



DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Spring 2011: FRENCH 4402/01

Culture francophone contemporaine : le Québec, le Maroc, la France

EB 172: TTh 6:30 - 7:45 PM

Instructor: Dr. Bill Griffin

Office Ph.: 770-423-6366

Office: Pilcher 319

Office hours: by appointment

E-mail: wgriffin@kennesaw.edu

Required texts:

- ❖ **Pièce** : Jean-Paul SARTRE, *Huis Clos* (1944)
- ❖ **Film** : *Huis Clos* (1954, Jacqueline Audry)
- ❖ **Roman** : Gabrielle ROY, *Rue Deschambault* (1972)
- ❖ **Film** : *Entre les murs* (2008, Laurent Cantet)
- ❖ **Roman** : Anne HÉBERT, *Les fous de Bassan* (1982)
- ❖ **Film** : *La Grande séduction* (2003, Jean-François Pouliot)
- ❖ **Roman** : Tahar BEN JALLOUN, *L'enfant de sable* (1987)
- ❖ **Film** : *What a wonderful life* (2006, Faouzi Bensaidi)
- ❖ Lectures choisies sur l'histoire du Québec, du Maroc, et de France

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

FREN 4402 - Contemporary Culture

3 Class Hours 0 Laboratory Hours 3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: FREN 3304 or FREN 3305.

An examination of the historical, social, and political contexts of the contemporary French and Francophone experience through the analysis of cultural representations such as film, media, plastic arts, music, and literature.

COURSE GOALS: The purpose of this course is to prepare and present a research project before a jury of peers in which the student demonstrates proficiency in French as well as an understanding of the connections among the perspectives of a culture and its practices and products.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:

- Students are expected to attend all classes. The maximum number of absences is two. All absences, excused or unexcused, will be counted as absences. Each additional absence over the maximum will result in your final grade being lowered by 3 %. If you must be absent from class, it is your responsibility to find out what the assignment was for that day and to turn your homework in on time.
- Classes will start on time. If for some reason you find it necessary to arrive late, you will be responsible for all information, including announcements changes in syllabus, etc. _ Class time will be used to discuss the assigned novels and films, critical essays and related issues. Participation in these discussions is expected from all students. All assignments, whether written or oral, are to be finished by the time class begins. No late homework will be accepted. Emergencies will be handled on an individual basis.
- Students are expected to maintain and check their KSU email accounts for class announcements.

GENERAL POLICIES

- Academic honesty. Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/ falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an "informal" resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum one semester suspension requirement.
- The Department of Foreign Languages at Kennesaw State University considers it a breach of academic integrity for the student to use automatic translators of any kind to complete an assignment. Furthermore, no compositions or other work should be written for the student by a native speaker of the target language, by a tutor or student assistant in the Foreign Language Resource Collection, or by any other individual.
- Disability policy. Kennesaw State University provides program accessibility and reasonable accommodations for persons identified as disabled under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. A number of

services are available to help disabled students with their academic work. In order to make arrangements for special services, students must visit the Office of Disabled Student Support Services (ext. 6443) and arrange an individual assistance plan. In some cases, certification of disability is required.

- Last day to withdraw without academic penalty: March 14, 2011.

COURSE GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The student will be able to:

- Reading: understand main ideas and most supporting details of cultural texts in the original; demonstrate an ability to understand written discourse independently of subject knowledge.
 - To achieve these objectives, the student will read cultural texts and view films addressing the arts and the culture of the French and Francophone world.
- Listening: understand main ideas and most detail of speech on a variety of cultural issues presented and discussed in class; demonstrate an awareness of major social, linguistic, and cultural issues that go beyond the literal meaning of the “spoken” text.
 - To achieve these objectives, the student will engage in various listening activities such as lectures, oral presentations, and discussions.
- Writing: Demonstrate an emerging ability to write about abstract topics and defend a point of view; demonstrate an ability to summarize ideas. Produce writing samples comprehensible to native speakers unaccustomed to dealing with non-native speakers.
 - To achieve these objectives, the student will write reading responses, summaries, and short essays on topics related to the course content.
- Speaking: Show an emerging ability to participate in discussions on cultural issues; produce speech comprehensible to native speakers unaccustomed to dealing with non-native speaker.
 - To achieve these objectives, the student will participate in class discussions on cultural issues, prepare for, and do an oral presentation.
- Culture: Demonstrate an understanding of major artistic movements and cultural issues presented in class; establish connections between the cultural products and practices of the French and Francophone world.
 - To achieve these objectives, the student will read essays on culture and the arts, do research on the works and topics discussed, and engage in class discussion.

ASSESSMENT OF CONTENT & LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY OBJECTIVES

30% - Oral presentation in French: Content 60%; language usage 40%

10% - Class participation & assignments: More than 2 absences of any type will result in the lowering of the final grade for the course by 5 points for each class missed beyond.

30% - Research paper in French: 6-8 pages double spaced following the MLA format on a topic relevant to the course content (novels or cinema) and approved by the instructor.

