than ever—the body in crisis has much to contribute to our understanding of the world, of ourselves, and of others. What can the body in crisis tell us about the human experience, and what can it tell us about literature? And what kinds of commentaries and critiques do literary works offer on the body in crisis more generally, as well as the one situated in its particular cultural, historical, and political contexts, whether in 17<sup>th</sup> century France or 20<sup>th</sup> century Africa? These are the questions that will guide this French 330 course.

In this gateway course for the French major and minor, you will develop strong skills in analytical reading, critical writing, and oral presentation, and you will learn how to research and write a final research paper. You will gain a deeper understanding of the French language, French and Francophone culture, literature, and literary history through the study of key works of poetry, theater, and prose from the Renaissance to the present, from France to Francophone Africa. A necessary component of this will be the acquisition of techniques of close literary analysis pertinent to the genre in question. Most importantly, you will be able to construct a clear, persuasive argument on a given work or works both orally and in writing.

**Required Texts:** Molière, *La Malade imaginaire* ; Aminata Sow Fall, *La Grève des battù*

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