

FR1000

Unlocking French Regions

Prof.: Servanne WOODWARD

swoodwar@uwo.ca

Office hours zoom and by appointment

Assistant: Zhuoyao LING

Zling44@uwo.ca

Course offered in English

Prerequisite: None

Course Information

FR 1000 section 001; Unlocking France **Tuesday 10:30AM-12h30PM /Thursday 10:30AM-11:30 AM room (Talbot College) TC343 (Fall 2024)**



Land of wine and good food for some; a perfect place to go camping and bicycling for others; the longest ski-resort network awaits your next winter amusements if you like snowboarding or the most traditional forms of cross-country ski; the land of museums or the place to go sailing, this course takes you out of Paris to design your own tour de France. The older generations hoped from one city to the next, vaguely peering from the SNCF (train) window and visiting landmarks with a selfie to show they were “there”, and they ate a croissant after standing in line at the Eiffel Tower, before eating a pretzel and drinking a beer in Berlin in front of a pub that looked very much like the one in their hometown—you may eat a pretzel and drink a beer in front of the Strasbourg cathedral in France. But newer generations find new ways to reach common landmarks or discover new ones in unexpected ways. We will check the prehistory, and the history of some sites and monuments or some buildings, perhaps their current use (example: President Macron recently received the King of England in Versailles; the 2024 Olympic Games set equestrian competitions in Versailles; The A7 (national highway from Paris to Italy) is built on roman routes built after the conquest of Gaul by the Romans.

The son of the previous Western University president wanted to bicycle in the Landes in June-July, and he wanted to join a group of cyclist so that he would not have to plan the meals and the logistics and he would be part of a secure and accompanied peloton, while a young student from Peru wanted to land in Nice, so that she could go from Nice to Cannes with the marathon: you will organise your own tour, selecting your season and your set of activities to help visualise it for your classmates, or present the latest feats of your favorite rugby or soccer player from a French team; why you prefer the island Ste Marguerite beach in Cannes as

opposed to the city one, etc... The course will present each region so that you may make up your mind as to your own combination of activities on a three-weeks budget. Your Midterm is a take-home exam reviewing what you learnt in class about the first regions presented and what was said about it by people who went there.



Material: Great Courses, by John Greene—shown in class. 4 texts provided on your electronic course site; you provide the presentations

Goals: Apart from the ones you will determine for yourself, as you visit France virtually, you will understand the emotions and traditional practices that motivate what you taste and see in French regions (why wines may taste so different for instance); how you can live adventures in its waterways, mountains, and bicycle routes ; get information and see where so many Canadians engaged their lives in WWI and WWII—where they are honored with what type of monuments; where you could go and ski next winter and what treats to expect or seek; establish a deeper familiarity with France’s monuments, so that you better understand its history, how culture is shaped, and how invaders and politicians used their symbolic powers; which museums offer what type of experience where you can see how commerce sometimes defines politics and even the arts (leisure time paid for the Impressionists and the commerce of clothing for Marie-Antoinette’s portraits); how landscapes and plants retain a “memory” of French people; how prehistoric humans (and some human relatives) lived the land and left traces of their hands in their paintings; how the Romans who defeated the Celtic tribes left traces of their passage such as theaters still in use today; where the druids practiced ancient religions and left dolmens and other structures standing on the land in Britany; where and how medieval people erected cathedrals still active to date, and where you can hear their gigantic organs at free concerts; how French landscape and cityscape defined poetry and visual arts; understand how tours, journeys, migrations, transports, tourism came to be and whose footsteps you follow when you travel in France. You will see how France was defined by wars, by the Revolution, and by its economical activities or competitions, which inventors or philosophers still permeate French thought, as honored by statues and monuments or at the famous Père Lachaise cemetery.

How you are graded: Presence and participation (questionnaires due right after class ends), 20%; Midterm 40% (take-home midterm, given 7 days ahead of time); one video or **automated** Powerpoint presentation on a focussed point (subject approved ahead of time with your instructor) 40% lasting 10 to 12 mn.