30% - Three film critiques (average of three grades)

Grades

A: 90-100

B: 80-89

C: 70-79

D: 60-69

F: < 60

Daily Outline

DATE	#	CLASS DISCUSSION/EVENT	ASSIGNMENTS
Jan 10	1	Overview, intro to course; Film: <i>Entre les murs</i>	Complete <i>Huis Clos</i> by Jan 19
Jan 12	2	Film: <i>Entre les murs</i>	
Jan 19	3	Play: J-P Sartre, <i>Huis Clos</i>	
Jan 24	4	Play: J-P Sartre, <i>Huis Clos</i>	
Jan 26	5	Play: J-P Sartre, <i>Huis Clos</i>	Complete <i>Rue Deschambault</i> by Feb 14
Jan 31	6	Film: <i>Huis Clos</i>	
Feb 2	7	Film: <i>Huis Clos</i>	
Feb 7	8	Novel: Gabrielle Roy, <i>Rue Deschambault</i>	
Feb 9	9	Novel: Gabrielle Roy, <i>Rue Deschambault</i>	
Feb 14	10	Novel: Gabrielle Roy, <i>Rue Deschambault</i>	Complete first half of <i>Les fous de Bassan</i> by Feb 28
Feb 16	11	Novel: Gabrielle Roy, <i>Rue Deschambault</i>	
Feb 21	12	Film: <i>La Grande Séduction</i>	
Feb 23	13	Film: <i>La Grande Séduction</i>	
Feb 28	14	Novel: Anne Hebert, <i>Les fous de Bassan</i>	
Mar 2	15	Novel: Anne Hebert, <i>Les fous de Bassan</i>	Complete <i>Les fous de Bassan</i> by Mar 16
Spring Break			
Mar 14	16	Novel: Anne Hebert, <i>Les fous de Bassan</i>	
Mar 16	17	Novel: Anne Hebert, <i>Les fous de Bassan</i>	Complete first half of <i>L'Enfant de sable</i> by Mar 28
Mar 21	18	Film: <i>It's a Wonderful World</i>	
Mar 23	19	Film: <i>It's a Wonderful World</i>	
Mar 28	20	Novel: Tahar Ben Jelloun: <i>L'Enfant de sable</i>	Complete <i>L'Enfant de sable</i> by Apr 4
Mar 30	21	Novel: Tahar Ben Jelloun: <i>L'Enfant de sable</i>	
Apr 4	22	Novel: Tahar Ben Jelloun: <i>L'Enfant de sable</i>	Prepare thesis for Research Paper
Apr 6	23	Novel: Tahar Ben Jelloun: <i>L'Enfant de sable</i>	Meet with instructor as needed
Apr 11		No Class	Prepare oral presentation of research
Apr 13	24	Class discussion: update on research	
Apr 18	25	Oral Presentation Rehearsals in class	
Apr 20	26	Oral Presentation Rehearsals in class	
Apr 25	27	Oral presentations	
Apr 27	28	Oral presentations	
May 2	29	Last Day of Classes	Turn in Research Paper

Guidelines for Research Paper and Oral Presentations

I. Research Paper

- Paper will be approximately 6-8 pages long, double-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font.
- The topic of the paper must be approved by the instructor and must be relevant to the theme of the course selected by the instructor.
- Final version of the paper **must** be turned in on due date, Monday, May 2, 2011. No late papers will be accepted. Papers not received by the end of class time on May 2, 2011 will receive a grade of zero (0). You will have the opportunity to write/rewrite your paper prior to May 2, 2011.
- The paper must have (1) an introduction that presents a clear thesis statement; (2) a body of text that develops and “proves” your thesis statement; (3) a conclusion.
- Back up what you say by using the works assigned to this class and comments by critics and other authors. You must reference at least 2 authoritative sources using MLA guidelines. No more than one source may be used from the Internet. Wikipedia is not an authoritative source.
- Your work will be strengthened if you:
 - stay on topic;
 - avoid broad general statements and digressions;
 - avoid phrases like “it seems to me”, “I think”, etc.
- Do not present remarks or ideas of others as your own; provide appropriate citations.
- You must use quotation marks when citing directly from another text.

II. Oral Presentation of Research Paper

- You will make an oral presentation of the research you completed in preparing your research paper. See #1 above.
- Presentations should be 10-15 minutes in length; time yourself.
- Do not read your paper. No credit will be given if you read from notes or from a projected presentation format such as PowerPoint.
- Visuals (PowerPoint presentation, posters, art work, etc.) are required and **must be approved by the instructor prior to your presentation**. If you need special equipment, you must reserve it well in advance through the DFL’s Foreign Languages Resource Collection.
- **You must rehearsal your presentation** at least once in front of the instructor/your peers prior to delivering the presentation for final evaluation.
- The oral presentation will be evaluated by the instructor.

III. Bibliography

- Whether quoted or not, all sources used in the preparation of the paper must be acknowledged.
- Use correct form (see MLA bibliography style available online)
- Do not include works you did not actually consult and use for the preparation of your paper.
- Any author quoted in your paper must be listed in the bibliography.