

Curriculum Vitae

RUDY LE MENTHÉOUR

June 2025

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

1907 Eunice Morgan Schenck Professor of French , Bryn Mawr College	2025 - present
Chair , Department of French and Francophone Studies, Bryn Mawr College	2018 - present
Professor of French and Francophone Studies, BMC	2023 - 2025
Associate Professor of French and Francophone Studies, BMC	2015 - 2023
Assistant Professor of French and Francophone Studies, BMC	2009 - 2015
Acting Co-Director , Health Studies, BMC	2022 - present
Director , Institut d'Avignon (Bryn Mawr Summer Institute in French and Theater studies)	2013 - 2019
Visiting Scholar , Dept. of French & Italian, Stanford University	2012 - 2013
Visiting Assistant Prof. , Dept. of French & Italian, Miami University of Ohio	2008 - 2009
Research and Teaching Assistant (ATER) , Université Paris-Descartes	2006 - 2008
Research and Teaching Assistant (ATER) , Université de Bordeaux	2005 - 2006
Research and Teaching Assistant (AMN) , Université de Grenoble	2002 - 2005
Teaching Associate , Department of French, Brown University	2000 - 2001

EDUCATION

Université de Grenoble (Grenoble 3-Stendhal)	2002 - 2007
‘Doctorat’ (PhD) in French Literature.	2007
<i>L'homme dénaturé : l'anthropologie polémique de Jean-Jacques Rousseau</i>	
‘Très honorable avec félicitations à l'unanimité’ (<i>summa cum laude</i>)	
Ecole Normale Supérieure, rue d'Ulm	1997 - 2002
DEA in French Literature, <i>summa cum laude</i> , in coll. with Paris 3	2002
Agrégation de Lettres Modernes	2000
MA in History of Art, <i>summa cum laude</i> , in coll. with Paris 1	1998
Université Panthéon-Sorbonne (Paris 1)	
BA in Philosophy	1996
BA in History	1995

PUBLICATIONS

Books

La Manufacture de maladies: la dissidence hygiénique de Rousseau, Paris, Classiques Garnier, 2012

La Manière trouble : essai sur Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Paris, Hermann, 2025

Peer-reviewed articles and essays

“La postérité pour quoi faire? Diderot, Falconet, Rousseau,” *Diderot Studies*, vol. 40, 2024: 45-65

“Rousseau’s Twilight: Graeber and Wengrow’s Critique of the *Second Discourse*,” *Monde Français du Dix-Huitième Siècle*, vol. 9, issue 1, 2024, <https://ojs.lib.uwo.ca/index.php/mfds-ecfw/article/view/18662/14203>

“Le secret d’une pyramide: Diderot, la double doctrine et l’*Encyclopédie*,” *Diderot Studies*, vol. 37, 2022: 185-208, https://repository.brynmawr.edu/french_pubs/12/

“Seul en son royaume: la jouissance souveraine selon Rousseau Crusoe,” in Thierry Belleguic et Philip Knee (dir.), *Le sentiment de l’existence. Lectures des Rêveries du promeneur solitaire de Rousseau*, Paris, Hermann, 2021, p. 199-218 [initially published in Italian]

“To Preserve or To Protect? Rousseau’s Take on Hygiene,” *Sens public*, 2019, <http://sens-public.org>

