

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

2018-2019 FREN 310/B1: Composition, Style and Expression
(Winter Term)

Instructor: *Julie Tarif, PhD*
Office: *209-C Arts & Convocation Hall*
Telephone: *N/A* Fax: *780-492-9106*
E-mail: *jtarif@ualberta.ca*

Time: *T&R: 11:00-12:20 am*
Place: *HC 2 26*
Office Hours: *TBD*
or by appointment
Course Website: *e-class*

Course Prerequisite: FREN 298 or consent of department

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

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, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

The objectives of this course are to hone students’ linguistic and writing skills. The course will put the emphasis on analytic reading and on several types of written expression (*factual non-prose texts* (text messages; press titles)); *factual prose texts* (*faits divers*; defense pleas; dialectical argumentation; gender-inclusive language; professional letters - CVs and statements of interest); *fictional writing* (the fantastic genre). The course is based on three main activities:

1. Exercises to acquire vocabulary and understand the fundamentals of structures

- and stylistics;
- 2. Writing and revision exercises;
- 3. Texts to read, analyse and comment.

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Rephrase text messages into standard French.
- Interpret puns in press titles.
- Memorize and recognize false cognates.
- Paraphrase and rephrase a “fait divers”.
- Write a defense plea.
- Discriminate between various levels of formality.
- Exercise critical thinking.
- Write a dialectical argumentation.
- Explain what gender-inclusive language is and on what linguistic strategies it relies.
- Invent a short story that conforms to the fantastic genre conventions.
- Write a professional letter, in particular a statement of interest.

Texts:

There is no required text for this course. All the materials will be either distributed in class and/or posted on e-class.

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Participation in class activities (including homework) and attendance (self-evaluation due on e-class - April 9 th by noon) | 15% |
| 2. Two tests, in class | 30% (15% & 15%) |
| => Test 1: January 29 th or 31 st | |
| => Test 2 : March 7 th or 12 th | |
| 3. In-class group or individual composition | 20% (15% & 5%) |
| => Composition (February 12 th & 14 th) | |
| => Corrections (March 5 th) | |
| 4. In-class individual composition | 15% |
| (March 26 th or 28 th) | |
| 5. Final assignment (due on e-class – by April 15 th by 9:00 am) | 20% |

Fall / Winter Exam Planner for the 2018-2019 academic year can be found at the following site: <https://www.ualberta.ca/registrar/examinations/exam-schedules/fall-2018-winter-2019-exam-planner>

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable):

Please consult the following site:

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

For information on how to apply for a deferred exam see [“I Missed my Final Exam, Now What?”](#)

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

All explanations will be provided in class in a separate Power Point posted on e-class in the section “Tests and assignments”.

1. Attendance and Participation

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.

2. Two tests (in class):

This is designed to test the students’ knowledge of class material, including language points.

⇒ Test 1 is on Séquences 1 & 2;

⇒ Test 2 is on Séquence 3b (Gender-neutral language)

3. In-class group or individual composition (around 1000 words in length) & corrections

This composition requires students to work on a dialectical argumentation.

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

4. In-class individual composition (400-500 words in length)

This composition requires students to work on a statement of interest.

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

5. Final assignment (around 1200 words in length)

This composition requires students to work on fictional writing, more specifically on the fantastic genre.

Required Notes:

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

Student Responsibilities:

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.

All students should consult [the Academic Integrity website](#). If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

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](#).

Language courses:

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that the use of on-line translation to complete assignments constitutes a form of cheating as the student's own understanding and work is therefore not reflected. Also, students in language 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 Behaviour.

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](#).

Territorial Statement:

“The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.” (*from the beginning of the Calendar*).

University of Alberta Sexual Violence Policy:

The Sexual Violence Policy was approved by GFC in June 2017. It plays a vital role in ensuring a safe and respectful learning and working environment. As defined in the policy, **sexual violence** is any sexual act or act of a sexual nature, or act targeting sexuality, whether physical or psychological, committed without consent. **Sexual violence** is a complex and serious problem in society

and on university campuses. Sexual violence can affect individuals of all gender identities, gender expressions, and sexual orientations, as well as those from all ages, abilities, racial, cultural and economic backgrounds. Through this policy, the University of Alberta recognizes its responsibility to reduce sexual violence in the University community. The university aims to do so by fostering a culture of **consent** and support through education, training and policy. The University recognizes the possible effects of trauma on those who have experienced sexual violence and supports the efforts of individuals to seek support and recover.

To read the policy in more detail, please visit:

<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Policies/Sexual-Violence-Policy.pdf>

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.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the Code of Student Behaviour.

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 15% attendance and participation grade. It is recommended not to miss a session unless necessary.

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.**

Disclaimer:

Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and posted on eClass. The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

Student Resources:

The best all-purpose website for student services is: <https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students>.

Accessibility Resources: (1 – 80 SUB)

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage.

The Academic Success Centre: (1-80 SUB)

[The Academic Success Centre](#) offers a variety of workshops on effective study and exam strategies. There are in-person and online sessions available for a modest fee.

The Centre for Writers: (1-42 Assiniboia Hall)

The [Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

Health and Wellness Support: There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

Office of the Student Ombuds:

The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

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
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.	C+	2.3	77-79
	C	2.0	73-76
	C-	1.7	70-72
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.	D+	1.3	65-69
	D	1.0	60-64
Failure.	F	0.0	0-59

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