

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

<https://ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

2021-2022 FREN 478, A1: *Topics in French Literature and Culture I:*
Seventeenth-Century French Theatre between Paris and Quebec
(Fall Term)

Instructor: Micah True
Office: Arts 217C
E-mail: mtrue@ualberta.ca
Personal Website: n/a
Course Website: eclass

Time: Tues and Thurs, 11-12:20
Place: remote delivery
Office Hours: Tues 1-2,
or by appointment

Bachelor of Arts / Major in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies/undergraduate-program-information/prospective-undergraduate-students>

Course Prerequisite: FREN 301 and one of FREN 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 333 or consent of department. It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

Technology requirements (minimum): You will need a computer with microphone, webcam, and speakers or headphones, and a reliable Ethernet or WiFi Internet connection suitable for watching videos and participating in synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities. It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate technology for the course.

Experiential Learning Component

this course has a significant experiential learning component (15% or more of the course grade)

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes No, not needed

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available

- Exam registry – Students' Union
<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>
- See explanations below
- Document distributed in class
- Other (please specify)
- NA

Course Description, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

This course surveys 17th century French theatre, including both tragedy and comedy and all three of the period's most famous playwrights: Corneille, Molière, and Racine. It also attends to how each of the plays we read either reflected France's ongoing colonization of North America or resonated with audiences on makeshift colonial stages. At the end of this course, successful students will be able to read early modern French; describe the general contours of 17th-century French theatre—its genres, rules, and role in political and cultural life; speak knowledgeably about the theatrical tradition in French colonial North America; and analyze how theatrical performances may have signified differently in colonial and metropolitan settings.

Course Format: The course objectives will be met through brief lectures, student presentations, assigned readings, and in-class discussions.

Texts:

Required (freely available on eClass):

Corneille, *Le Cid*

Corneille, *Polyeucte martyr*

Molière, *Le Misanthrope*

Molière, *L'Ecole des femmes*

Racine, *Phèdre*

Critical readings will be selected to complement emerging themes in our discussions, and will be made freely available on eClass.

Additional Course Fees

Yes No

Important Dates: [See Academic Schedule in current Calendar](#)

First Day of Class: September 2, 2021

Add/Delete Date: September 15, 2021

50% Withdrawal Date: October 4, 2021

Withdrawal Date: November 30, 2021

Last Day of Class: December 7, 2021

Components of Course Grade (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Participation: 10%

Discussion questions: 10%

In-class presentation (various, self-assigned dates) 15%

Midterm paper (due on Oct 26): 30%

Final written assignment (due on Dec. 7): 35%

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Participation: You are expected to actively participate in class. This includes:

1. Thoroughly preparing all work assigned for each class session
2. Contributing actively to class discussion and activities. This includes not only regularly sharing your own thoughts about what we read, but also listening attentively and responding to your classmates' ideas.

Important note: Disruptive behaviour in class is a sign of disrespect both to the instructor and to your fellow students, and will not be tolerated. Activities such as chatting, surfing the Internet, frequently checking your phone, studying for another class, etc. will result in a low participation grade.

Discussion questions: Five times over the course of the semester, each student will prepare a discussion question based on the assigned reading. These questions will be used to guide our class discussions, and will be turned in for a grade. Guidelines for the preparation of discussion questions are available on eClass.

Presentations: Once during the semester, each student and a partner will be responsible for presenting and commenting on the day's assigned reading in order to lay the foundation for class discussion. Instructions will be provided on eClass.

Midterm paper: each student will prepare an essay of approximately 5-7 pages midway through the semester. Instructions will be provided on eClass.

Final written assignment: in lieu of a final exam, students will complete a final written assignment of approximately 7-10 pages. Instructions will be provided on eClass.

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the "attendance and participation" component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#).

In this course, attendance at synchronous sessions is mandatory. Each student may miss three sessions for any reason, without penalty, and with no need to present an excuse. Further absences—especially in the case of illness—may be excused, at the instructor's discretion. Each unexcused absence beyond the allotted three will result in a one percent penalty on the final course grade.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Discussion questions are due on eClass prior to the start of the session for which they are assigned. They will be accepted late for half credit. All other written work is to be turned in on eClass by **5 pm** on the due date. After 5 pm on the due date, work will be accepted with a 5% penalty, with an additional 5%-per-day penalty assessed for each subsequent day of lateness. Students who consult **in advance** with the professor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, **at the discretion of the instructor**, be granted an extension.

Required Notes:

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) of the University Calendar.

Student Responsibilities:***Academic Integrity:***

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#) and avoid any behaviour that could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students should consult [the Academic Integrity website](#). If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Language and Translation Courses: delete this section if not applicable

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that the use of on-line translation to complete assignments constitutes a form of cheating as the student's own understanding and work is therefore not reflected. Also, students in language courses should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, excessive editorial and creative help in assignments is considered a form of cheating that violates the [Code of Student Behaviour](#).

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written

consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Disclaimer:

Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and posted on eClass. The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

Student Resources:

The best all-purpose website for student services is: <https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students>.

[The Academic Success Centre](#) provides professional academic support to help students maximize their academic success and achieve their academic goals. We offer appointments, advising, group workshops, online courses, and specialized programming year-round to students in all university programs, and at all levels of achievement and study.

They also administer the University of Alberta's [Duty to Accommodate procedure](#) for students and works with students, instructors, campus units, Faculties and departments, community and government agencies, and on and off-campus service providers to coordinate students' disability-related accommodation needs for participation in university programs.

For general information and to register for services visit the [Academic Accommodations](#) webpage.

[The Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

[The First Peoples' House](#) provides an environment of empowerment for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit learners to achieve personal and academic growth.

[Health and Wellness Support for Students](#) outlines available mental and physical health resources that are offered on-campus and in the community.

[The Office of the Student Ombuds](#) is a confidential service that strives to ensure that university processes related to students operate as fairly as possible. We offer information, advice, and support to students, faculty, and staff as they deal with academic, discipline, interpersonal, and financial issues related to student programs.

Learning and working environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment.

It is the policy of the University of Alberta that sexual violence committed by any member of the University community is prohibited and constitutes misconduct. Resources and more information can be found at <https://www.ualberta.ca/campus-life/sexual-violence>

The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) section of the University Calendar.

Grading:

Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class" (University Calendar, [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#)). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a student's level of achievement of the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned" (<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”

Descriptor	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	%
<p>Excellent. A+, A or A- is earned by work which is superior in content and form and demonstrates an exceptional grasp of the subject matter. The grade of A+ designates work that far exceeds course expectations. Grades in the A range are normally achieved by a small number of students.</p>	A+	4.0	95-100
	A	4.0	90-94
	A-	3.7	86-89
<p>Good. B+, B or B- is earned by work that demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the course material and a good command of relevant skills. Grades in the B range are normally achieved by the largest number of students.</p>	B+	3.3	82-85
	B	3.0	75-81
	B-	2.7	70-74

<p>Satisfactory. C+, C or C- is earned by work that demonstrates an adequate grasp of the course material and relevant skills. Grades in the C range designate work that has met the basic requirements of the course.</p>	C+	2.3	66-69
	C	2.0	61-65
	C-	1.7	58-60
<p>Poor/Minimal Pass. D+ or D is earned by work that demonstrates minimal familiarity with the course material. Grades in the D range generally indicate insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.</p>	D+	1.3	55-57
	D	1.0	50-54
<p>Failure.</p>	F	0.0	0-49

Copyright: Micah True, Faculty of Arts, University of Alberta 2021-2022