- “Le paradis à portée de lance: variations autour du modèle spartiate à l’âge des Lumières,” *MLN*, vol. 133, no. 4, 2018: 914-936, https://repository.brynmawr.edu/french_pubs/7/
- “Restaurer l’âme antique: Rousseau, Mably et le mirage polonais,” *Dix-huitième siècle*, 50, 2018: 449-469, https://repository.brynmawr.edu/french_pubs/6/
- “Solo nel suo regno. Il godimento sovrano secondo Rousseau Crusoe,” in *Sognare la politica. Rousseau e la filosofia del “promeneur solitaire,”* eds. M. Menin and L. Rustighi, Bologna, Il Mulino, ch. 8, 2017: 201-221
- “De la moisson humaine: botanique et perfectibilité dans les Lumières médicales,” *TrOPICS*, no. 1, Dec. 2013, <https://tropics.univ-reunion.fr/160>
- “Melancholy vaporised: self-narration and counter-diagnosis in Rousseau’s work,” in *Medicine and Narration in the 18th Century*, ed. Sophie Vasset, Oxford, *SVEC* (2013:04): 107-123, https://repository.brynmawr.edu/french_pubs/11/
- “The Tarantula, the Physician and Rousseau: the Eighteenth-Century Etiology of an Italian Sting,” *Journal of the Western Society for French History*, vol. 37 (2009): 35-47, <http://hdl.handle.net/2027/spo.0642292.0037.003>
- “De la ruche au polype: figures de l’organisation sociale,” *Dix-huitième siècle*, no. 41, 2009: 205-221, https://repository.brynmawr.edu/french_pubs/9/
- “La paix dans *Quatre-vingt treize*, de Victor Hugo,” in *La Paix*, ed. A. Brunn, Paris, Flammarion, 2002: 87-110
- Non peer-reviewed articles and entries**
- “La preuve par Alceste: Rousseau, auteur du *Misanthrope*,” forthcoming in 2025
- ““Que m’importe?” La critique de l’insensibilité philosophique par Jean-Jacques Rousseau,” *Annales Jean-Jacques Rousseau*, vol. 58, forthcoming in 2025
- “La postérité pour quoi faire? Diderot, Falconet, Rousseau,” *Diderot Studies*, vol. 40, 2024: 45-65
- “Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778),” *Literature Criticism from 1400 to 1800*, vol. 319, Gale Cengage Learning, Farmington Hills, MI, 2023 [updated entry, bibliography, selection of essays, selected excerpt]
- “La vertu du moindre effort: la morale sensitive de J.-J. Rousseau,” in *Philosophie de Rousseau*, ed. B. Bernardi, Paris, Classiques Garnier, 2014: 69-83
- “Vertige à Vincennes: anecdote et *ethos* chez Rousseau,” in *Anecdotes philosophiques et théologiques de l’Antiquité aux Lumières*, Paris, Classiques Garnier, 2012: 191-204
- “Louis-Sébastien Mercier (1740-1814),” *Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism*, vol. 255, Gale Cengage Learning, Farmington Hills, MI, 2012: 153-245 [entry, bibliography, selection of essays, selected excerpt]
- “Au berceau de l’appropriation: Rousseau, Locke et l’enfance du propriétaire,” *Annales Jean-Jacques Rousseau*, vol. L, 2012: 161-182, https://repository.brynmawr.edu/french_pubs/10/
- “De l’ingratitude volontaire: Rousseau, Mirabeau et les paradoxes de l’hospitalité moderne,” *Theatrum historiae*, 4, Vydavatelství Univerzity Pardubice, 2009: 47-58, https://repository.brynmawr.edu/french_pubs/5/
- “Rousseau, médecin du moi,” in *Archéologie du moi*, eds. G. Berkman and C. Jacot-Grapa, Saint-Denis, Presses Universitaires de Vincennes, 2009: 83-94

“Cendrillon: portrait de la jeune fille en vestale,” *La grande oreille*, no. 33 (Winter 2007): 33-39,
https://repository.brynmawr.edu/french_pubs/8/

“Interview with Daniel Clowes/Entretien avec Daniel Clowes,” *PLG*, no. 37, 2002: 27-37,
https://repository.brynmawr.edu/french_pubs/14/

EDITIONS

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *Lettre à D’Alembert*, in *Œuvres Complètes*, vol. IX B, Paris, Classiques Garnier, 2024: 227-467 [Text established and annotated by RLM; introduction co-signed by RLM and Ourida Mostefai]

Charles-Augustin Vandermonde, *Essai sur la manière de perfectionner l’espèce humaine*, Paris, Classiques Garnier, 2015

Mirabeau (fils), *Ma Conversion*, Paris, Editions du Sandre, 2004

Baroque et classicisme: anthologie, Paris, Flammarion, 2003

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Un monde sans charité [book project]

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“L’épître aux Montagnons : l’article NEUCHATEL contre Jean-Jacques,” Journées d’études ENCCRE, “La géographie dans l’*Encyclopédie* : bilan d’étape,” Paris, Sorbonne Université, Campus Jussieu, June 2025

“Le misogyne malgré lui : la *Lettre à D’Alembert* et la querelle des femmes,” 53rd *Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies*, Toronto, Canada, April 2024

“In Absence of Love: Laclos and Sade Against Libertinism,” Rutgers University, Nov. 2023 [invited speaker]

“‘Que m’importe ?’ La critique de l’insensibilité philosophique par Rousseau,” *Colloque international “Le rôle de la compassion dans la philosophie de Jean-Jacques Rousseau”*, Torino, Sept. 2023 [invited speaker]

