

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
Département d'études françaises

French 2404B/2144B • Civilisation française • 2012
Du XVIIIe Siècle à l'Époque Contemporaine

Prerequisite: French 1900E, French 1910, or by permission of the Department, based on Placement Test.

Antirequisite: The former French 232E/2411E.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites. – from Western's *Academic Handbook*

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Office hours: Mondays 11:30am-1:00pm
Wednesdays 10:00am-11:30am
or by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

French 2404A/2144A for 2012 is one of two half-courses designed to give students a better knowledge and understanding of France, its history and its culture. The course is on a yearly rotation of content.

For the Winter Term 2012, the topics covered are:

- the 18th century and the Enlightenment
- the 19th century and the Age of Revolution
- the 20th century, the World Wars and Modernism
- the 21st century and Postmodernity

For the Winter Term 2013, the course begins with a geographical overview of the country, followed by a chronological account of France's history and culture from prehistory to the end of the 17th century. Both courses aim not only to inform students of France's history and culture, but to also shed some light on the complex and culturally diverse *persona* of the French. The course is given in French and consists of lectures incorporating digital slides, Internet content and videos.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, students will be expected to:

- have a basic understanding of the historical, social and cultural development of the country, from the 18th century to present-day.

- be able to identify some of the important historical, social and cultural figures, events and achievements throughout the centuries.
- have a basic understanding of present-day French society, culture and government.
- acquire a better understanding of what it is to be French, including an appreciation of France's contributions to Western civilization.

Required Texts:

There are no required texts for the course. A web site has been created which includes the majority of the lectures. This "Internet-based textbook" has no multimedia content whatsoever. Also, in-class lectures convey more information than the site.

Students should make sure they have an active Internet account and a WebCT link to the course in order to access the web site.

Distribution of marks:

Report and Abstract:	30%
Midterm Test:	25%
Class Attendance and Participation:	10%
Final Exam:	$\frac{35\%}{100\%}$

French 2404 students: This course is **applicable** towards the Program Modules offered by the Department of French Studies. Your Report and Abstract will be done in French, with 85% of your grade for content and 15% for grammar and spelling. Your Midterm Test and Final Exam will also be written in French.

French 2144 students: This course is **not applicable** towards the Program Modules offered by the Department of French Studies. Your Report and Abstract will be done in your choice of French or English, with 95% of your grade for content and 5% for grammar and spelling. Your Midterm Test and Final Exam can be written in French or English.

For all students, grammar and spelling percentages do not apply to the Midterm Test or to some sections of the Final Exam.

Report and Abstract - 30%:

- Each student will prepare a **1,500-word Report (25%)** and an **Abstract (5%)** on a topic of his/her choice. An abstract is a concise summary of the report.
- Report topics and detailed instructions are given the *second* week of classes. Due dates will be assigned the *third* week of classes. There is a **2% per weekday** penalty for late Reports/Abstracts.
- Abstracts will be between 150 and 200 words. Students will read aloud the abstract, which will conclude with 1 fact-based question and answer. Some of these questions will be used in part of the Midterm Test and Final Exam. *Abstracts and questions will be posted on the course web site.*

Midterm Test - 25%:

- A two-hour Midterm Test is given in-class on **Wednesday, March 21st, 2012**. The test includes questions from student Abstracts, and other questions based on course material.

Class Attendance and Participation - 10%:

- The success of your learning experience in any course requires that you regularly attend classes. In French 2404B/2144B, 10% of your mark is based on class attendance. Also, your participation during class, (asking questions, giving answers, participating in discussion), is encouraged and acknowledged.
- **Attendance for each day will be recorded** and every absence will affect your mark, so it is important to **arrive on time** and **stay until the end of class**.
- Each *unjustified* three-hour class absence will result in a deduction of 1.5% from the Attendance mark. If you miss 7 or more classes, your Attendance mark will be zero. Please advise me in cases of unavoidable absence, such as serious illness or family emergencies, and be prepared to provide documentation to me for justification of short-term absences, (1 class missed) or to the Academic Counsellor of your Home Faculty for long-term absences, (more than 1 class missed).
- Here is a link for the downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC), which should be brought with you to your medical appointment in case of illness:
<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>
You'll find the SMC under the Medical Documentation heading on this page.
- **If you miss the Midterm Test**, you must provide medical or other documentation to the Academic Counsellor of your Home Faculty for academic accommodation.

Final Exam - 35%:

- There will be a 3-hour Final Exam covering the entire semester, scheduled during the Exam period in April, 2012.

Important Note:

- There will be no 2404/2144 class on **Wednesday, March 7th, 2012**.

Please go to <http://www.uwo.ca/french/academicinformation.html> for
*Important Academic Information for Students Taking Courses
in the Department of French Studies*