

**FREN-300: French Grammar and Composition**  
**Tues & Thurs 12:30-1:50pm**  
**Instructor: Atiyeh Showrai**

Fren-300 is a creative writing workshop that develops students' writing skills in French while consolidating grammar and improving accuracy. The course introduces students to the mystery novel as a *genre* and develops students' close-reading techniques (we will read *Coule la Seine* by Fred Vargas, a compilation of three short stories taking place in Paris). Students will also explore stylistic strategies for enriching descriptions and story-telling, and develop the critical thinking skills necessary for the elaboration of a mystery novel.

The course is organized as a “simulation” exercise where students create fictitious characters that are residents of the same Parisian *immeuble*. The *immeuble* thus becomes a type of exercise terrain in which students' journals and compositions allow them to develop the lives of their fictitious characters residing in Paris, their interactions, and various incidents. For the final project, which is a collaborative work, students write a mystery novel based on the characters and events developed during the course.

Dans cet atelier d'écriture, vous apprendrez à



faire des portraits



décrire des lieux



raconter des événements



écrire un roman policier