“Aux sources de la bienfaisance: Beaumarchais au secours des mères-nourrices,” 16th *Congress of the International Society of Eighteenth-Century Studies*, Rome, July 2023 [invited speaker]

“It’s Rousseau’s Fault, Again,” 53rd *Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies*, Saint Louis, MO, March 2023

“La preuve par Alceste : *Le Misanthrope* comme prétexte et la *Lettre à D’Alembert* comme symptôme,” *Decentering Molière*, Yale University, New Haven, CT, April 2022

“Un essai de galanterie virale: l’inoculation de l’amour selon Rousseau,” 52nd *Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies*, Baltimore, MD, March/April 2022

“Editer la *Lettre à D’Alembert*,” 52nd *Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies*, Baltimore, MD, March/April 2022

“Comme dans une planète étrangère. L’aliénation selon Jean-Jacques,” 51st *Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies*, April 2021 [online]

“Voilà la citoyenne. Rousseau et la réinvention du sublime,” 21st *Rousseau Association Colloquium, Rousseau and Aesthetic Experience: Art-Nature-Politics*, Stockholm, Sweden, June 2019

“Une sorte d’analogie : Rousseau et les figures de l’approximation,” 50th *Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies*, Denver, CO, March 2019

“Rousseau lassé du monde,” *Joint Annual Meeting of the Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies and of the Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies*, Toronto, Canada, Oct. 2017

“Rousseau: the Great Preserver,” *Rousseau’s Relevance Today: Politics, Ethics, and (Self-)Care*, a 1-day conference organized by Flora Amann and Renan Larue, University of California, Santa Barbara, Feb. 2017 [invited speaker]

“Restaurer l’âme antique : Rousseau et le mirage polonais,” *Journée d’études*, GEMR (Groupe d’Etude du Matérialisme Rationnel) and Clarens, Nov. 2016 [invited speaker]

“Le paradis à portée de lance : une réinterprétation du modèle spartiate de J.-J. Rousseau,” Université Paris-Sorbonne, Dec. 2015 [invited speaker]

“I Am Not a Number: from Repopulation to Regeneration in 18th Century France,” *42nd Conference of the Western Society for French History*, San Antonio, TX, November 2014

“Pain and Tears: Observations on the Newborn by Vandermonde and Rousseau,” Christophe Litwin’s Seminar *The Enlightenment and the Interpretation of Pain*, Society of Fellows, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, October 2014 [invited speaker]

“Improving Mankind or Preparing for War? The Ambiguities of Eugenics in 18th-Century France,” *60th Annual Meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies*, Montréal, Québec, April 2014

“Matière humaine: l’homme malléable selon Buffon et Vandermonde,” University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, March 2014 [invited speaker]

“Improving Mankind: An Introduction to Vandermonde’s *Essai sur la manière de perfectionner l’espèce humaine*,” *French Culture Workshop*, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, May 2013 [invited speaker]

“De l’intrusion polémique: Rousseau et les querelles médicales de son temps,” *Rousseau et les querelles de son temps*, Maison Française d’Oxford (Voltaire Foundation & CNRS), Oxford, UK, June 2012 [invited speaker]

“Rousseau: une philosophie de la disposition,” *Philosophie de Rousseau. Colloque International*, Lyon, France, June 2012

“Waiting Around to Die: the Management of Life in the 18th Century,” *43rd Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies*, San Antonio, TX, March 2012

“Rousseau and the Factory of Diseases,” Rousseau Society & Bestermann Centre for the Enlightenment, Balliol College, Oxford, UK, June 2011 [invited speaker]

“Vertige à Vincennes: anecdote et *éthos* chez Jean-Jacques Rousseau,” *Anecdotes philosophiques et théologiques, Cinquième rencontre sur La Théorie subreptice*, University of Paris 4-Sorbonne, Paris, France, October 2010 [invited speaker]

“Régénération: du microscope à la guillotine,” *41st Annual Meeting of the ASECS*, Albuquerque, NM, March 2010

“Rousseau, l’anti-médecin?,” *Séminaire de l’Equipe Jean-Jacques Rousseau*, University of Paris 4-Sorbonne, Montmorency, France, June 2009 [invited speaker]

“De l’ingratitude volontaire: Rousseau, Mirabeau et les paradoxes de l’hospitalité moderne,” *ISECS International Seminar for Junior Eighteenth Century Scholars*, University of Pardubice, Czech Republic, September 2008

“Autopsie de la liberté sexuelle. Du libertinage au XX^{ème} siècle,” *Department of Foreign Languages*, Skövde University and Alliance Française, Skövde, Sweden, June 2008 [invited speaker]

BOOK REVIEWS

Béatrice DIDIER, *À l'extrême de l'écriture de soi. Les derniers textes autobiographiques de J.-J. Rousseau*. Torino: Rosenberg & Sellier, 2020.

