



Department of Romance Languages

June 4, 2013

Dear Wake Women,

Welcome to the Wake Forest community! I'm writing to invite you to consider participating in an exciting new first-year experience: a living and learning community linked to a First-Year Seminar (FYS 100), "Paris: From Department Stores to Mystery Stories." The young women who make up this community will take this course together, live in the same residence hall, and form a lower-division advising group. We'll also participate together in several activities on campus and in the local community. This pilot program, the first of its kind at Wake Forest, is based on research showing that students who live and learn together benefit personally and academically in their transition to college life.

If this sounds intriguing to you, please take a close look at the description is below. If you're interested in being a part of this innovative community, please complete the attached application and return it to me by e-mail by **June 20**. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions!

Professor Tarte
tartekb@wfu.edu

PARIS: FROM DEPARTMENT STORES TO MYSTERY STORIES
Associate Professor Kendall Tarte, Department of Romance Languages

This course will explore stories and images of Paris, from the rise of the city as a consumer paradise in the nineteenth century to the lives of its multiethnic youth today. We will draw on novels, short stories, and paintings to examine a variety of depictions of the places and people of that city. To orient our discussions, we will focus on the artistic qualities of these texts and on the social and political concerns their language and form convey. Our discovery of real and imaginary Paris will focus on such topics as transformations of the urban landscape, ethnicity and identity, Parisian mysteries and realities, and ways of looking at the city.

This course is reserved for first-year women who are interested in participating in a unique learning community inside and outside the classroom. Exploration of course topics and group participation in a limited number of co-curricular events will encourage a smooth transition to college life. Through these activities, we will cultivate relationships with one another and with the community around us, explore our individual strengths and common interests, and develop leadership skills.

This group will live in the same residence hall and will form a first-year advising group, with Professor Tarte as their faculty adviser. Registration is limited and is by application only. Applications will be emailed to students in early-to-mid June.

MWF 1:00–1:50 pm

PLACE TBA

Fall 2013

[Please note that enrollment in this course will not interfere with registration for fall classes; students accepted into this course will be able to register for up to eight credit hours of classes, in addition to the FYS, during Round 1 of registration.]