

FR 3550 100: INTRODUCTION TO PROSE 2017-2018
Francophone & French Literature of 20th and 21st Century

Professor Yolande Aline HELM

Call Number: 10793

Time/Days: T, Th: 10:30-11:50

Building/Room: 302

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Office hours: 12:15-1:30, and by appointment (333 Gordy)

Prerequisite: FR 3554 (or special permission)

Final exam: no final exam but a paper copy of your final paper is due in my mailbox (Gordy, second floor, mail room) on Tuesday, May 1st, by 5:00 pm (only a paper copy will be accepted)

N.B. "The lectures, classroom activities, and all materials associated with this class and developed by the instructor are copyrighted in the name of Professor Yolande Helm on this date, January 1st, 2018."

ABSENCES:

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.

Instructor's policy: class attendance is required! More than 2 ABSENCES is not acceptable. Your final grade will be lowered by one letter grade per additional absence. For example, if your 'final' grade is a B+ and you have three absences, it will be lowered. to a B; if your 'final' grade is an A, and you have 4 absences, it will be lowered to a B+ etc. Your two absences are not to be used as "vacation" time but for sick days.

If you plan to miss a class, you must let the instructor know in writing.

Note: The attendance policy does not distinguish "excused" from "unexcused" absences; all absences count towards the maximum. Ten (10) absences is an F. In case of extended absence due to severe illness, hospitalization or disability, please consult with your instructor."

Date of the electronic evaluation... TBA

Academic Misconduct (including cheating and/or plagiarism): be aware of the policy in your OU catalog. Cases of academic dishonesty in this course may be met with the maximum degree of severity allowed by university policy. Remember that work you do outside of class must be your own. IT IS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO COPY ALL OR ANY PART OF YOUR PAPER/ANY OTHER ASSIGNMENT FROM ANOTHER SOURCE (not even sentences or parts of sentences). It is also unacceptable to write in English and have a computer program or online service translate your work into French. It is further unacceptable to have your work proofread by a tutor, more advanced student, teacher, TA or native speaker prior to handing them in. Any of these will be considered plagiarism. I reserve the right to apply the maximal penalty as allowed by OU judiciaries.

Responsible Reporting

Responsible Employee Reporting Obligation: All Ohio faculty and staff share in the responsibility to create a safe learning environment for all students and for the campus as a whole. As members of the campus community, all faculty and staff (other than those designated as confidential reporters) are designated as responsible employees and therefore have the duty to report any instances of sexual harassment, sexual violence and/or other forms of prohibited discrimination. If a student would prefer to share information about sexual harassment, sexual violence or discrimination with a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, a list of those individuals can be found at <https://www.ohio.edu/equity-civil-rights/Resources.cfm>.

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.**

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. 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, two warnings will result in an absence.

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 Objectives

- ◆ To improve your reading of literature, and especially of contemporary novels, and short stories by French and Francophone authors
- ◆ To appreciate the various writing styles of the authors listed
- ◆ To develop your speaking and listening skills through class discussions and lectures
- ◆ To learn French authors and Francophone writers, such as Amélie Nothomb (Belgium) and Malika Mokeddem (Algeria)
- ◆ To learn the different genres within prose: autobiography (Nothomb); fiction and history (Mokeddem), and short story (Gavalda)
- ◆ To learn some cultural elements from each author's country through their fiction, and autobiography (Japan, Belgium, Algeria, France)

Required texts

I. A good dico French/English – English/French is necessary (Collins-Robert Eng-Fr/Fr-Eng)

II. Novels and short stories

- 1) *Ni d'Ève ni d'Adam*, Albin Michel, 2007 (autobiography) **By Amélie Nothomb** (Belgian author).
- 2) *La Nuit de la Lézarde*, Poche, 1998 (fiction and history) By Malika Mokeddem (Author from Algeria).
- 3) *Je voudrais que quelqu'un m'attende quelque part*, Poche, 2001 (short stories) **By Anna Gavalda** (French author).

www.chapitre.com

www.alibris.com

www.fnac.com

www.abebooks.com

www.amazon.com

www.amazon.fr

Sometimes, you may find those books at Barnes & Bobles.

Grade distribution

3 exams	20%
Final Oral presentation	25%
Final paper (extension of your oral presentation)	30%
Participation	25%

3 exams (20%)

Essays based on the books read and discussions in class.

Graded on: organization (30%); originality (30%); written skills (40%).

Final Oral Presentation (25%): 10 mn on a topic chosen in consultation with your instructor. What I usually recommend is that you select a theme and develop it throughout one novel (or

two). Your presentation should be original and not merely a repetition of what you heard/learned during the course of the class. Graded on: following the guidelines (10%); organization (30%); originality (30%); oral skills (30%).

Final Paper (extension of your oral presentation): 30%

- title, name, date on a separate page: use recycled paper for that first reference page if you wish to save some trees
- Format: 6-page minimum (not including the title page or the bibliography); Times, font 11 ; double spaced
- no large spaces between paragraphs; paragraphs should at least contain 7-8 lines
- Add a bibliography
- MLA format, or any other; just, make sure you are consistent
- Points will be deducted for not following the guidelines
- Graded on: following the guidelines (10%); organization (30%); originality (30%); written skills (30%).

Participation (25%)

First, remember that absences and participation are linked! If you are absent, you cannot participate!

