

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES  
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

**2015-2016** FREN 499 X-50: Writing the Body  
(Winter Term)

Instructor: Dr. Daniel Laforest

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Time: T 17:00 – 20:00

Place: Tory 1-83

Office Hours: Friday 2-4,  
or by appointment

Course Website: on eClass

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**Course Prerequisite:** FREN 301 or FRANC 225, and one of FREN 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316.

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

No, not needed, no such projects approved.

**Community Service Learning** component

None

**Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available**

Exam registry – Students' Union

<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>

**Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)**

No

**Course Description and Objectives:**

Stories create the connections between us. But we tend to forget that they are also inside us, *literally*. This course examines storytelling as it intersects with the biological / bio-medical body in French & francophone cultures. To what extent can the various aspects of our body be singled out and narrated before we lose the sense of character, or even of self? What are the starting and ending moments of *life* in a story? How does language communicate the experience of illness, the regimens necessary for good health, or the dietary habits of the everyday? And what of the mind-body balance when it comes to language and literature? Emphasis will be put on the specificity of the French tradition regarding literary arts and the body. The course will be given entirely in French.

Learning outcomes are to acquire a basic knowledge of representative contemporary work pertaining to the body in francophone literatures, acquire advanced skills in oral debating in French, and consolidate previous knowledge of the language, both oral and written.

**Texts:**

Required : Maylis de Kerangal, *Réparer les vivants*, Paris, Gallimard, coll. "Folio", 2015.

**Grade Distribution (see "Explanatory Notes"):**

<i>Term work:</i>	<b>100%</b>	<i>Discussion tables (3) :</i>	<b>30%</b>
		<i>Assignment #1 :</i>	<b>20%</b> (2 fév.)
		<i>Assignment #2 :</i>	<b>20%</b> (8 mar.)
		<i>Oral :</i>	<b>20%</b>
		<i>Presence &amp; Participation :</i>	<b>10%</b>

<http://www.registrarsoffice.ualberta.ca/en/Examinations/Fall-2015-Winter-2016-Exam-Planner.aspx>

**Explanatory Notes on Assignments:**

The discussion tables will be performed in teams, and will focus on the readings assigned via eClass. The two written assignments (1500 words, approx.) will focus respectively on a movie and on personal project (based on one of the readings). The Orals will be done individually during the last third of the semester.

**Required Notes:**

"Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University calendar."

**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 (online at <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx> ) and avoid any behaviour which 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."

**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 safe and free of discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels this policy has been or 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 directs 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 student ombudservice (<http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/>). Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL at <https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Pages/DispPol.aspx?PID=110> .

***Academic Honesty:***

**All students** should consult the information provided by the [Office of Judicial Affairs](#) regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the [Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook](#) and [Information for Students](#)). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

**Students involved in language courses and translation courses** should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.” **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 conduct with dire consequences.

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](#).

***Recording of Lectures:***

Audio or video recording 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. Recorded material 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 23.3(1) and 23.5.6 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.

**In this course**, Attendance is mandatory, and participation is strongly encouraged. Course content (powerpoint presentations) will NOT be posted online.

***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. Otherwise, late assignments will get a 5% (of the final grade) - per-class-day penalty for each day of lateness.

***Student Accessibility Services:***

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Specialized Support & Disability Services, contact their office immediately (2-800 SUB; Email [sasrec@ualberta.ca](mailto:sasrec@ualberta.ca); Email; phone 780-492-3381; WEB [www.ssds.ualberta.ca](http://www.ssds.ualberta.ca) ).

***Grading:***

Marks for assignments, tests, and exams are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below (“**MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale**”). The percentage mark resulting from the entire term work and examination then produces the final letter grade for the course.

**“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”**

Letter	%	Pts	Descriptor
A+	95-100%	4.0	<b>Excellent:</b> Superior performance showing understanding and knowledge of subject matter far exceeding expectations.
A	90-94%	4.0	<b>Excellent:</b> Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	86-89%	3.7	<b>Excellent:</b> Clearly above average performance with complete knowledge of subject matter.
B+	82-85%	3.3	<b>Good</b>
B	75-81%	3.0	<b>Good:</b> average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B-	70-74%	2.7	<b>Good</b>
C+	66-69%	2.3	<b>Satisfactory:</b> Basic understanding of the subject matter
C	61-65%	2.0	<b>Satisfactory</b>
C-	58-60%	1.7	<b>Satisfactory</b>
D+	55-57%	1.3	<b>Poor:</b> Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
D	50-54%	1.0	<b>Minimal Pass:</b> Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
F	0-49%	0.0	<b>Failure:</b> Unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements