

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

**2019-2020 FREN: 301 A1: Introduction to French Literary Studies
(Fall Term)**

Instructor: Chris Reys-Chikuma

Time: MWF 2:00pm-2:50pm

Office: Arts 210A

Place: HC 2 15

Telephone: / Fax: 780-492-9106

Office Hours: M. 3pm-4pm, & F. 1pm-2pm

E-mail: reynschi@ualberta.ca

or by appointment

Personal Website: /

Course Website: /

Teaching Assistant Information (if relevant): /

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

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

Course Description, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

In this course, we will learn about basic critical tools for textual analysis and short essay writing as well as assisting students in developing their own reading and academic and creative writing strategies. More specifically, we will study 6 stories that deal with another media than the strictly written one (the novel) such as video games, comics, digital. We will reflect on what a traditional media like the novel says about new media (e.g., if they present them as threatening or complimentary, and to which extent they are interactive). For their final assignment, students will be encouraged to create their own project (using various media: written, visual, printed, digital, interactive,).

At the end of the course, successful students will be able to:

- read longer texts in French,**
- write short critical responses in French,**
- use other media in a critical fashion.**

Course Format: The objectives of this course will be learned from a combination of short formal lectures, oral presentations by students in the class, using various media, assigned readings, assigned short writing exercises, and a creative project as a final assignment.

Texts:

Texts are required in class; any format is ok [printed, bought at the bookstore, borrowed from the library [although there is only one copy at Rutherford], digital [pdf], ...]. Any edition is ok.

-*Virus L.I.V. 3 ou la mort des livres*, by Christian Grenier, 1998 (1st edition).

-*No Pasarán, le jeu*, by Christian Lehmann, 1996 (vol. 1).

-*OVNI*, by Lewis Trondheim, 2006.

-*3 secondes*, by Mathieu, 2015.

-*Corpus Simsi*, by Chloé Delaume, 2003.

-*La Cité: Lumière blanche*, by Karim Ressoumi-Demigieux, 2011 (vol. 1).

Additional Course Fees

Yes No

Important Dates: See Academic Schedule in current Calendar

First Day of Class: September 4, 2019

Add/Delete Date: September 16, 2019

50% Withdrawal Date: October 3, 2019

Withdrawal Date: November 29, 2019

Last Day of Class: December 6, 2019

Final Exam Date (if applicable): *N/A*

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))

Deferred Final Examination: For information on how to apply for a deferred exam see “I Missed my Final Exam, Now What?”

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Attendance: 10%

Participation: 10%

Oral presentation: 10% (TBD the second week of class)

Quizzes: 15% (5 quizzes)

Midterm: 15% (Nov. 8)

Oral presentation of the final project: 10% (the last week of the semester)

Final project: 30% (due the first class of last week of the semester)

Fall / Winter Exam Planner for the 2019-2020 academic year can be found at the following

site: <https://www.ualberta.ca/registrar/examinations/exam-schedules/fall-2019-winter-2020-exam-planner>

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Attendance: 10%

For any course, attendance is a basic requirement, but it is even more important for a language class in order to practice your 2 oral skills (speaking and listening), and it is also important for the topic of this class since participation is the topic of the course.

Participation in class: 10%

Means asking Traditional participation such as asking and answering questions from and to other students and the instructor, but also collaboration a lot. During all classes, there will be class time for “tools down” conversation, that is, technology won’t be allowed!

Oral presentation: 10%

The oral presentation is on one of the textbooks; it will have to be very professional: prepared (that is, rehearsed before); supporting technology such as a PPT is required (well-structured slides with texts, and when useful with pictures); it will have to be presented to the instructor at least 24 hours before (5% out of the 10%); the grading of the oral part will be based on the clarity of the presentation: (clarity of ideas, voice, enthusiasm, ...); the length is 10 minutes minimum-15 minutes maximum.

Oral presentations could be done in a group of 2 (and then would last 20 minutes minimum with explicitly shared amount of work).

Subjects of the oral presentation:

1st one: general: plot, characters, ... (the 5 questions)

2nd: focus more on an issue: e.g., representation of technology

3rd: focus on another issue such as representation of women in the book.

Quizzes: 15%

5 quizzes: one on each book assigned; the quiz will be short with short answers testing if the student has read and understood the textbook.

Midterm: 15%

On Friday Nov. 8th

Will be one hour during the class

On all the textbooks

Made of 10 questions requiring short answers (one paragraph~100 words)

The goal is to assess your understanding of the textbooks read in class.

Oral presentation of final projects: 10%

Same as oral presentations

Final project: 15 + 15 = 30% + 10% for oral presentation

The Final project is made of 2 parts: one written (30) and one oral (10).

You have 3 options: the first one is traditional (30%): students write an essay of 10 pages (TNR, 12, double space); the second is creative, the 3rd one is CSL. It will have to be presented orally with a PPT-type in front of the class (10%).

The final creative project is made of 2 parts; the first one is creative (15%) and could be anything that involves texts and images on paper or/and on line. Project will have to be discussed and accepted by the instructor during a meeting. It could be collaborative between two (or exceptionally a maximum of 3 students). The creative part is to be complemented by a “critical essay” (15%) written individually and made of 5 pages (TNR, double space, 12), explaining the process and product of the final creative project (With whom did you work? What did you learn? What obstacles did you encounter? What critical-theoretical issues are connected to your project? Etc.). Finally, the project will be presented in class, professionally. For the final project, a third option is CSL where student creates a project in collaboration with one French association in Edmonton (“French” schools, AFE, CFA, ...) (15%). You then need to write a report (5 pages, 15%) and present it to the class. (10%)

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](#) 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 and Translation 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](#).

Sexual Violence Policy:

It is the policy of the University of Alberta that sexual violence committed by any member of the University community is prohibited and constitutes misconduct. Resources and more information can be found at <https://www.ualberta.ca/campus-life/sexual-violence>

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*).

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, Attendance is essential in this class like in every language class and because emphasis is given to the topic of interactivity in this particular class.

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. However, if a second excuse will be granted for late assignments, half of the mark assigned for this particular work will be deducted. Otherwise, all assignments should be handed in one stated deadline. Any assignment not handed in on time or unexcused late assignments will not be given any marks. Late excuses will not be accepted for any reason.

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