FR 1000A-001 TC (Talbot) # 343	Course presented in class by the professor	Your work
Thursday, September 5 10:30AM - 11:30 (1h)	Introduction and presentation of Versailles (30 mn JG);	
Tuesday, September 10 10:30AM-12:30 (2h)	Alsace and Lorraine: France meets Germany (30 mn JG)	Class discussion (presence participation) <i>Versailles and WWI & WWII, etc...</i>
Thursday, September 12 10:30AM - 11:30 (1h)	Normandy at War (30 mn JG)	
Tuesday, September 17 10:30AM-12:30 (2h)	Text4 Arthur Young 1789	Class discussion (presence participation)
Thursday, September 19 10:30AM - 11:30 (1h)	Normandy at Ease: Painters and Pilgrims (30 mn JG);	Presentations
Tuesday, September 24 10:30AM-12:30 (2h)	Brittany, The Wild West (30 mn JG)	Class discussion (presence participation)
Thursday, September 26 10:30AM - 11:30 (1h)	The Loire Valley, Among the Châteaux (30 mn JG);	Presentations
Tuesday, October 1st 10:30AM-12:30 (2h)	Bordeaux and the Coast of Aquitaine (30 mn JG).	Class discussion (presence participation)
Thursday, October 3 10:30AM - 11:30 (1h)	The Basque Region by the Pyrenees (30 mn JG);	Presentations
Tuesday, October 8 10:30AM-12:30 (2h)	The Camargue : Land of the Cathars (30 mn JG)	Class discussion (presence participation)
Thursday, October 10 10:30AM - 11:30 (1h)	Arles, A Jewel of Provence (30 mn JG);	Presentations
Tuesday, October 22 10:30AM-12:30 (2h)	RODIN	Class discussion (presence participation)
Thursday, October 24 10:30AM - 11:30 (1h)	Avignon, from Popes to Produce Stands (30 mn JG).	Presentations
Tuesday, October 29 10:30AM-12:30 (2h)	Text3	Class discussion (presence participation)
Thursday, October 31 10:30AM - 11:30 (1h)	Beaujolais (30 mn JG);	Presentations
Tuesday, November 5 10:30AM-12:30 (2h)	MIDTERM	MIDTERM (40%)
Thursday, November 7 10:30AM - 11:30 (1h)	Dijon and Burgundy: The Delicious Heartland (30 mn JG);	Presentations (10 mn)

Tuesday, November 12 10:30AM-12:30 (2h)	Along the Riviera, from Marseille to Cannes (30 mn JG).	
Thursday, November 14 10:30AM - 11:30 (1h)	Northeast to Champaign (30mn JG)	(presence participation)
Tuesday, November 19 10:30AM-12:30 (2h)	Text 2	Presentations
Thursday, November 21 10:30AM - 11:30 (1h)	Text1	Presentations
Tuesday, November 26 10:30AM-12:30 (2h)	Corsica (30mn JG)	
Thursday, November 28 10:30AM - 11:30 (1h)	Paris (Prof. Roulston as guest)	Class discussion (presence participation)
Tuesday, December 3 10:30AM-12:30 (2h)		Presentations
Thursday, December 5 10:30AM - 11:30 (1h)	Ile de France : Class discussion	Class discussion (presence participation)



How I communicate with you: OWL Brightspace and with your uwo email.

Students are responsible for checking the course 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. Students may access the OWL Brightspace Learner Support site for assistance:

<https://brightspacehelp.uwo.ca/> For IT related issues, they may contact Western Technology Services Helpdesk directly: <https://wts.uwo.ca/helpdesk/>. Please check your uwo email regularly.

Absences

For this course: If you miss class, you miss the presentation for the region or your classmates' presentations as they are part of the course material and 2% of the presence and participation mark per hour missed.

GENERAL RULES: (Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences – Undergraduate Students First Entry Programs
For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see

Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

Students should note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons.

All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.

COURSE ASSIGNMENT

The last day of scheduled classes course will be the last day on which course assignments will be accepted for credit in the course. Instructors will be required to return assignments to students as promptly as possible with reasonable explanations of the instructor's assessment of the assignment.

ACADEMIC OFFENCES

You cannot copy-paste from one source and call it a day. You should use at least 5 sources and cite them in your bibliography. Date the consultation of web sites : « Consulted on July 4, 2023 : <https://...> » If you quote from your own journal or use you own pictures, from one of your trips to France, please indicate it as (mpd for my personal document).

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

*In this course, 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 not be just gathering information, it should reflect the students' own thoughts and independent perception of the material presented.** 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.*

Plagiarism includes, not citing your sources, the unacknowledged use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT. If AI use is suspected, the instructor will ask for **research notes, rough drafts, essay outlines**, and other materials used in **preparing assignments**. Students are expected to **retain** these materials until after final grades have been entered. In the unlikely event of concerns being raised about the authenticity of any assignment, students may be asked to produce these materials; an inability to do so may weigh heavily against them.

PLAGIARISM CHECKING

All required video 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.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>
Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>
Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>
Academic Support and Engagement <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. Immediate help in the event of a crisis can be had by phoning 519.661.3030 (during class hours) or 519.433.2023 after class hours and on weekends.

Important Academic Information for Students Taking Courses in the Department of French Studies

http://www.uwo.ca/french/undergraduate/counselling/academic_information/index.html

Other resources: FREE VIRTUAL TUTORING HOURS

<https://www.uwo.ca/french/resources/caf/tutoring.html>

Have a great semester!

