

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

**2019-2020 FREN399, Lec 800: Special Topics
“Passions and Obsessions”**

(Spring/Summer Term)

Note: Remote Delivery

Instructor: *Julie Tarif, PhD*

Time: MTThF 1:30-3:30pm

W June 3rd & 10th 1:30-3:30pm (movie)

Office: 209-C Arts & Convocation Hall

Place: Remote delivery

Telephone: N/A Fax: 780-492-9106

Office Hours: online, by appointment

E-mail: jtarif@ualberta.ca

Personal Website: N/A

Course Website: e-class by Moodle

Teaching Assistant Information (if relevant)

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: FREN298 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): computer access and Zoom account.

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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:

This course proposes an eclectic vision of the concepts of passions and obsessions (i.e. through different angles – literary, sociological, psychological) in an approach that highlights the centripetal and centrifugal forces linked to the phenomena in our society. The objects of study will range from Obsessive Compulsive Disorders and the 19th century fascination for monstrosity, to the new forms of addiction. The course encourages a cross-cultural approach and uses a variety of media, including audiovisual documents.

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Explain and describe the different forms the fascination for alterity took in the 19th century, especially freak shows, and question its new forms in today's society.
- Look for inter-relationships and ideas by cross-referencing two documents on Freak shows.
- Investigate and tell about some CODs and the marginalization of persons suffering from these disorders; discuss potential solutions to include the people suffering from these disorders in our society.
- Show the importance of laughter/comedy when discussing sensitive or controversial topics.
- Summarize and rephrase information.
- Discuss addiction and its new forms.

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

Texts: All the material will be provided on e-class.

Additional Course Fees

- Yes x No

Important Dates:

First Day of Class: May 25, 2020

Add/Delete and Withdrawal Dates: [See Academic Schedule in current Calendar](#)

Last Day of Class: June 10, 2020

Final Exam Date (if applicable): June 15th

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable): Please consult the following site:

[https://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=806#Examinations \(Exams\)](https://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=806#Examinations)

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”):

Virtual Attendance and Participation in class activities – equal distribution (Self-evaluation to be posted on e-class on June 10 th)	30%
Assignment 1 (to be posted on e-class on May 29 th by 7pm)	20%
Assignment 2 (during class time - June 5 th and/or 8 th)	20%
Final assessment (June 15 th)	30%

Required Notes:

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

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

1. Virtual Attendance and Participation in class activities – equal distribution

The marking rubrics will be provided on e-class in the form of a “Présence and participation” self-evaluation sheet.

Very regular virtual attendance is expected.

In class, we will engage into active learning with individual and group activities. Your participation in these activities is evaluated for:

- how well prepared you “come” to class: you’re supposed to prepare all work assigned for each class session (e.g. readings, homework activities),
- your spontaneous contribution to class discussions and activities, individually and in groups.
- your use of the French language.

2. Assignment 1: Cross-referencing of two documents

Students are asked to cross-reference two research papers and identify similarities. Students are also asked to rephrase the information they identify.

3. Assignment 2: Group “case study” and presentation

Students are asked to select a testimony in English of a person suffering from OCD and to put together a short “case study” of this testimony in French, which means summarizing/rephrasing the testimony but also quoting *verbatim* (in translation) some excerpts of the original document.

4. Final assessment

This assessment is designed to test the material learned in class during the term, including language points. More information will be provided to students during the first week of class.

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:

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.

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](#).

Sexual Violence Policy:

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.” (from the beginning of the Calendar).

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, students are allowed to miss **one session** without penalty regardless of the reason for their absence (excusable or not), **after which five percentage point per absence will be deducted from the 30% attendance and participation grade**. It is recommended not to miss a session unless necessary and to connect with the instructor if that happens.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Students who consult **in advance** with an instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be granted an extension with no penalty.

Otherwise, all assignments should be handed in on the stated deadline. If not, **5 percentage point per day past the deadline will be deducted from the graded component of the assignment in question**.

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	%
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		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	97-100
	A	4.0	93-96
	A-	3.7	90-92
<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	87-89
	B	3.0	83-86
	B-	2.7	80-82
<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	77-79
	C	2.0	73-76
	C-	1.7	70-72
<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	65-69
	D	1.0	60-64
<p>Failure.</p>	F	0.0	0-59

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