

TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY
Department of Foreign Languages
FREN 3110 – Survey of French Literature I

3 credit hours
Mondays, Wednesdays
1:30 – 2:50 p.m.
Oakley Hall 214

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Office Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays 12:00pm – 2:00pm [over Zoom \(no appointment needed\)](#)

If you would like to speak with me at a different time, [please make an appointment.](#)

Texts and References:

There are no books to buy. All texts will be available on iLearn. Students are expected to have access to the texts in class, either on their personal electronic devices or in printed form.

Course Description:

This is a survey course of French literature from the Middle Ages to the 18th century. Major works in prose, poetry, and theater will be read in full or in part and analyzed from the literary and historical perspectives.

Course Objectives:

Content and soft skills objectives:

Through their efforts on homework assignments, essays, exams, and class discussions and activities, the students will work towards the following goals:

1. Identify major literary movements from the Middle Ages through the 18th century.
2. Identify major writers of each literary movement and their works.
3. Summarize major literary works studied in the course.
4. Explain how individual literary works reflect the historical periods that produced them.
5. Conduct an analysis of texts from different periods and genres, using appropriate critical tools.
6. Conduct independent research using paper and electronic sources, demonstrating ability to find, select, and evaluate information for credibility and relevance.
7. Present analysis and/or research in an organized manner with clear objectives.

Language proficiency objectives:

By the end of the course, each student will have achieved one specific individual language-related goal, agreed upon by both the student and the professor.

Methodology:

The course will be conducted in a seminar format with discussions taking most of the class time. All readings, written assignments, presentations, exams, and discussions will be in French.

Materials:

Specific texts and other materials for each class will be available on iLearn at least one week in advance. Students are strongly encouraged to bring a laptop to class to be able to access the material during class discussions and to participate in online activities that may replace conversations in pairs during COVID-19.

Grading criteria:

20% - participation, leading discussions
20% - final exam (2 parts – 10% each part)
20% - 2 essays (10% each)
15% - 4 unit quizzes
15% - homework, summaries
10% - 2 5-minute presentations (5% each)

Grading scale:

A = 92.51 – 100
A- = 89.51 – 92.50
B+ = 86.51 – 89.50
B = 82.51 – 86.50
B- = 79.51 – 82.50
C+ = 76.51 – 79.50
C = 72.51 – 76.50
C- = 69.51 – 72.50
D = 60.00 – 69.50
F = 0.00 – 59.99

Participation and leading discussions:

This is a discussion-based course and your participation is an essential element of it. Each student is expected to read carefully all the assigned texts and to prepare in advance any questions that may accompany them. Each student is expected to make an effort to contribute to the general discussion, both orally and, when instructed, in writing.

Two times during the semester each student will be **responsible for leading the discussion** of a work or a part of a work. Each student will work with the instructor to prepare the discussion. [The students need to choose the days when they would prefer to be discussion leaders from the list on Google Docs.](#) While these exercises are **not graded** themselves, the effort will affect the student's participation grade. The students are expected to read the text and to [meet with the instructor virtually](#) no later than 20 hours before class; in class, the leaders are expected to ask well-formulated questions that can guide their peers in their analysis of the work and to demonstrate a clear understanding of what they want their peers to remember about the work. In the event of an in-person discussion being impossible, a virtual discussion will be used.

Additionally, the participation grade will reflect each student's engagement while others are speaking, specifically during other people's presentations, and participation in written in-class activities. Participation grades out of 20 will be assigned in Week 7 and after the last class meeting, with the final participation grade being the mean of the two.

If you are temporarily unable to participate in class for any reason, please contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss accommodations.

Homework and summaries:

Readings will be assigned for each class. Some texts will be accompanied by comprehension questions or other activities. All materials will be available on iLearn one week in advance. To minimize physical contact during the pandemic, all assignments are to be submitted electronically, unless otherwise specified. The assignments are due by the beginning of the class.

Many of the works will be read in excerpts. In order to have the full picture, students will read different parts and write a one- or two-sentence summary. The summaries will be combined and made available to the entire class. Please remember that your classmates count on you to provide the information for the parts that they did not read. If you are unprepared, it is more difficult for your classmates to understand what is happening in the text and thus examine and interpret it.

Quizzes:

There will be 4 quizzes, one at the end of each of the four major units. Each quiz will last approximately 20 minutes and will be given at the beginning of class. The dates will be available on iLearn. Each quiz will cover factual information about literary periods and will require that students identify authors or literary movements based on the form, style, and theme(s) of sample texts. The quizzes will include multiple choice, matching, and short paragraphs. The quizzes will be in French. Online dictionaries are allowed during quizzes, but the professor reserves the right to see the screen of any personal electronic device used during a quiz.

Essays:

There will be two essays of 500–750 words. The topic and the grading criteria for each will be provided three class meetings before the due date. The essays are an opportunity to demonstrate your understanding of literary styles/movements by identifying and presenting their characteristic elements and to refine your skills in constructing an argument. Essays will be graded on the relevance of the argument and the supporting material to the proposed topic, organization, and clarity of expression, including basic grammar. Additionally, the grade will reflect each student's progress towards the student's personal objectives in French proficiency.

