

**FR 326K – Introduction to French Literature I: Middle Ages to the 18th Century  
Fall 2012**

Unique: 36775 (cross-listed with 36460)

Meeting Time: MWF 9–10am

Meeting Room: HRH 2.112

**Instructor: Dr. Michael Johnson**

Office: HRH 3.110A

Office Phone: 471-7470

Office Hours: M/W 2–3pm or by appointment

Email: mjohnson@mail.utexas.edu

**I. Course Description and Objectives:**

This course introduces students to early French literary culture from the Middle Ages to the Revolution. A significant portion of the course is devoted to developing the fundamentals of writing literary analysis in French of poetry, theater, and literary prose, through short writing assignments, in-class writing workshops, and guided revisions. The final unit introduces students briefly to French literary criticism through Roland Barthes's *Sur Racine*.

**Prerequisites:** FR 320E or the equivalent.

**Global Cultures Flag:** This course carries the Global Cultures flag. Global Cultures courses are designed to increase your familiarity with cultural groups outside the United States. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from assignments covering the practices, beliefs, and histories of at least one non-U.S. cultural group, past or present.

**II. Course Materials**

Orizet, Jean, ed. *Anthologie De La Poésie Française*. Larousse, 2010.

Racine, Jean. *Phèdre*. Hachette Education, 2002.

De Graffigny, Françoise. *Lettres D'Une Péruvienne*. MLA Publications, 1993.

Barthes, Roland. *Sur Racine*. Seuil, 1979.

*All other course readings will be posted on Blackboard*

**III. Course Work:**

**Grading Policy:**

Three short papers (drafts) 30%

Three short papers (final) 30%

Two exams 30%

One oral presentation 10%

**Note :** The following table illustrates the correspondances between letter grade, GPA points, and percentage grade.

Letter Grade	GPA Points	Percentage Grade
A	4.0	93%-100%
A-	3.67	90%-92%
B+	3.33	87%-89%
B	3.0	83%-86%
B-	2.67	80%-82%
C+	2.33	77%-79%
C	2.0	73%-76%
C-	1.67	70%-72%
D+	1.33	67%-69%
D	1.0	63%-66%
D-	0.67	60%-62%
F	0	Less than 60%

## **Course Requirements**

### **Short papers:**

You will write three short analytic papers (2-3 pages) in French over the course of the semester. Each paper will require you to implement specialized vocabulary and techniques of analysis specific to poetry, theater, and literary prose, respectively. Drafts (each worth 10% of the final grade) will be subject to in-class writing workshops (ateliers d'écriture) where writing lectures, peer editing exercises, and one-on-one meetings with the instructor will provide some direction as you make revisions for your final draft (each worth another 10% of your final grade).

### **Exams:**

Exams will contain an ID section (in which you will be asked to explain the significance and relevance of key concepts, vocabulary, and literary citations from class) and a short essay section (in which you will be asked to discuss a thematic question—such as love, home, nation, family, self—in relationship to two or more readings from our class). Exam responses can be written in English or French.

### **Presentations:**

You will give one short presentation (5 minutes) in French over the course of the semester on a single text or an assigned section of a text for that day. Presentations should bring attention to unique features of your selected reading and should raise *at least one* interesting question to generate class discussion.

## **IV. Class and University Policies**

### **Attendance Policy:**

Daily attendance is an integral part of your participation grade. In addition to losing participation points for any absence, your *final* grade will be lowered five percent points for every absence beyond your third. Also please take note of UT's official policy regarding the observation of religious holy days:

*By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, I will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.*

### **Use of Blackboard**

In this class, I use Blackboard, a Web-based course management system with password-protected access at <http://courses.utexas.edu>, to distribute some course materials. You can find support in using Blackboard at the ITS Help Desk at 475-9400, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., so plan accordingly.

### **Academic Integrity**

#### **University of Texas Honor Code**

The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community. Each student in this course is expected to abide by the University of Texas Honor Code.

#### **Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty**

Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information, visit the Student Judicial Services web site

<http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/>. This site offers excellent resources on how to cite

sources and paraphrase. Copying materials from other people or from sources on the Internet, for example, or having your work edited by somebody else, constitutes a fraudulent submission. Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student's own work and will acknowledge others' work as appropriate (e.g., citing sources). Any plagiarized work will result in a failing course grade.

## **V. Other University Notices and Policies**

### **Use of E-mail for Official Correspondence to Students**

It is the student's responsibility to keep the University informed as to changes in his or her e-mail address. Students are expected to check e-mail on a frequent and regular basis in order to stay current with University-related communications, recognizing that certain communications may be time-critical. It is recommended that e-mail be checked daily, but at a minimum, twice per week. The complete text of this policy and instructions for updating your e-mail address are available at <http://www.utexas.edu/its/policies/emailnotify.html>.

### **Documented Disability Statement**

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you require special accommodations, you must obtain a letter that documents your disability from the Services for Students with Disabilities area of the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement (471-6259 voice or 471-4641 TTY for users who are deaf or hard of hearing). Present the letter to me at the beginning of the semester so we can discuss the accommodations you need. No later than five business days before an exam, you should remind me of any testing accommodations you will need. For more information, visit <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>.

### **Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL)**

If you are worried about someone who is acting differently, you may use the Behavior Concerns Advice Line to discuss by phone your concerns about another individual's behavior. This service is provided through a partnership among the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit <http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal>.

