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
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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 X No, not needed, no such projects approved.

Community Service Learning component
☐ Required ☐ Optional X 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)
X NA

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)
☐ Yes X 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 9th by noon) 15%
2. Two tests, in class 30% (15% & 15%)
   => Test 1: January 29th or 31st
   => Test 2: March 7th or 12th
3. In-class group or individual composition 20% (15% & 5%)
   => Composition (February 12th & 14th)
   => Corrections (March 5th)
4. In-class individual composition 15%
   (March 26th or 28th)
5. Final assignment (due on e-class – by April 15th by 9:00 am) 20%


**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](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.

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”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point Value</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent.</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>97-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>93-96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>90-92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good.</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>87-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>83-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>80-82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfactory.</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>77-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>73-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>70-72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor/Minimal Pass.</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>65-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>60-64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure.</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0-59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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