A young French woman returns to West Africa to contemplate her childhood days in Northern French Cameroon, where her father was a colonial administrator. Her strongest memories are of the family’s houseboy Protee, who was a man of great nobility, and the intricate nature of relationships between French expatriates and native Africans. Shaun Irlam, Department of Comparative Literature, will introduce the film and lead a discussion following the screening.

Friday, September 19
5:00-7:30 PM, Knox 4
Chocolat
(1988, U.S.)

A young Saudi girl enters her school’s Koran recitation competition as a way to raise the money she needs to buy a green bicycle that has captured her interest. Her efforts at memorizing the verses impress her teacher, but when she wins the competition and announces her intention to buy the bicycle, her teachers have another idea as to what to do with the money. Jeannette Ludwig, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, will introduce the film and lead a discussion following the screening.

Friday, October 10
5:00-7:30 P.M., Norton 216
Wadjda
(2012, Germany)

A young sister and brother are abandoned in the harsh Australian outback and must learn to cope in the natural world, without their usual comforts. Along the way, they meet a young aborigine on his “walkabout,” a rite of passage in which adolescent boys are initiated into manhood by journeying into the wilderness alone. Jeannette Ludwig, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, will introduce the film and lead a discussion following the screening.

Friday, November 7
5:00-7:30 P.M., Knox 4
The Lives of Others
(2006, Germany)

In 1984 East Berlin, an agent of the secret police is conducting surveillance on a writer and his lover. Emotionally drawn to the subjects of his surveillance, he becomes increasingly absorbed by their lives and his loyalties begin to shift. David Fertig, Department of Linguistics, will introduce the film and lead a discussion following the screening.

Friday, December 5
5:00-7:30 P.M., Knox 4
Walkabout
(1971, Australia)

A young sister and brother are abandoned in the harsh Australian outback and must learn to cope in the natural world, without their usual comforts. Along the way, they meet a young aborigine on his “walkabout,” a rite of passage in which adolescent boys are initiated into manhood by journeying into the wilderness alone. Jeannette Ludwig, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, will introduce the film and lead a discussion following the screening.