



FR 4900 6902

*Francophone Literatures and Cultures of
the New and the Old America*

Quebec and Haiti

Spring Semester 2014-2015

Professor Yolande Aline Helm

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ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: The Ohio University Student Code of Conduct prohibits all forms of academic dishonesty. These include -but are not limited to- cheating; plagiarism; forgery; furnishing false information to the University; and alteration or misuse of University documents, records, or identification. In addition, assignments that are totally/partially taken from an external source such as published information (book, web page, etc.), produced by a translation program or by another person will receive NO credit. All forms of dishonesty will be reported to the Director of the program. Possible consequences include a grade of zero on the assignment, course failure, and/or referral to judiciaries.

DISABILITIES: We are committed to ensuring equal opportunity for students with a disability. This is a collaborative process and effort among the Disability Services office, the student and the instructor. Students with disabilities should provide the instructor with written notification of their disability via Disability Student Services and make a direct request for accommodations to establish the means of providing accommodations, academic adjustments, and/or auxiliary aids within one week of the beginning of the course. If you have any condition (physical/learning disability), which will make it difficult for you to perform class work as delineated in this syllabus or if you require special accommodations, **it is YOUR responsibility to notify your instructor the first week of class.**

ABSENCES, LATENESS AND DOCUMENTATION:

From Faculty Handbook: VIII C. 5

Students returning to a class after a legitimate absence can expect their instructor's assistance within the limits of the instructor's

established attendance policy. In cases of legitimate absence-such as illness, death in the immediate family, religious observance, jury duty, involvement in University-sponsored activities-some accommodation (makeup work, excused absences, change of grade computation) will be arranged subject to previously announced limitations. There are occasions where the size or nature of the course makes it necessary to set limits on the number of excused absences or the availability of makeup work, particularly for exams or special events such as field trips or outside speakers. Such limitations will be explained in the instructor's statement of attendance policy at the beginning of each course. Students with scheduled activities must check with the instructor as early as possible to clarify that there will be no conflict with the policy.

Under the learner-centered framework of the Department of Modern Languages courses, your attendance is of utmost importance. Certain circumstances may arise that prevent you from attending class, therefore, you are allowed two (2) 80-minute absences. These two absences are not “free” but should be used to account for events such as colds, routine medical appointments, away-games for athletes, religious observances, court appearances, weddings, funerals, car problems, job interviews, etc. Beginning with the third absence (and for each subsequent absence), **1%** will be deducted from your final grade calculation. **A student who has accumulated 10 or more absences will automatically receive an “F” for the class.** Use the 2 days wisely. Note that attendance is taken on regular exam days too. Note also that 3 late arrivals equal one full absence.

To be fair to everyone, unless you present **valid documentation**, no late work will be accepted and no make-up exams or quizzes will be given. If, due to illness or other emergency (proof requested), you are unable to attend class on an exam day, please contact your instructor immediately in order to make arrangements. If you know in advance that you will miss class a day an assignment is due, it is your responsibility to turn it in before the due date.

COPYRIGHT: The lectures, classroom activities, and all materials associated with this class and developed by the instructor are copyrighted in the name of Professor Helm as of this date January 12, 2015.

CELL PHONE USE POLICY AND OTHER ELECTRONIC

EQUIPMENT: Cell phone use (of any kind –voice, text messages, etc.) and laptop use is banned during class (unless I request the use of laptops for certain activities). **Please put cell phones out of sight and mute them during class time. Playing with your phone or sending text messages during class will result in warning and the participation points for that day will be lowered.**

GRADING SCALE:

A: 93-100, **A-:** 90-92

B+: 87-89, **B:** 83-86, **B-:** 80-82

C+: 77-79, **C:** 73-76, **C-:** 70-72

D+: 67-69, **D:** 63-66, **D-:** 60-62

F: 0-59

Course Outcomes:

This course is designed to introduce you to the literature of Quebec and to its mythical intellectual, political and cultural components. The themes and discussions include (but are not limited to): psychoanalysis, war, satire, male/female relationship, myths, and fairy tales. In addition, you will learn about the literature of Haitian writers who are political exiles. Most of them chose Quebec (or the USA, rarely France) as their country of adoption. We will examine how they view Quebec through the lenses of their native island. All four skills, reading, writing, speaking, listening will be practiced throughout the course via class lectures, discussions, writing and reading assignments, exams and papers.

More goals:

- To appreciate creative writings and cultures in French from Quebec and Haiti
- To acquire a sense of the common features and also of the diversity of this literature.
- To gain an appreciation for race, sexual and gender differences as a valid conceptual and critical category applied to academic studies.

ORAL PRESENTATION

Oral presentations will take place at the end of the semester. A topic must be chosen in consultation with the instructor: failure to do so will lower your oral presentation grade by 10% (must be sent by April 7, 5:00pm to

helm@ohio.edu). One or two of the books from this class reading list should be selected. A power point presentation is a must.

The presentation must be 10mn long for undergraduates and 15mn long for graduates. Do not spend time giving biographical information on the author. Graded on: respecting the guidelines (10%); organization (30%); originality (30%); oral skills (30%).