H-France Review Vol. 22, August 2022, No. 144

Anne C. VILA, *Suffering Scholars. Pathologies of the Intellectual in Enlightenment France*, Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2018.

Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Wiley, Chichester, UK, Vol. 42, Issue 3, September 2019: 568-569

Marco MENIN, *Il libro mai scritto*, Il Mulino, Torino, 2013

Dix-Huitième Siècle, no 48, Paris, 2016: 696-8

Sabine ARNAUD, *On Hysteria: The Invention of A Medical Category Between 1670 and 1820*, Chicago, Chicago University Press, 2015

French Studies, Vol. 71, Issue 2, Oxford, 1 April 2017: 270-1

Laurence MALL, *Emile ou les figures de la fiction*, Oxford, Voltaire Foundation, 2002

Etudes Jean-Jacques Rousseau, nos 14-15, Paris, 2005: 402-3

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Bryn Mawr College Faculty Research Grant, Summer 2025

Eugenia Chase Guild Faculty Fellowship, Bryn Mawr College, 2012-2013

Franklin Research Grant, American Philosophical Society, 2012-2013

Bryn Mawr College Faculty Research Grant, Summer 2011

TEACHING AND RESEARCH FIELDS

French and European Enlightenment

History of Medicine (17th – 19th C.) ; Early Modern Literature and Medicine

Early Modern French Literature ; French Theatre ; Fairy Tales

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Bryn Mawr College)

French Language Intermediate level (French 003 and 004)

French Culture *Directions de la France contemporaine* (French 105)

French Literature, Philosophy and History *Introduction à l'analyse littéraire* (French 101); *Les Lumières* (French 204); *Les moralistes français – 17^{ème}/18^{ème} s.* (French 204); *La liberté ou la mort* (French 204) also offered at the 300-level; *Libertinage et subversion* (French 306); *Rousseau polémiste* (French 325); *Nostalgie-la maladie du retour (18^{ème}-19^{ème} s.)* (graduate seminar); *Survertir/Pervertir* (graduate seminar) in Summer 2012 (Institut d'Avignon); *Junior Seminar* (French 298) and *Senior Seminar* (French 398)

Comparative Literature *Lovesick* (Emily Balch Seminar = Freshman Seminar), based on Latin, French, German and American sources (comic book, movies, poems, novels) ; offered as COML 217 since Spring 2023; *Le conte merveilleux* (French 214) in Summer 2011 (Institut d'Avignon) now offered on campus as *Monstres et Merveilles* (French 229 with a tag in Comparative Literature): taught in French, but readings include Russian, Scandinavian, Italian and German tales (among others)

Creative Writing *Atelier d'écriture* (French 260)

Medical Humanities *Improving Mankind: Enlightened Hygiene and Eugenics* (HLTH 275). First offered as part of a 360 interdisciplinary cluster of courses ; *Littérature et médecine* (French 325)

THESIS ADVISING (Senior Essays not included)

