

FREN 326
Spring 2014

INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE LITERATURES

Professor: Dr. Romain Chareyron
Office: Wescoe 2059-B
Office hours: Monday 2.00-3.00/Wednesday 2.00-3.00, or by appointment
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Required texts

- Claudel, Philippe. *Le Café de l'Excelsior*, Paris : Le Livre de poche (2007). (novel)
- Reza, Yasmina. *Le Dieu du carnage*, Paris : Magnard (2011). (play)

Handouts

- Copies of the various **poems** studied will be distributed in class.
- A hard copy of ***Le Horla*** will be distributed in class and an electronic version will also be available on *Blackboard*.

Film studied

Carnage, (Roman Polanski, 2012).

I will arrange for 2 screenings of the film outside of class hours.

Course evaluation

Attendance/Participation/Quizzes	15%
Unit exams	40% (20% each)
Final exam	20%
Essai	10%
Typed assignments:	15%
• Analyse de poème	5%
• Explication de texte	10% (5% each)

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 : Wednesday, May 14th. 7.30am-10.00am in Wescoe 4046

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.
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ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION/QUIZZES

In accordance with KU absences policy, you are expected to attend all classes and be on time. Fifteen minutes tardiness, early departure and/or five minutes repeated tardiness will count for an absence. Absences may be excused for the observance of a religious holiday or for serious documented reasons. Please notify me of any planned absences at the beginning of the semester.

Number of classes missed	Effect on participation grade
1-3	None
4-6	Your participation grade will be lowered 5% for EACH unexcused absence. For example, if you are absent 4 times and you began with 100% participation, your grade would be lowered to 95%, etc.
7	Your participation grade will be reduced by 50%.
8	You will receive a failing grade in the course.

You will be tested regularly on the novel, the short story and the play with quizzes which will consist of short answer questions on the readings for the day. These quizzes aim to attest to the good comprehension and completion of the assignment for the day.

UNIT EXAMS

You will have 2 unit exams which will consist of short answer questions in relation to the novel (exam I) and the short story and the play (exam II) as well as a long answer question regarding specific thematic aspects of the works studied in class.

FINAL EXAM

The final exam will consist of short answer questions in relation to the novel, the short story and the play as well as a long answer question regarding specific thematic aspects of the works studied in class.

ESSAI

I am asking you to write one 2 to 3-page essay. I will give you a list of possible topics in connection with the different thematic and/or stylistic aspects of the works studied in class. I will also provide you with specific guidelines pertaining to the writing of the essay.

TYPED ASSIGNMENTS

The typed assignments will consist of :

- **The analysis of a poem.** You will have to analyze a poem by one of the authors studied in class.
 - **2 « explications de texte ».** You will have to analyze a specific expert from the novel and the short story. Using what we will have discussed in class, you will have to write a 1-page, typed and double-spaced dissertation, discussing the main thematic and/or stylistic aspects of the expert.
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CALENDAR

Week

1 (Jan. 21, 23)	Tuesday : -Présentation du cours	<u>La poésie</u>
	Thursday : -Lire : « Histoire de la poésie », « Vocabulaire de la poésie » et « Règles de versification » (handouts)	
2 (Jan. 28, 30)	Tuesday : -Lire et préparer : <i>La Cigale et la fourmi</i> (J. de La Fontaine)	
	Thursday : -Lire et préparer : <i>Le Loup et l'agneau</i> (J. de La Fontaine)	
3 (Feb. 4, 6)	Tuesday: -Lire et préparer: <i>Spleen</i> (C. Rimbaud)	
	Thursday: -Lire et préparer: <i>Le Bateau ivre</i> (A. Rimbaud)	
4 (Feb. 11, 13)	Tuesday : -Lire et préparer : <i>Il pleure dans mon cœur...</i> (P. Verlaine)	
	Thursday : -Lire et préparer : <i>Je vis, je meurs</i> (L. Labé)	

- 5 (Feb. 18, 20) **Tuesday :**
Travail noté d'analyse de poème
- Thursday :**
-Travail en classe : *Comment faire une analyse de texte* **Le roman**
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- 6 (Feb. 25, 27) **Tuesday :**
-Travail en classe : *Comment faire une analyse de texte* (suite)
- Thursday :**
-Lire : « Le roman » et « Les mouvements littéraires du XIXème et du XXème siècle » (**handout**)
- Lire : L'extrait de *Germinal* (É. Zola) et de *Nana* (É. Zola)
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- 7 (March 4, 6) **Tuesday :**
-Lire : L'extrait de *Madame Bovary* (G. Flaubert) et *Le Planétarium* (N. Sarraute)
- Thursday :**
-Lire et préparer : *Le Café de l'Excelsior* (pp.9-34)
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- 8 (March 11, 13) **Tuesday :**
-Lire et préparer : *Le Café...*(pp.35-59)
- Thursday :**
-Lire et préparer : *Le Café...*(pp.61-fin)
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- 9 (March 18, 20) **Spring Break : No classes**
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- 10 (March 25, 27) **Tuesday :** **La nouvelle**
-Rendre : Explication de texte (1)
-Lire : « La nouvelle fantastique » (**handout**)
- Thursday :**
-Lire et préparer : *Le Horla* (G. de Maupassant) (lire jusqu'à « [...] les expériences sur l'hypnotisme et la suggestion »)
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- 11 (Apr. 1, 3) **Tuesday :**
-Lire et préparer : *Le Horla* (lire jusqu'à « Mais une heure viendra... »)
- Thursday :**
-Lire et préparer : *Le Horla* (lire jusqu'à la fin)
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- 12 (Apr. 8, 10) **Tuesday :**
Unit exam I (les révisions seront communiquées en classe)
- Thursday :** **Le théâtre**
-Lire : « Histoire du théâtre (la comédie et le drame) » (**handout**)

13 (Apr. 15, 17)

Tuesday :

-Lire : *Le Dieu du carnage* (Y. Reza). **Students must have read the entire play for this class.**

-Discussion : Les personnages

Thursday :

Rendre : Explication de texte (2)

-Discussion : La structure et les thèmes de la pièce

14 (Apr. 22, 24)

Tuesday :

-Discussion : L'influence des genres théâtraux
Fin des discussions sur la pièce.

Thursday :

-Discussion : Comparaison entre la pièce et le film *Carnage*
Students must have watched the film *Carnage* for this class.

15 (Apr. 29, May 1st)

Tuesday : TBA

Thursday :

Unit exam II (les révisions seront communiquées en classe)

16 (May 6, 8)

Tuesday : TBA

Thursday :

-Rendre : Essai (les informations seront communiquées en classe)

-Review