

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES  
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

**2019-2020 FREN 478 A1: Topics in French Literature and Culture:  
Pre-Contemporary French Novel**

(Fall Term)

Instructor: Dr. Anna Gural-Migdal  
Office: Arts 239-B  
Telephone: N/A      Fax: 780-492-9106  
E-mail: aguralm@ualberta.ca  
Personal Website: N/A

Time: T, Th 3:30-4:50 PM  
Place: HC 2-14  
Office Hours: 2:00 to 3:00 PM,  
or by appointment  
Course Website: eClass Moodle

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**Course Prerequisite:** FREN 301 or FRANCO 225, and one of FREN 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 333 or consent of department.

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

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

Yes       No, not needed

**Community Service Learning** component

Required     Optional     None

**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:**

The objective of this course is to study the theme of love and passion in three pre-contemporary novels, which are classics of French Literature: *La Princesse de Clèves* (1678) by Madame de La Fayette, *Adolphe* (1816) by Benjamin Constant, and *Moderato Cantabile* (1958) by Marguerite Duras. Love relationships will be studied mainly from a psychological perspective, with a consideration of the social context conditioning the characters' behaviours. We will examine the literary movements associated with these three texts: Classicism, Romanticism, and the New Novel. A comparison of these works will

be undertaken to show the feminist and contemporary dimension of their content. At the end of this course, students will be familiar with three of the most important novels in French literature and the literary movements they represent: *La Princesse de Clèves* for Classicism, *Adolphe* for Romanticism, and *Moderato Cantabile* for the New Novel. Students will also be able to discuss orally and in writing the theme of love and passion in the social contexts of the works under study.

**Course Format:**

The objectives of this course will be learned from a combination of formal lectures, assigned readings and audiovisual materials.

**Required Texts:**

Madame de La Fayette, *La Princesse de Clèves* (Paris: Presses Pocket, 1989)  
Benjamin Constant, *Adolphe* (Paris: Gallimard, 1958)  
Marguerite Duras, *Moderato Cantabile* (Paris: Éditions de Minuit, 1980)

**Additional Course Fees**

Yes       No

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

First Day of Class: September 3, 2019

Add/Delete Date: September 16, 2019

50% Withdrawal Date: October 3, 2019

Withdrawal Date: November 29, 2019

Last Day of Class: December 6, 2019

Final Exam Date (if applicable): December 18, 2019 at 9:00am

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable): December 20, 2019. Please consult the following site: <https://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=806#Examinations> (Exams)

Deferred Final Examination: For information on how to apply for a deferred exam see [“I Missed my Final Exam, Now What?”](#)

**Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):**

3 in-class assignments:	15% x 3 (October 10; November 7; December, 5, 2019)
3 Reading quizzes:	10%
Participation:	15%
Final exam:	30% (December 18, 2019: 9:00 AM)

Fall / Winter Exam Planner for the 2019-2020 academic year can be found at the following site: <https://www.ualberta.ca/registrar/examinations/exam-schedules/fall-2019-winter-2020-exam-planner>

**Explanatory Notes on Assignments:**

In-class assignments: three 80-minute in-class assignments which will consist of analyzing one excerpt from each novel studied. Presence in class is mandatory on the day of each assignment.

Reading quizzes: three multiple choice quizzes to verify if the student read the requested novels

Final exam: a three-hour exam on the three novels discussed in class

**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](#).

***Learning and Working Environment:***

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:  
Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or  
If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the [Office of the Student Ombuds](#). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

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>

***Territorial Statement:***

“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.”

***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).

***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**, regular attendance and active participation in class discussion are essential. The grade distribution for attendance and active participation is as follows: Attendance (5%) Participation (10%).

Participation will be assessed based on the use of French during classroom discussions, preparedness, and active participation in class. Note that the instructor expects students to have read the relevant materials before coming to class. Attending screenings of films adapted from the novels discussed in class

will give students the opportunity to increase their grade participation by one bonus point.

***Policy for Late Assignments:***

All assignments for this course will be completed during the 80-minute class period. Presence in class is **mandatory** for these assignments. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction on the day of the in-class assignment, see our policy in the section ***Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components*** of the syllabus.

***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>.

**Accessibility Resources:** (1 – 80 SUB)

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage.

**The Academic Success Centre:** (1-80 SUB)

[The Academic Success Centre](#) offers a variety of workshops on effective study and exam strategies. There are in-person and online sessions available for a modest fee.

**The Centre for Writers:** (1-42 Assiniboia Hall)

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.

**Health and Wellness Support:** There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

**Office of the Student Ombuds:**

The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

**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	%
<b>Excellent.</b> 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.	<b>A+</b>	4.0	<b>97-100</b>
	<b>A</b>	4.0	<b>93-96</b>
	<b>A-</b>	3.7	<b>90-92</b>
<b>Good.</b> 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.	<b>B+</b>	3.3	<b>87-89</b>
	<b>B</b>	3.0	<b>83-86</b>
	<b>B-</b>	2.7	<b>80-82</b>
<b>Satisfactory.</b> 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.	<b>C+</b>	2.3	<b>77-79</b>
	<b>C</b>	2.0	<b>73-76</b>
	<b>C-</b>	1.7	<b>70-72</b>
<b>Poor/Minimal Pass.</b> 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.	<b>D+</b>	1.3	<b>65-69</b>
	<b>D</b>	1.0	<b>60-64</b>
<b>Failure.</b>	<b>F</b>	0.0	<b>0-59</b>