

FREN 326
Fall 2012

INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH LITERATURE

Professor: Dr. Romain Chareyron

Office: Wescoe 2044-B

Office hours: Monday 2.00-3.00/Wednesday 2.00-3.00, or by appointment

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Required textbooks

-Claudel, Philippe, *Le Rapport de Brodeck*, Paris : Stock, 2007.

-Reza, Yasmina, *Le Dieu du carnage*, Paris : Magnard, 2011

-(Collectif), *Anthologie de la poésie française. De Villon à Verlaine*, Paris : Le Livre de poche, 1998.

The use of a good French dictionary as well as a French-English dictionary is also highly recommended.

Additional material

Additional material will be distributed in class.

Film studied

Carnage, (Roman Polanski, 2012).

Course description and objectives

This course is designed to introduce students to literature by giving them an appreciation of French prose, theater and poetry. In this course, we will discuss the history of literature, theater and poetry and pay attention to the main influences and people that helped shape each genre. This course will include the reading of a novel, a play, different poems as well as cultural documents about the history of each genre and its most distinguished features. The class will be based on discussions regarding the works studied and the various other documents provided in class.

Goals for students :

- To improve their reading skills in French.
- To improve their knowledge of French literature.
- To gain knowledge of social and cultural aspects pertaining to the history of French literature.
- To acquire a specific knowledge of the lexicon associated with French prose, theater and poetry.
- To develop their communication skills through the various in-class discussions regarding literature and the works studied.

Course evaluation

Participation/Attendance	30%
Homework/Quizzes	20%
Exams (2 – one on the novel, one on the play)	20% (10% each)
Final exam	15%
Composition	15%

Departmental and course grading system

100-98 A+, 97-94 A, 93-90 A-, 89-88 B+, 87-84 B, 83-80 B-, 79-78 C+, 77-74 C, 73-70 C-, 69-68 D+, 67-64 D, 63-60 D-, below 60 F.

Important dates

Final Exam : Monday, Dec. 10th (7.30am-10.00am)

Composition : Due on the last day of class (Dec. 5th)

Schedule of final exams : http://www.registrar.ku.edu/pdf/exams/fall_2012_final_exam_schedule.pdf

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Presence and participation in class are essential, as we will be dealing with concepts that will most likely be new to you. Also, since you are required to do extensive readings in French for the first time, it is important that you can discuss your thoughts on the works in class, so that we can go through might not have been understood (aspect of the plot, vocabulary, etc.) You are allowed 2 unexcused absences (although any assignment due must still be turned in that day – electronic submissions will be accepted in certain cases to be determined by both the student and the professor). After 2 absences, you will lose 1% of your final grade for each additional absence. Tardiness will also lower the participation portion of your final grade. Please contact me if you have a valid reason for missing class (emergency, religious observance, etc.); you may be allowed to make up work if you have corresponding documentation. **If absent, it is your responsibility to find out what was done in class and what you need to prepare for the next meeting. Exchange your e-mail address with another person in the class so you can correspond with them.**

HOMEWORK AND QUIZZES

To help you in your readings, I will provide you with work sheets that will help you focus on the most important aspects of each work studied. These work sheets will also be the basis for each of our classes as we will use them for our discussions. It is thus essential that you answer the questions on each working sheet, since it will help you have a better grasp on the works studied and it will also provide you with a solid basis for our discussions. For each section of the book (there is 7 in total) I am also asking you to post a comment on Blackboard so that you can share your thoughts on one or more aspects of the section that you found really interesting.

There will be 4 quizzes during the term, based on our discussions on the novel and the play.

EXAMS

There will be 2 one-hour exams during the term, one based on the novel and the other based on the play. Each exam will consist in (a) multiple choice questions and (b) questions on specific aspects of the novel and the play. More information will be provided during the course of the term.

