

FR 900: SEMINAR ON FR LITERATURE: BORROWING, STEALING, OR GRAFTING  
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Most authors' works borrow from the creations of others. The adoption or theft may be from legend, myth, the Bible, history or other literature. Whether we term such authors plagiarists or artists depends on how well they integrate what they have taken from their sources into what they are making. We call the successes "allusion" or "intertextuality." We may even call them great literature. Few aesthetic works fail to bring other work into the new mixture. Consideration of this combination will be an advanced course concentrating on allusion in major French novels and plays of French literature. While the emphasis will be on the meaning(s) which can be elicited from the works through intensive analysis, the seminar will consider allusion and related intertextualities—such as models, imitation, plagiarism, allegory, satire, parody, etc.—and endeavor to develop a "theory of allusion" that proves adequate for criticism of works employing the device.

PREREQUISITE: Graduate Standing.