Instead of letting the news media and films tell us about Africa, let’s explore it on its own diverse, funky, and fun terms through film, music, photography, and literature. Throughout these cultural explorations, we’ll also learn about Francophone African history and politics, all the while deepening our understandings of French, oral and written. In addition to readings, viewings, and discussions, the course will include grammar sessions that consist of formal explanations and intensive writing exercises.

Materials will include: The novel *Le Baobab fou* by Ken Bugul (Senegal); Poems from Léopold Sedar Senghor (Senegal) and Monique Ilboudo (Benin); Films *Pièces d’Identité* by Mweze Ngangura (Congo) and *Faat Kiné* by Ousmane Sembène (Senegal); Photography by Malick Sidibé (Mali); Music from Orchestre Baobab (Senegal), Le Grand Kalle (Congo) and Amadou and Mariam (Mali).

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