

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES  
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

**2017-2018** French 301, Introduction to French Literary Studies, B2  
(Winter Term)

Instructor: Dr LK Penrod  
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Time: MWF 9:00-9:50  
Place: HC 2-15  
Office Hours: W 12:00-1:00  
or by appointment

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**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:**

This course will teach basic critical tools for textual analysis and essay writing as related to the various genres of French literary expression. This course will also assist students in developing their own reading and writing strategies. The corpus consists of French and Francophone texts from poetry, drama, and prose. At the end of this course the successful student will be able to (a) adequately analyze a work of French literature; (b) present a close reading of a French text orally and in writing; (c) have read a selected variety of French and Francophone texts and understand their historical and social contexts.

**Texts:**

To purchase :

1. Molière, *Le bourgeois gentilhomme*
2. Camus, *L'Étranger*
3. Modiano, *La Place de l'Étoile*
4. Gagnon et al., *Guide des procédés d'écriture*. ERPI, Québec, 2007.

All other texts are freely available online. Links will be posted for students in advance of assigned readings and preparations.

**Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):**

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Participation and attendance                  | 10% |
| Oral presentations x 2                        | 20% |
| Midterm 1 (February 9)                        | 15% |
| Midterm 2 (March 19)                          | 15% |
| Explication de texte (take home—due March 28) | 20% |
| Final Essay (due April 13)                    | 20% |

Note : There is no final examination in this course.

**Explanatory Notes on Assignments:**

Participation and attendance. You are expected to attend and actively participate in class. This includes thoroughly preparing all work assigned for each class session and contributing actively to class discussion and activities. This includes not only regularly sharing your own thoughts about what we read but also listening attentively and responding to classmates' ideas.

Oral presentations will be based on assigned readings, approximately 5-8 minutes in length and graded on both content and quality of French.

Midterms will be written in class (with dictionary) and will be a combination of short answer and essay. Possible essay topics will be distributed in advance.

The explication de texte will be based on a poem and will be approximately 800-1000 words in length.

The final essay will be on a topic of the student's choice (in consultation with the instructor) and will be 1000-1200 words in length (excluding bibliography).

**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](http://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**, attendance is part of your participation grade, which is worth 10% of the total grade. Each student may miss three class sessions without penalty, whether due to illness, doctor’s appointment, other commitments, etc. Each absence beyond the allotted three will result in a one percent penalty on the final course grade.

***Policy for Late Assignments:***

All work is due **in class** on the day for which it was assigned. Any request for an extension must be submitted in writing to the instructor at least two days in advance of the due date. Extensions will be granted at the sole discretion of the instructor. Work turned in after class on the due date will be assessed a 5% penalty, with an additional 5% assessed for each subsequent day of lateness.

***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](mailto: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><b>Excellent.</b> 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> | <b>A+</b>    | 4.0               | <b>97-100</b> |
|  | <b>A</b>     | 4.0               | <b>93-96</b>  |
|  | <b>A-</b>    | 3.7               | <b>90-92</b>  |
| <p><b>Good.</b> 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>B+</b>    | 3.3               | <b>87-89</b>  |
|  | <b>B</b>     | 3.0               | <b>83-86</b>  |
|  | <b>B-</b>    | 2.7               | <b>80-82</b>  |
| <p><b>Satisfactory.</b> 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>  | <b>C+</b>    | 2.3               | <b>77-79</b>  |
|  | <b>C</b>     | 2.0               | <b>73-76</b>  |
|  | <b>C-</b>    | 1.7               | <b>70-72</b>  |
| <p><b>Poor/Minimal Pass.</b> 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>   | <b>D+</b>    | 1.3               | <b>65-69</b>  |
|  | <b>D</b>     | 1.0               | <b>60-64</b>  |
| <p><b>Failure.</b></p>   | <b>F</b>     | 0.0               | <b>0-59</b>   |