FINAL EXAM

There will be 1 final exam, based on the novel, the play and the poetry. The exam will consist in (a) multiple choice questions on the novel and the play and (b) a short paragraph based on the poems we studied in class. More information will be provided during the course of the term.

COMPOSITION

Your final work for this class will consist in a 3-4 pages composition that you will choose to either based on the novel or the play we studied. I will provide you with the topics and specific guidelines during the course of the term.

DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

I. PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

"Plagiarism and cheating are serious academic offenses that should be brought to the attention of the Chairperson or Language Coordinator. Whenever a student is caught cheating (whether copying from another student's paper or plagiarizing printed or electronic sources) the instructor will assign a grade of F for the quiz, exam, or paper in question and will inform the Chairperson of the Department, who-upon concurring with the instructor-will forward a 'CHARGE OF ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT FORM' to the student. In addition, the Department of French and Italian will review the case to determine whether or not to recommend to the Dean of the College that more serious sanctions be imposed."

ASSISTANCE WITH ASSIGNMENTS: Students may use their textbooks, dictionaries, and grammar references in preparing any assignments. However, with the exception of help from the student's instructor and/or in-class activities such as peer editing, **any outside assistance** (that is, tutors, friends, native speakers, computer/internet translation programs, assignments submitted in previous courses, etc.) **is NOT allowed** on homework/assignments being turned in for a grade. **These things are considered cheating and will result in a grade of zero on the assignment, as well as a charge of academic misconduct, which may entail further sanctions.** The student should be certain that all of the work submitted in this course his/her own.

ABOUT THE USE OF TRANSLATION PROGRAMS:

The use of computer or on-line translation programs is **NOT permitted** in any French or Italian course and is considered cheating. As opposed to dictionaries and grammar references, these programs are not a learning tool because they simply provide a translation, rather than allowing you to choose among various words/tenses/etc. to come up with the best translation on your own. Moreover, translation programs produce bizarre and incorrect translations that are **notoriously easy to identify**. Students will learn far more by doing their own work than by risking serious academic consequences.

II. GRADE DEFINITIONS ACCORDING TO THE UNIVERSITY SENATE RULES AND REGULATIONS:

2.2.1.1. The grade of A will be reported for achievement of outstanding quality.

2.2.1.2. The grade of B will be reported for achievement of high quality.

2.2.1.3. The grade of C will be reported for achievement of acceptable quality.

2.2.1.4. The grade of D will be reported for achievement that is minimally passing but at less than an acceptable quality.

Consult with individual teachers concerning the calculation of grades.

III. STUDY TIME ACCORDING TO THE UNIVERSITY SENATE RULES AND REGULATIONS:

"One semester hour means course work normally represented by an hour of class instruction and two hours of study a week for one semester, or an equivalent amount of work. The concept may vary according to the level at which instruction is offered."

IV. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

"Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him/her from fully demonstrating his/her abilities should contact me personally as soon as possible so that we can discuss class accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate the educational opportunity."

V. RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES:

"Where examinations and tests other than final examinations conflict with religious observations of a generally recognized nature, a student under obligation to participate in such religious observances shall, upon request to the instructor involved, which shall be made at least a week in advance of the scheduled examination or test, be accorded the opportunity to take the examination or test at some other time not in conflict with his (or her) religious obligations."

VI. ATTENDANCE:

Attendance in language, literature, and culture classes is essential for mastering materials, improving communication skills, and participating in discussions. Consult with individual teachers for their specific policy on attendance and make-up work.

FREN 326 CALENDAR

Please note that this calendar is subject to change, depending on our progress in this class. If need be, I will provide you with a revised version of the calendar.

Code :

Bb : Blackboard

Week	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
1 (Aug. 20, 22, 24)	Présentation du cours	Introduction au cours : Histoire des mouvements littéraires Lire le document « Histoire des mouvements littéraires au XIXème et au XXème siècle » (Bb)	Introduction
2 (Aug. 27, 29, 31)	Introduction	Introduction : Qu'est-ce qu'un roman ? Lire « Histoire du roman » (Bb)	Le Rapport de Brodeck : Présentation -Lire « Comment analyser un texte littéraire » (Bb) -Comment lire et analyser un roman en français
3 (Sept. 3, 5, 7)	No class	Etude du roman : Section 1 -Lire ch.1 à ch.V -Répondre aux questions de lecture section 1 (Bb)	Section 1
4 (Sept. 10, 12, 14)	Quiz : Revoir réponses Section 1 Section 2 -Lire ch.VI à ch.XI -Répondre aux questions de lecture section 2 (Bb)	Section 2	Section 2
5 (Sept. 17, 19, 21)	Section 3 -Lire ch.XII à ch.XVII -Répondre aux questions de lecture section 3 (Bb)	Section 3	Section 3 (fin) Quiz : Revoir réponses section 2 et 3

6 (Sept. 24, 26, 28)	Section 4 -Lire ch.XVIII à ch.XXIII -Répondre aux questions de lecture section 4 (Bb)	Section 4	Section 5 -Lire ch.XXIV à ch.XXIX -Répondre aux questions de lecture section 5 (Bb)
7 (Oct. 1, 3, 5)	Section 5	Section 6 -Lire ch.XXX à ch.XXXIII -Répondre aux questions de lecture section 6 (Bb)	Section 6
8 (Oct. 8, 10, 12) 8 (Oct. 8, 10, 12)	No class	Quiz : Revoir réponses section 5 et 6 Section 7 -Lire ch.XXXIV jusqu'à la fin -Répondre aux questions de lecture section 7	Section 7
9 (Oct. 15, 17, 19)	Section 7 Discussion sur l'ensemble du roman	Review session in preparation for the mid-term	Mid-term exam sur <i>Le Rapport de Brodeck et l'histoire du roman</i>
10 (Oct. 22, 24, 26)	Le théâtre : Introduction -Lire « Qu'est-ce que le théâtre ? » (Bb)	Introduction -Lire « Histoire du théâtre – la comédie »	Introduction -Lire « histoire du théâtre – le drame »
11 (Oct. 29, 31, Nov. 2)	Lire la pièce <i>Le Dieu du carnage</i> (<i>students must have read the entire play</i>) <u>Les relations entre les personnages</u>	<i>Le Dieu du carnage</i> <u>La structure de la pièce</u>	<i>Le Dieu du carnage</i> <u>Les thèmes de la pièce</u>
12 (Nov. 5, 7, 9)	Quiz : Revoir les notes sur les relations entre les personnages et la structure de la pièce <i>Le Dieu du carnage</i> <u>Les influences des autres genres du théâtre</u>	<i>Le Dieu du carnage</i> Fin de l'analyse de la pièce Préparation a la discussion de vendredi	<i>Le Dieu du carnage</i> Discussion : Comparaison entre la pièce et le film <i>Carnage</i> (<i>students must have seen the film</i>)
13 (Nov. 12, 14, 16) 13 (Nov. 12, 14, 16)	Examen sur le théâtre et la pièce <i>Le Dieu du carnage</i>	La poésie : Introduction -Lire le document « Histoire de la poésie » (Bb)	La poésie -Lire « La Cigale et la fourmi » (Jean de la Fontaine) pp.37-38
14 (Nov. 19, 21, 23)	La poésie -Lire « Demain, des l'aube » (Victor Hugo) pp.52-53	No class	No class

15 (Nov. 26, 28, 30)	La poésie -Lire « Spleen » (Charles Baudelaire) pp.81-82	La poésie -Lire « Il pleure dans mon cœur... » (Paul Verlaine) pp.99-100	La poésie -Lire « Le Bateau ivre » (Arthur Rimbaud) pp.104-106
16 (Dec. 3, 5, 7)	La poésie -Lire « Je vis, je meurs... » (Louise Labé) pp.29-30	Last day of class : Wrap-up session Deadline for the composition	No class