

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

2017-2018 FREN 315, B1: Cultural Representations of Food
(Winter Term)

Instructor: *Julie Tarif, PhD*
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Time: *TR, 11:00-12.20*
Place: *HC 2-26*
Office Hours: *TBD*
or by appointment

Course Prerequisite: FREN298 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:

This course proposes a study of the food paradigm and some of its multiple representations and significations in the French culture and language – although not exclusively – through the analysis of literary texts (fictional and non-fictional texts) and visual media (pictorial representations, commercials and short videos). The course is structured around the problematics of life/identity and death and the crucial role those notions play in the cultural representations of food in those various media and in society. More generally, our reflection will show to what extent this everyday, cross-cultural reality can also be seen as a powerful means of bridging gaps and transcending cultural differences. This course, as a "cours intégré", is designed to improve the written and verbal knowledge of the French language, and is also meant to help students gain better

analytical skills when faced with a text or another medium to analyze. At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Discuss the problematics of life and death in the perspective of the food paradigm.
- Interpret the link between food and identity.
- Investigate and analyze some artistic representations of food (paintings and installation art).
- Explain and describe certain cultural practices, such as entomophagy or cannibalism.
- Examine and question the representation of food given in certain commercials and manipulate and modify such representations.
- Recollect and invent culinary metaphors and neologisms.
- Collect and combine documents to present a synthesized personal reflection on the topic discussed in class.

Texts:

All documents and links to documents required for the class will be posted on the course website.

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

1. Participation in class activities (including homework) and attendance (due on e-class - April 10 th by midday)	15%
2. Short individual presentation (January 30 th & February 1 st)	10%
3. In class analysis of a short video (March 1 st)	15%
4. (Contrastive) Analysis of three documents (March 15 th)	20%
5. Group presentation (February 13 th & 15 th)	20%
6. Final assignment (due on e-class - April 13 th by midday)	20%

Fall / Winter Exam Planner for the 2017-2018 academic year can be found at the following site: <https://www.registrarsoffice.ualberta.ca/en/Examinations/Fall-2017-Winter-2018-Exam-Planner.aspx>

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable):

Please consult the following site:

[http://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=806#Examinations_\(Exams\)](http://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=806#Examinations_(Exams))

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

1°) Participation and attendance

Very regular attendance is expected.

In class, we will engage into active learning with individual and group activities. Your participation in these activities is evaluated for:

- how well prepared you come to class: you're supposed to prepare all work assigned for each class session (e.g. readings, homework activities),
- your spontaneous contribution to class discussions and activities,
- your use of the French language.

The marking rubrics will be provided on e-class.

Students are also strongly encouraged to use the course *Moodle* to share any of their questions on the course content and answer them. This is particularly relevant for shy students, although *all* are expected to participate orally in class.

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.

2°) Short individual presentation (10 mins)

- ♦ Students will present their “madeleine” in front of the class. Detailed instructions will be provided by the professor during the first class.

3°) In class analysis of a short video

- ♦ Detailed instructions will be provided by the professor ahead of time.

4°) (Contrastive) Analysis of three documents (around 1200 words, +/- 10%)

- ♦ Detailed instructions will be provided by the professor ahead of time.

5°) Group presentation (10 mins)

- ♦ Students will give a short presentation in class, in small groups. Detailed instructions will be provided by the professor ahead of time.

6°) Final assignment (around 800 words)

- ♦ In lieu of a final exam, students will complete a final assignment. Detailed instructions will be provided by the professor ahead of time.

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, students are allowed to miss three sessions without penalty regardless of the reason for their absence (excusable or not), after which two percentage point per absence will be deducted from the attendance and participation grade. It is recommended not to miss a session unless necessary.

Policy for Late Assignments:

“Students who consult **in advance** with an instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be granted an extension just one time throughout the course with no penalty. Otherwise, all assignments should be handed in on the stated deadline. **Any assignment not handed-in in time or unexcused late assignments will not be given any marks.** Late excuses will **not** be accepted for any reason.”

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	%
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.	A+	4.0	97-100
	A	4.0	93-96
	A-	3.7	90-92
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.	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