FINAL PAPER due on Tuesday April 28 at 12:20 pm (date selected by the Registrar's office). The final paper is a written and polished version of your oral presentation. Here are some guidelines:

- Six pages long for undergraduates and ten pages long for graduates
- Font 12, Times, double space, no triple, quadruple space between paragraphs (each paragraph must contain, at least six lines).
- Title and other references on a separate page
- Follow the MLA guidelines
- Add a bibliography
- More instructions (points will be taken off if you don't respect the following):
 - DO NOT use "il y a", but try to find a more specific verb
 - Remember that in French, the " " come before the punctuation (i.e. Ils ont dit : "as-tu trop de travail"?)
 - *Aussi* at the beginning of a sentence means "therefore." If you want to express also, the "*aussi*" must be placed after the verb.
 - For graduate students: please, remember what you learned in "Stylistics and Criticism" in terms of its terminology and also how you analyze texts.
- Failure to respect the above instructions (and the guidelines) will have an impact on your grade.

HOMEWORK: summaries of one page, two or three pages will have to be turned (please, check the schedule). Font 12, double spaced, top to bottom. No title needed.

PARTICIPATION:

Participation is a must. There are five criteria I will be using throughout the semester in order to evaluate your participation performance:

- 1) You prepare your assignments and/or readings as instructed.
- 2) You actively participate in-group activities and you answer questions: although the accuracy of answers is preferable, remember that trying is even more important!

- 3) You ask questions... there are no silly questions. Also, make comments, share your opinions with the class!
- 4) You speak FRENCH only! Cela va de soi!
- 5) Last but not least, have a positive attitude, and be considerate of each other and helpful (not everyone will be at the same level).

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES:

Homework:	20%
Take Home Midterm	20%
Participation:	15%
Oral Presentation:	20%
Final Paper:	25%

For the absences, read the policy above (pages 2 and 3 of this syllabus)

Required texts :

1. Hébert, Anne. *Kamouraska*. Seuil, 2001 (Quebec - novel).
2. Carrier, Roch. *La Guerre, Yes Sir!* (Quebec, short novel)
3. Tremblay, Michel. *Les Héros de mon enfance* (Quebec, short play)
4. Etienne, Gérard. *Lettre à Montréal* (à paraître, Editions du Marais)
5. Laferrière, Dany. *L'Énigme du Retour*. Grasset, 2009 (Haiti, novel).

The ones highlighted in yellow are to be purchased by the students; the ones highlighted in green will be available at the electronic reserve in the library

SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE

T	1/13	Introduction
Th	1/15	Anne Hébert, <i>Kamouraska</i> (7-40)

WEEK TWO

T	1/20	K (41-100) 1 page summary due for pages 41-100
Th	1/22	K (101-160)

1 page summary due for pages 101-160

WEEK THREE

T 1/27 K (160-fin)
1 page summary due for pages 160-fin

Th 1/29 K

WEEK FOUR

T 2/3 Roch Carrier, *La Guerre, Yes, Sir!* (Entire novel)
3 page summary due for the entire novel

Th 2/5 *La Guerre, Yes, Sir!*

WEEK FIVE

T 2/10 *La Guerre, Yes, Sir!*

Th 2/12 *La Guerre, Yes, Sir!*

WEEK SIX

T 2/17 Michel Tremblay, *Les Héros de mon enfance* (Acte I)
3 page summary due for the entire play

Th 2/19 *Les Héros de mon enfance*

WEEK SEVEN

T 2/24 **Take Home Midterm – NO class (I will send the exam)**

Th 2/26 *Les Héros de mon enfance*

WEEK EIGHT

T 3/3 *Spring Break*

Th 3/5 *Spring Break*

WEEK NINE

T 3/10 Gérard, Etienne. *Lettre à Montréal*
2 page summary due for the entire poem

Th 3/12 *Lettre à Montréal*

MONDAY, MARCH 16 Academic advising begins for fall semester registration

WEEK TEN

T 3/17 *Lettre à Montréal*

Th 3/19 *Lettre à Montréal*

WEEK ELEVEN

T 3/24 Dany, Laferrière. *L'Énigme du Retour*
 “Lents Préparatifs de départ”
2 page summary due for “Lents préparatifs de départ”

Th 3/26 *L'Énigme du Retour*

WEEK TWELVE

T 3/31 *L'Énigme du Retour*
 “Le Retour”

Th 4/2 *L'Énigme du Retour*
"Le Retour"
3 page summary due for "Le Retour"

WEEK THIRTEEN

T 4/7 *L'Énigme du Retour*
**Topic for oral presentation due (send me a mail
please, by 5:00pm)**

Th 4/9 *L'Énigme du Retour*

WEEK FOURTEEN

T 4/14 *L'Énigme du Retour*

Th 4/16 **Oral presentations**

WEEK FIFTEEN

T 4/21 **Oral presentations**

Th 4/23 **Oral presentations**

FRIDAY, MAY 1 Spring semester examination period