Also, daily participation is expected! An « F » will result if you don't speak during the discussions. You are encouraged to inquire about your participation grade each week. Being present does NOT mean you are participating! Here are some criteria, which I will take into consideration when assigning you a participation grade:

- **Speak French only** (cela va de soi !) with your instructor and your classmates.¹
- When I ask you a question, answer! If you don't know the answer, just say « je ne sais pas » ; « pourriez-vous répéter s'il vous plaît ? » ; « je suis désolée mais je n'ai pas compris » etc. Never say « What », or « Hein »: it is rude.
- It is strongly recommended to volunteer for answers: do so by raising your hand (the accuracy of your answers—although important—will weigh less than your willingness to try). However, « ne dites pas n'importe quoi, n'importe quand... »!
- Have a good attitude: from day one, and you will be amazed at what it can do for the overall atmosphere of the class.
- Be patient! You and your peers will be at various levels in your knowledge of French. Remember that you are there to learn and that you should be courteous to one another.
- Always be prepared for class: do the reading assigned and/or the written exercises before each class. Demonstrate you read the book, or the short story. Be inquisitive! It will pay off.

Schedule

Week one

T jan 16 Introduction (syllabus)

¹ Oftentimes, my students and I converse in French outside of class (in the hallways, or in my office). That is not an obligation of course, but just see it as another opportunity to learn and to associate the learning of French within « real » situations (i.e. outside of the French classroom!). I also encourage you to attend the French table (check the French bulletin for their new hours and place).

Th jan 18 *Ni d'Eve ni d'Adam* by Amélie Nothomb
pp 7-128 (« ... Ses jambes endolories ne le portaient plus »)

Week two

T jan 23 *Ni d'Eve ni d'Adam*, 129-167 (« ... me dis-je »)

Th jan 25 *Ni d'Eve ni d'Adam*, 168-188 (« ... qui les unit en moi »)

Week three

T jan 30 *Ni d'Eve ni d'Adam* 189-245 (la fin)

Th feb 1 **Examen I**

Week four

T feb 6 Récapitulation et remarques générales sur l'examen

Th feb 8 *La Nuit de la lézarde*, Malika Mokeddem (11-39)

Week five

T feb 13 *La Nuit de la lézarde* (41-66)

Th feb 15 *La Nuit de la lézarde* (67-92)

Week six

T feb 20 *La Nuit de la lézarde* (93-118)

Th feb 22 *La Nuit de la lézarde* (118-138)

Week seven

T feb 27 *La Nuit de la lézarde* (139-162)

Th mar 1 *La Nuit de la lézarde* (163-188)

Week eight

T mar 6 *La Nuit de la lézarde*
Conclusion

Th mar 8 **EXAMEN II**

Week nine

T mar 13 **Spring break**

Th mar 15 **Spring break**

Week ten

T mar 20

Je voudrais que quelqu'un m'attende quelque part, Anna Gavalda
"Petites Pratiques germanopratinés", 7-17

Th mar 22

"Permission", 55-69

Week eleven

T mar 27

"I.I.G.", 19-30

Th mar 29

"The Opel touch", 35-43

Week twelve

T apr 3

"Le fait du jour", 71-80

Th apr 5

"Junior", 87-99

Week thirteen

T apr 10

"Cat Gut", 81-86

Th apr 12

Examen III**Week fourteen**

T apr 17

-By this date (April 17), you must have selected the topic of your oral presentation, which you will present to your professor. The individual meetings will take place in the classroom, Gordy 302. You will have to wait for your turn in the hallway. Only one student at a time will talk to the professor.

-Have a typed outline ready

-If you miss your appointment, a penalty of 25 points will be applied (Total of your oral presentation = 100 points)

-If your typed outline is not ready when you meet with your professor, a penalty of 25 points will be applied as well

Th apr 19

-By this date (April 19), you must have selected the topic of your oral presentation, which you will present to your professor. The individual meetings will take place in the classroom, Gordy 302. You will have to wait for your turn in the hallway. Only one student at a time will talk to the professor.

-Have a typed outline ready

-If you miss your appointment, a penalty of 25 points will be applied (Total of your oral presentation = 100 points)

-If your typed outline is not ready when you meet with your professor, a penalty of 25 points will be applied as well

Week fifteen

T apr 24

Final oral presentations

Cyberdicos (dictionnaires en ligne)

<http://dictionnaire.tv5.org>

1) Français-argot, argot-français

<http://pagesperso-orange.fr/mondouis/>

2) dico français-anglais, anglais-français et dico multifonctions (définitions, synonymes, conjugaisons, style)

<http://www.google.fr/ig?referrer=ign>

Amélie Nothomb

<http://www.rentree-litteraire.com/pages/nothomb.htm>

Bio Amélie

Entretien (interview)

<http://fr.youtube.com/watch?v=EVgqGaiY718&feature=related>

vidéo d'un entretien sur *Ni d'Eve ni d'Adam*

Malika Mokeddem

https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malika_Mokeddem

Entretien avec Yolande Aline Helm (Instructor will hand them in)

Anna Gavalda

<http://fr.youtube.com/watch?v=dHSCSORFpDM>

AG et l'orthographe

Entretien avec Anna Gavalda : www.evene.fr/livres/livre/anna-gavalda-je-voudrais-que-quelqu-un-m-attende-quelque-part-1010.php

DICTIONNAIRES :

http://www.lepointdufle.net/dictionnaires_de_francais.htm

<http://www.lexilogos.com/etymologie.htm>