Essays will be written in French. You *may not* use outside help, including your classmates, your friends and family, and a tutor. You *may* come to the instructor with specific questions. *You may NOT use online translators.* You *may* use a regular dictionary. Essays will have one draft. However, students wishing to improve the original graded text may do so after consultation with the instructor. In this case, the second draft will be graded and the second grade will replace the original grade. The second draft must be submitted no later than the second class meeting after the first draft has been returned.

Final exam (2 parts):

The final exam will have two major parts: an essay portion that will be written at home and a cumulative portion (matching, short answer) that will be completed during the scheduled final-exam period for the course. [The details and requirements of the essay portion are available on Google Docs.](#) The format of the in-class portion will be provided during the last class meeting of the semester. There will be one graded draft of the essay portion. However, students are encouraged to discuss their work in progress with the instructor. Each portion will count for 50% of the exam grade. The exam will be in French. Online dictionaries are allowed during the in-class portion, but the professor reserves the right to see the screen of any personal electronic device used during the in-class portion of the exam.

Presentations:

Each student will make two presentations of an author. [Students may choose their authors from the list on Google Docs, but the two authors must be from different literary periods.](#) Each presentation will last 5-7 minutes. Presentations will be timed and respecting the time limit will be a criterion for the presentation grade. Presentations will be in French.

Late and missing work:

Due to COVID-19, late work will be accepted under the following conditions:

1) Late homework assignments: you must notify the professor that it will be late no later than 1:15 p.m. on the day when the assignment is due; otherwise, the assignment will be penalized by 1/5 of the score;

2) Late essays: you must notify the professor that you need extra time no later than 12 hours before the essay is due and state the date when it will be submitted; if the essay is not submitted on that date, it will be penalized by 7 points out of 100 each 24 hours after the date, including non-school days, for a maximum of 21 penalty points;

3) Missed presentations and/or days to lead the discussion: please contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss options.

4) Make-up quizzes are allowed; it is the responsibility of the student to contact the professor to schedule a make-up quiz;

5) If you are unable to complete either part of the final exam on the day when they are scheduled, please contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss accommodations.

Student Misconduct Policy:

Maintaining a high standard of academic integrity in every class at Tennessee Tech is critical to the reputation of Tennessee Tech, its students, alumni, and the employers of Tennessee Tech graduates. The Student Academic Misconduct Policy describes the definitions of academic misconduct and policies and procedures for addressing Academic Misconduct at Tennessee Tech. For details, view Tennessee Tech's Policy 217 – Student Academic Misconduct at [Policy Central](#).

In addition to all provisions in Policy 217, the following rule applies to the definition of academic misconduct for FREN 3110:

Any use of an unauthorized outside source to produce coursework will result in an immediate charge of academic misconduct, and a grade of zero on the assignment in question.

The term “unauthorized source” includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Online translators
- Fellow students
- Native French speakers
- Family members who speak or may have studied French
- Other professors
- Any outside source not previously and specifically authorized by the professor

“Authorized sources” for FREN 3110 are the following:

- English-French and/or French-French dictionaries, paper and/or electronic
- Grammar references, paper and/or electronic (textbooks from previous French courses, online grammar explanations, grammar exercises from previous French courses)
- All materials available on the course's page on iLearn
- Professor for the course

If you are not certain if a source is authorized, assume that it is not and contact the professor for clarification.

Attendance Policy:

Due to the ongoing pandemic, attendance will be taken, but will not affect the final grade in the course. Students are strongly encouraged to stay home if they don't feel well. Absences and tardiness will not negatively affect the final grade in the course.

HOWEVER, students are responsible for all material covered in the classes that they miss. This material may appear in any form on homework assignments, essay topics, and/or exams.

If you are unable to complete the work missed during the absences, please contact the professor to discuss accommodations.

Disability Accommodation:

Students with a disability requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS). An Accommodation Request (AR) should be completed as soon as possible, preferably by the end

of the first week of the course. The ODS is located in the Roaden University Center, Room 112; phone 372-6119. For details, view the Tennessee Tech's Policy 340 – Services for Students with Disabilities at [Policy Central](#).

COVID – 19

1. Students must take personal responsibility in following the recommended CDC COVID-19 guidelines. Students are expected to follow all COVID-19 directives published by Tennessee Tech including, but not limited to, notices on Tennessee Tech's webpage, building and facilities signage, and similar publications. The university's Return to Campus Student Handbook can be found at <https://www.tntech.edu/return/index.php>.
2. According to Tennessee Tech University's protocols, face coverings must be worn (covering the mouth and nose) by students in the classroom at all times.
3. Students must abide by predetermined social distancing guidelines and seating arrangements. Movement during class sessions should be limited as to not endanger other students or faculty. Students should be conscious and respectful of others and their health concerns.
4. Students who refuse to comply with university protocols on these matters will be reported to the Tennessee Tech Dean of Students.
5. Students should direct all requests for excused class absences related to COVID-19, regardless of where the COVID-19 testing is performed, to Tennessee Tech's Health Services. The Office of Student Affairs will provide notifications to faculty members of student absences and the expected length of the absence.