



**French 3905B**  
Reading Texts  
Winter 2023-24

Location: **P&AB 36**  
Day/Time: **Friday, 9:30-12:30PM**

**Prerequisites:** Two 0.5 credits from French 2905A/B, French 2906A/B, French 2907A/B (or French 2900) or permission of the Department based on the [Placement Test](#).

**Antirequisites:** French 3900.

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.

**Instructor Information**

Instructor	Email	Office	Phone	Office Hours
Prof. Keling Wei	kwei24@uwo.ca	UC 4117	519-661-2111 x81186	Friday 2-4pm

Students must use their Western ([@uwo.ca](mailto:@uwo.ca)) email addresses when contacting their instructor.

**Description du cours**

Nous lisons tout le temps, presque à notre insu. Mais qu'est-ce que la lecture? Comment lire un texte, c'est-à-dire comment le recevoir, comment le sentir dans sa texture et sa voix chaque fois unique? Et comprendre un texte, est-ce saisir son sens, sa signification à la fois dénotative et connotative, ou se laisser emporter d'abord par sa complexité et son ambiguïté, pour pouvoir ensuite y répondre en forme de discussion, questionnement, commentaire, analyse, ou même réécriture, en lecteur attentif? Quel est le rôle de la lecture dans notre vision du monde qui est, au fond, une réflexion sur nous-mêmes?

Ainsi, ce cours propose-t-il de prendre conscience de l'acte de lecture et d'explorer ses aspects divers à travers une sélection de textes: littéraires, historique, critiques. Plus précisément, le cours se déroulera autour de deux axes principaux, réflexif et pratique - un aperçu plus ou moins théorique sur la notion de lecture -, et l'exercice même de la lecture. Nous procéderons à la "close-reading" d'un corpus soigneusement choisi qui permettra une étude fine et globale du texte: structure, argumentation, rhétorique, portée significative, contexte socio-culturel. Par là, le cours fournira des outils méthodologiques et des exercices bien ciblés en vue d'une compréhension approfondie des textes.

## Objectifs

Les étudiants seront en mesure de:

- avoir une connaissance générale sur la notion et l'acte de lecture;
- enrichir l'expérience de la lecture de différents genres: essai, récit, fiction, discours...;
- approfondir l'apprentissage du bon usage de la langue sur le plan lexical, syntaxique, grammatical et sémantique;
- identifier les procédés rhétoriques et stylistiques d'un texte;
- aborder un texte de manière progressive et méthodologique, pour en comprendre à fond les enjeux explicites ou voilés;
- être capable de réagir à l'exigence du texte avec une production orale ou écrite: exposé, résumé, rapport de lecture, explication/commentaire/analyse du texte;
- développer l'esprit analytique et critique en se confrontant à la complexité et à la difficulté du texte.

## Texts and Materials

- Les textes au programme seront affichés sur OWL
- Ressources en ligne:
  - Bon Patron* : <https://bonpatron.com/fr/>
  - TLFi* : Trésor de la langue Française informatisé : <http://www.atilf.fr/tlfi>
  - Le dictionnaire *Petit Robert* : <https://dictionnaire.lerobert.com/>
  - Le Conjugueur Larousse* : <https://www.larousse.fr/conjugaison>
  - Le Conjugueur Bescherelle* : <https://bescherelle.com/le-conjugueur-bescherelle>

## Course Schedule

### **Semaine 1 (12 janvier)**

Présentation du cours;  
L'histoire et la notion de lecture

### **Semaine 2 (19 janvier)**

Daniel Pennac, *Comme un roman*

### **Semaine 3 (26 janvier)**

Daniel Pennac, *Comme un roman*

### **Semaine 4 (2 février)**

Marcel Proust, *Sur la lecture*

### **Semaine 5 (9 février)**

Marcel Proust, *Sur la lecture*  
**1er quiz de lecture (en classe)**

### **Semaine 6 (16 février)**

Jean-Paul Sartre, *Les mots*

### **Reading week (19-23 février)**

### **Semaine 7 (1 mars)**

Jean-Paul Sartre, *Les mots*

### **Semaine 8 (8 mars)**

Georges Perec, *Les choses*

### **Semaine 9 (15 mars)**

Georges Perec, *Les choses*

**2e quiz de lecture (en classe)**

### **Semaine 10 (22 mars)**

Roland Barthes, *Mythologies*

**Good Friday (29 mars)**

### **Semaine 11 (5 avril)**

Bilan, discussion, exposés.

**(Le travail final à soumettre avant le 8 avril)**

### **Methods of Evaluation**

Travaux écrits (2 x 15%)	<b>30%</b>
Quiz de lecture (2 x 15%)	<b>30%</b>
Exposé oral en classe	<b>15%</b>
Travail final	<b>25%</b>

Note:

- 3 travaux écrits seront assignés : les **2** meilleurs résultats seront retenus.
- Deux quizzes de lecture seront prévus en classe, **le 9 février** et **le 15 mars**.
- Un exposé oral de 10-15 minutes portera sur un texte/ouvrage en français de votre choix.
- Le Travail Final (environ 1000-1500 mots/4-5 pages à double interligne) portera sur un texte au programme et sera à remettre **avant le 8 avril**.
- Pour les travaux et les quizzes : aucun.e retard/absence ne sera accepté.e sans documentation officielle.