### **Critical Dates**

Please note the following critical dates for class administration:

- September 4: Last day of the official add/drop period; after this date, changes in registration require the approval of the department chair and usually the student's dean.
- November 6: Last day an undergraduate student may, with the dean's approval, withdraw from the University or drop a class except for urgent and substantiated, nonacademic reasons. Last day a student may change registration in a class to or from the pass/fail or credit/no credit basis.

## **VI. Course Calendar:**

Week 1:	<u>Qu'est-ce que la poésie?</u>
8/29	Présentation du cours
8/31	La Poésie, Introduction, 3–19 [Blackboard]
Week 2:	<u>La poésie lyrique du Moyen Âge</u>
9/5	Guillaume d'Aquitaine, "Puisque vois de nouveau fleurir" ( <i>Anthologie</i> , 27-30)
	Jaufré Rudel, "Quand le ruisseau de la fontaine" ( <i>Anthologie</i> , 30-33)
9/7	Bernard de Ventadour, "Quand je vois l'alouette agiter" ( <i>Anthologie</i> , 33-35)
	Marie de France, "Le Chèvrefeuille" ( <i>Anthologie</i> , 35-39)

- Week 3: La poésie du Moyen Âge tardif et de la renaissance  
 9/10 Christine de Pisan, "Seulete suy et seulete vueil estre," (*Anthologie*, 83)  
 Charles d'Orléans, "Ballade" (*Anthologie*, 84), "Ballade de l'homme égaré" (87)  
 & "Les ennuyés" (88)  
 9/12 François Villon, "Ballade des pendus" (*Anthologie*, 89-90), "Ballade des dames  
 du temps jadis" (90-91), "Ballade du concours de Blois" (92-3)  
 9/14 Maurice Scève, "Délie" (*Anthologie*, 119-120), "Églogue de la vie solitaire"  
 (120-23)
- Week 4: La poésie de la renaissance  
 9/17 Pierre de Ronsard, "Sonnet à Cassandre" (*Anthologie*, 125), "Sonnet pour  
 Hélène" (127), "Épithaphe de Marie" (127), "Ode" (128)  
 9/19 Louise Labé, "Sonnet II" (*Anthologie*, 129-30), "Sonnet VIII" (130-1), "Sonnet  
 XIX" (131-2), "Sonnet XVIII" (132), "Sonnet XXIV" (133)  
 9/21 Joachim du Bellay, "Les Regrets IX & XXXI" (135-6), "Les Antiquitez de Rome  
 XXVIII" (136-7)
- Week 5: Révision & atelier d'écriture  
 9/24 Révision & discussion  
**Paper #1 draft due 9/24**  
 9/26 Atelier d'écriture  
 9/28 Atelier d'écriture
- Week 6: Qu'est-ce que le théâtre?  
 10/1 Le Théâtre, Introduction, 153–173 [Blackboard]  
 10/3 *La farce de maître Pathelin*, scènes 1-5 [Blackboard]  
 10/5 *La farce de maître Pathelin*, scènes 6-10 [Blackboard]  
**Paper #1 final due 10/5**
- Week 7: Le théâtre tragique  
 10/8 Jean Racine, *Phèdre*, Acte I  
 10/10 Jean Racine, *Phèdre*, Acte II  
 10/12 Jean Racine, *Phèdre*, Acte III
- Week 8: Le théâtre tragique  
 10/15 Jean Racine, *Phèdre*, Acte IV  
 10/17 Jean Racine, *Phèdre*, Acte V  
**Paper #2 draft due 10/17**  
**Screening of Phèdre 8pm • location TBA**  
 10/19 Atelier d'écriture
- Week 9: Révision & examen #1  
 10/22 Atelier d'écriture  
 10/24 Révision pour examen #1  
 10/26 **Examen #1**
- Week 10: Qu'est-ce que la prose?  
 10/29 La Prose, Introduction, 491–509 [Blackboard]  
**Paper #2 final due 10/29**  
 10/31 Françoise de Graffigny, *Lettres d'une Péruvienne*, 3–44

- 11/2 Françoise de Graffigny, *Lettres d'une Péruvienne*, 44–87
- Week 11: Le roman épistolaire
- 11/5 Françoise de Graffigny, *Lettres d'une Péruvienne*, 87–125
- 11/7 Françoise de Graffigny, *Lettres d'une Péruvienne*, 125–168
- 11/9 Françoise de Graffigny, *Lettres d'une Péruvienne*, récapitulation  
**Screening of Dangerous Liaisons 8pm • location TBA**
- Week 12: Le conte philosophique
- 11/12 Denis Diderot, *Ceci n'est pas un conte* [Blackboard]
- 11/14 Denis Diderot, *Ceci n'est pas un conte* [Blackboard]  
**Paper #3 draft due 11/14**
- 11/16 Atelier d'écriture
- Week 13: Révision & atelier d'écriture
- 11/19 Atelier d'écriture
- 11/21 Révision & discussion
- Week 14: La critique littéraire
- 11/26 Barthes, *Sur Racine*
- 11/28 Barthes, *Sur Racine*
- 11/30 Barthes, *Sur Racine*  
**Paper #3 final due 11/30**
- Week 15: Révision & examen #2
- 12/3 Révision & discussion
- 12/5 Révision & discussion
- 12/7 **Examen #2**