- 2011 Margaux KEARNEY: "L'enfance moribonde en marge des toiles rococo : un paradoxe déconstruit"
- 2012 Harry JONES: "Le Régent à Ispahan : mises en fiction allégoriques de Philippe d'Orléans et de la Régence"
- 2014 Julia ARDIS: "La figure de l'enfant sauvage face à la société : une analyse pédagogique d'écrits culturels" (**MA thesis**)
- 2015 Charlotte LELLMAN: "Policer la prostitution parisienne au XVIIIème siècle"
- 2015 Whitney MUELLER: "*Mutatis mutandis*. La perspective et les transformations spatiales dans *Gargantua et Pantagruel*"
- 2017 Meredith SCHEIRING: "Prêts à tomber : une analyse des pratiques et des discours de lutte contre la peste dans la France moderne (XVIème-XVIIIème siècles)"
- 2019 Arianna LI: "Prison, publicité et rhétorique : Mirabeau entre l'Ancien Régime et la Révolution" (Hester Corner Thesis Prize for Distinction in Literature)
- 2019 Hallie NOVAK: "L'appropriation féminine de la vendetta corse dans *Orphelins de Dieu*"
- 2020 Victoria MURANO: "Corrompue et corruptrice : Marie-Antoinette dans les libelles révolutionnaires"
- 2020 Gabrielle SUGARMAN: "La place de l'Autre dans la république universelle : des niveaux d'étrangement à Saint-Louis du Sénégal sous la Troisième République" (**MA thesis**)
- 2023 Kayla THOMPSON: "*Code Lyoko*: à la recherche d'une identité humaine"
- 2023 Caroline LOOKE: "We're All In This Together (but are we?): How Unilateral Were France's Negotiations During Brexit On Fishing Rights And The Irish Border?"
- 2023 Jess WANG: "Comment Zemmour recompose le paysage politique français : la théorie du 'Grand Remplacement'"
- 2024 Lauren MCCOUGH: "Le Diable au cœur : *Bonjour tristesse* et la valeur littéraire dans les années 1950"
- 2024 Cat OPSAHL: "Les vampires de Jean Rollin : le frisson de la subversion"
- 2024 Chloé RIMMERMAN: "L'amour posthume : Albert Gayet (1856-1916), la nécrophilie et le spectacle scientifique du XIXe siècle"
- 2024 Sankeerthna VEDAMTAM: "Amour étranger : étude comparative de *La Nuit bengali de Mircea Eliade* et *Na Hanyate* de Maitreyi Devi" (**MA thesis**)

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE (Bryn Mawr College)

Chair, Department of French and Francophone Studies, 2018 – present

Co-Director, Health Studies, 2022 – present

Health Studies Steering Committee, 2016 – present

Comparative Literature Steering Committee, 2022 – present

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 2022 – 2023 (Co-Chair), 2024 – 2027

Committee on Undergraduate Awards and Fellowships, 2011 – 2014 (Chair, 2013-14) ; 2021 – 2024

Global Learning Experience Committee, 2019 – 2023

OSE (Overseas Study and Engagement Committee), 2016 – 2019

International Working Group, 2014 – 2015

Institut d'Avignon Advisory Board, 2019 – present

Director, *Institut d'Avignon*, 2013 – 2019

Convener, Language Group, 2018 – 2020, Fall 2021, Spring 2023

Graduate Council, 2017 – 2018, Fall 2021, Spring 2024

Acting Graduate Advisor, Fall 2021, Spring 2024

Graduate Advisor (French), 2011 – 2018
Major Advisor for Classes of 2019, 2021, 2023, 2025 (French)
Faculty Retreat Planning Committee, 2010 – 2011
Search Committees: French (CNTT in 2015-16; TT in 2019-20 and in 2022-23, as Chair of the Search Committee), Spanish (TT in 2023-24, as voting member), Psychology (TT in 2019, as Appointments/Diversity Rep), Russian (TT in 2016, as voting member), Bookstore Evaluation Team (2014), Biology (TT in 2013, as Diversity Rep)
Reappointment Review Committee: Cities (TT in AY 2018-19), Russian (CNTT in AY 2016-17)
Chair of PhD Committees: Shannon Steiner (History of Art, preliminary exams in AY 2014-15, defense in 2020), Shannon Dunn (Archaeology, preliminary exams in AY 2019-20)
Mentoring: Margaret Strair (2025-present, German), Kate Riestenberg (2018-20, Linguistics)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

Board Member, *Société des Professeurs Français et Francophones d'Amérique* 2014 – present
President, Society for Eighteenth-Century French Studies 2012
Member, American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies 2008 – present
Member, Rousseau Association 2007 – present
Member, Société Diderot 2024 – present

PEER REVIEWS

Noctua (2025); *TrOPICS* (2025); *Eighteenth Century Fiction* (2023-24); *Revue Voltaire* (2022) ; *Journal of Intellectual History* (2014) ; *Romanic Review* (2012, 2013) ; SUNY Press (2012)

EXTERNAL REVIEWER FOR TENURE AND PROMOTION

Dickinson College (tenure, 2024), Auburn University (tenure, 2024), Macalester College (promotion, 2023), Haverford College (promotion, 2020), Scripps College (tenure, 2020)

OTHER SERVICE

Louis Gottschalk Prize Committee (ASECS), 2020-21: “recognizes an outstanding historical or critical study on the eighteenth century”
PhD Committee for Magdala Jeudy (Cornell): dissertation defended on Nov. 16, 2020

LANGUAGES

English (fluent); Latin (reading); German (reading); Italian (reading); Spanish (intermediate)