

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**
<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

2017-2018 FREN 311/B1: Mystery, Myth, Supernatural
(Winter Term)

Instructor: Dr. Anne Malena
Office: A 241B
Telephone: none (budget cuts) Fax: 780-492-9106
E-mail: amalena@ualberta.ca
Personal Website: www.ualberta.ca/~amalena

Time: MWF: 11 am
Place: T B
Office Hours: W: 12 pm,
or by appointment
Course Website: e-class

Course Prerequisite: FREN 298 or consent of department

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes No, not needed, no such projects approved.

Community Service Learning component

Required Optional None

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available

- Exam registry – Students' Union
<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>
- See explanations below
- Document distributed in class
- Other (please specify)
- NA

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes No

Course Description and Objectives:

In this course, students will explore various cultural genres (texts; films; images) that make use of mystery, myth and supernatural elements in order to understand how culture is influenced by them. Material will be learned through reading, writing, viewing, listening and thinking!

By the end of the course students will know how to write short reading reports and formal essays in French. They will have gained more confidence in reading, writing and speaking French, and they will have learned about several literary genres as well as how to think about the function of myth in French-speaking regions and countries.

Texts:

Required

Will be provided on e-class

Recommended

Barthes, Roland: Mythologies

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

- | | | |
|--|-----|-----------|
| • Participation in class activities and attendance | 10% | |
| • Two written assignments (February 9; March 23) | 30% | (2 x 15%) |
| • Writing Exercises | 30% | (6 x 5%) |
| • Final exam (April 23, 9 am) | 30% | |

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

1) Writing Exercises

There will be six in total on various topics related to the course. They will be very short (400 words max.) but you are expected to be very careful about all grammar rules. **These will all be handed in by e-mail, typed and double-spaced.** If time allows I may assign an optional 7th exercise whose mark would replace your worst mark obtained in the first six if it is higher.

2) Two written assignments

The assignments will be relatively brief essays (4-6 pages) with a choice of possible topics; some of the weekly exercises will be devoted to essay-writing skills; only **typed, doubled-spaced paper** copies will be accepted.

3) Final Exam

More information will be provided but, whatever the format, it will be cumulative.

Please note that you will only receive letter grades in this course, **no percentages.**

Required Notes:

“Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) of the University Calendar.”

Academic Integrity:

“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behaviour that could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to

study and work in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the [Office of the Student Ombuds](#). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

Academic Honesty:

All students should consult the information provided by the [Student Conduct & Accountability Office](#) regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the [Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook](#) and [Information for Students](#)). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.” **Students in languages courses** should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, **excessive editorial and creative help** in assignments is considered a form of “cheating” that violates the code of student conduct with dire consequences.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not

handed-in or completed as a result.

In this course, we will engage into active learning with individual and group activities. Your participation mark will be based on attendance and the following:

- How well prepared you come to class: you're supposed to thoroughly prepare all work assigned for each class session (e.g. readings, exercises and discussions)
- Your contribution to class discussions and activities

Attendance: deductions will be made for **more than 3 absences** without legitimate excuses, such as illness or accidents. When in doubt it is best to contact the instructor by e-mail.

Important note: Disruptive behaviour in class is a sign of disrespect both to the instructor and to your fellow students, and will not be tolerated. Activities, such as chatting, surfing the Internet, using or frequently checking your phone, studying for another class, etc., will result in a low participation grade. Cell phones should be turned OFF during class, and should remain put away.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Late assignments will **not** be accepted without prior arrangements made with the instructor for an extension **at the latest one day** before the due date. If no such arrangement is made **5%** will be deducted from the assignment's mark for **each day past the due date**.

Student Accessibility Services:

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with [Student Accessibility Services](#), contact their office immediately (1-80 SUB; Email sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381).

Grading:

Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class" (University Calendar, [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#)). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a student's level of achievement of the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned" (<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”

Descriptor	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	%
<p>Excellent. A+, A or A- is earned by work which is superior in content and form and demonstrates an exceptional grasp of the subject matter. The grade of A+ designates work that far exceeds course expectations. Grades in the A range are normally achieved by a small number of students.</p>	A+	4.0	97-100
	A	4.0	93-96
	A-	3.7	90-92
<p>Good. B+, B or B- is earned by work that demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the course material and a good command of relevant skills. Grades in the B range are normally achieved by the largest number of students.</p>	B+	3.3	87-89
	B	3.0	83-86
	B-	2.7	80-82
<p>Satisfactory. C+, C or C- is earned by work that demonstrates an adequate grasp of the course material and relevant skills. Grades in the C range designate work that has met the basic requirements of the course.</p>	C+	2.3	77-79
	C	2.0	73-76
	C-	1.7	70-72
<p>Poor/Minimal Pass. D+ or D is earned by work that demonstrates minimal familiarity with the course material. Grades in the D range generally indicate insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.</p>	D+	1.3	65-69
	D	1.0	60-64
<p>Failure.</p>	F	0.0	0-59