### **OWL**

All course material will be posted to OWL: <http://owl.uwo.ca>. Students are responsible for checking the course OWL site on a regular basis for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class.

If students need assistance with the course OWL site, they can seek support on the OWL Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk.

<https://wts.uwo.ca/helpdesk/>

### **Technical Requirements and Electronic Devices**

This course requires you to have a reliable internet connection and a computer to connect to OWL and write assignments. However, no electronic device will be permitted on tests in class.

In this course, students are permitted to use AI tools exclusively for information gathering and preliminary research purposes. Students must however critically evaluate the obtained information, exercise independent thinking, and engage in original research to synthesize and develop their own ideas, arguments, and perspectives. The use of AI tools can serve as a starting point for exploration, however students are expected to uphold academic integrity by appropriately attributing all sources and avoiding plagiarism. Assignments should reflect the students own thoughts and independent written work. See also: ***Scholastic Offences***.

### **Professionalism and Privacy**

Western students are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#). Additionally, the following expectations and professional conduct apply to this course: Grammar checkers such as *Bon Patron* are permitted in this course, however online translation tools such as *Google Translate* are not permitted. All course materials created for OWL by the instructor are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared. The recording of classes is prohibited.

### **Course-specific policies / Student Absences**

Late assignments (« travaux écrits ») will not be accepted. Absences from in-class assessments (quiz 1 and 2) require formal academic considerations. In the case of a missed in-class quiz with academic consideration: a make-up will be scheduled.

If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness or other serious circumstances, please follow the procedures below.

For work totaling 10% or more of the final course grade, you must provide valid medical or supporting documentation to the Academic Counselling Office of your Faculty of Registration as soon as possible. For further information, please consult the University's medical illness policy at

[https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/academic\\_consideration.pdf](https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration.pdf)

The Student Medical Certificate is available at

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

**Note:** missed work can *only* be excused through one of the mechanisms above.

### **Religious Accommodation**

When a course requirement conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request accommodation for their absence in writing at least two weeks prior to the holiday to the course instructor and/or the Academic Counselling office of their Faculty of Registration. Please consult University's list of recognized religious holidays (updated annually) at

<https://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>.

### **Accommodation Policies**

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Accessible Education, which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities can be found at:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic Accommodation disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Accommodation_disabilities.pdf).

### **Academic Policies**

The website for Registrarial Services is <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>.

In accordance with policy,

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/policies\\_procedures/section1/mapp113.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/policies_procedures/section1/mapp113.pdf)

the centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at their official university address is attended to in a timely manner.

### **Scholastic offences**

All assignments must be students' original work: plagiarism is strictly prohibited. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized use of AI tools such as ChatGPT to create content that is submitted as one's own. Students are permitted to use AI tools exclusively for information gathering and preliminary research purposes. These tools are intended to enhance the learning experience by providing access to diverse information sources. However, it is essential that students critically evaluate the obtained information, exercise independent thinking, and engage in original research to synthesize and develop their own ideas, arguments, and perspectives. The use of AI tools can serve as a starting point for exploration, however students are expected to uphold academic integrity by appropriately attributing all sources and avoiding plagiarism. Assignments should reflect the students own thoughts and independent written work. By adhering to these guidelines, students contribute to a responsible and ethical learning environment that promotes critical thinking, independent inquiry and allows them to produce original written contributions.

Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).

### **Statement on the use of plagiarism-checking software**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

### **Support Services**

#### **Academic Counselling**

Your Home Faculty's Academic Counselling or Academic Advising Office will support or refer whenever you have an issue that is affecting your studies, including information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters. Do not hesitate to reach out to them if you are struggling and unsure where to go for help. Contact info for all Faculties is here:

[https://registrar.uwo.ca/faculty\\_academic\\_counselling.html](https://registrar.uwo.ca/faculty_academic_counselling.html)

#### **Mental Health Support**

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<https://uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

### **Gender-based and sexual violence**

Western University [is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence](#) and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced gender-based or sexual violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts, [here](#). To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact [support@uwo.ca](mailto:support@uwo.ca).

### **Accessible Education**

Please contact the course instructor if you require lecture or printed material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education at

[http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible\\_education/index.html](http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html)

if you have any questions regarding accommodations.

### **Learning Development and Success**

Counsellors at the Learning Development and Success Centre (<https://learning.uwo.ca>) are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

### **Digital Student Experience**

Western University is committed to a thriving campus as we deliver our courses in the mixed model of both virtual and face-to-face formats. We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being:

<https://www.uwo.ca/se/digital/>.

### **USC**

Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, <https://westernusc.ca/services/>.