COURSE DESCRIPTION

FREN250 proposes to explore the French criminal imagination and the ways in which it affects culture and society. Through close readings of French literary texts, articles, films, and songs, we will discover and explore various images and characters that have shaped the French criminal imagination. In addition to class readings and discussions, the course will include grammar sessions that consist of formal explanations and intensive writing exercises.

A sample of texts:
Le Clézio: *Le Procès-Verbal* (novel)
Baudelaire: *Le Crépuscule du Soir* (poem)
Piaf: *Le Boulevard du Crime* (song)
Mesrine: *Mémoires* (excerpt of a modern criminal’s memoirs)
Maurice Leblanc: ‘Arsène Lupin, gentleman cambrioleur’ (short story)