

## 1. Course Information

**FR 3905B**

***Reading Texts***

**AHB 1B08**

**Friday 9:30AM-12:30PM**

**Antirequisites:** French 3900

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

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.

## 2. Instructor Information

Instructor	Email	Office	Phone	Office Hours
Dr. Keling Wei	kwei24@uwo.ca	UC 4117	519-661-2111 x 81186	By appointment

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

## 3. Course Syllabus, Schedule, Delivery Mode

### **Description et objectifs 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. Les étudiants seront amenés à:

- enrichir l'expérience de la lecture de différents genres: essai, récit, fiction, discours...;
- approfondir l'apprentissage du bon usage de la langue;
- 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;
- développer l'esprit analytique et critique en se confrontant à la complexité la difficulté du texte, et être capable de réagir à l'exigence du texte avec une production orale ou écrite.

### **Course Schedule:**

#### **Semaine 1 (10 janvier)**

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

#### **Semaine 2 (17 janvier)**

Texte 1 - Daniel Pennac, *Comme un roman*

#### **Semaine 3 (24 janvier)**

Texte 1: lecture et discussion (1er travail écrit assigné)

#### **Semaine 4 (31 janvier)**

Texte 2 - Marcel Proust, *Sur la lecture*

#### **Semaine 5 (7 février)**

Texte 2 : lecture et discussion

1er quiz de lecture (en classe)

#### **Semaine 6 (14 février)**

Texte 3 - Georges Perec, *Les choses*

#### **Reading week (15-23 février)**

#### **Semaine 7 (28 février)**

Texte 3 : lecture et discussion (2e travail écrit assigné)

#### **Semaine 8 (7 mars)**

Texte 4 - Roland Barthes, *Mythologies*

#### **Semaine 9 (14 mars)**

Texte 4 : lecture et discussion

2e quiz de lecture (en classe)

#### **Semaine 10 (21 mars)**

Texte 5 - Daniel Arasse, *La Joconde* (3e travail écrit assigné)

#### **Semaine 11 (28 mars)**

Bilan, discussion, exposés

#### **Semaine 12 (4 avril)**

Bilan, discussion, exposés

**Travail final à soumettre avant le 4 avril**

## 4. Course Materials

All course material will be posted for free on OWL Brightspace: <https://westernu.brightspace.com/>

Students are responsible for checking the course OWL site (<https://westernu.brightspace.com/>) regularly 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 Brightspace Help](#) page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

~~Resources en ligne~~ <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>

### Technical Requirements and Electronic Devices

This course requires you to have a reliable high-speed internet connection and a computer that meets the technical requirements for writing assignments.

## 5. Methods of Evaluation

Travaux écrits (2 x 15%)	30%
Quiz de lecture (2 x 15%)	30%
Lecture à haute voix (2 x 5%)	10%
Exposé oral en classe	10%
Travail final	20%

- Trois travaux écrits seront assignés : les **2** meilleurs résultats seront retenus.
- Deux quizzes de lecture seront prévus en classe, le **7 février** et le **14 mars**.
- Deux lectures expressives à haute voix en classe porteront sur les textes au programme. L'étudiant choisira librement les extraits et les dates.
- Un exposé oral d'environ 15 minutes portera sur un texte/ouvrage en français de votre choix, et sera présenté en classe pendant les deux dernières séances (le 28 mars et le 4 avril).
- Le Travail final (environ 1000-1500 mots/4-5 pages à double interligne) portera sur les textes au programme, à remettre avant le **4 avril**.

\* *Late assignments (« travaux écrits ») will not be accepted.*

*Absences from in-class assessments (quiz 1 and 2) require Academic Consideration. If granted, a make-up will be scheduled.*

*Late final writing work (Travail final) requires Academic Consideration. If granted, an extension will be given.*

### Formal Documentation Designation statement

Please note that the final writing work (*le Travail final*) is central to the learning objectives for this course. Accordingly, students seeking academic consideration for this assessment will be required to provide formal supporting documentation. Students who are granted academic consideration for this assessment will be provided with the following opportunity to make up this work: extended deadline for submission.

Note that supporting documentation is **always** required for academic consideration requests for examinations scheduled by the office of the registrar (e.g. December and April exams) and for practical laboratory and performance tests typically scheduled during the last week of the term.

When a student receives academic considerations or academic accommodations which overlap with the built-in flexibility of the assessment, the longest period of accommodation will determine the deadline. The built-in flexibility of the assessment should not be taken to extend any considerations or accommodations.

### General information about missed coursework

Students must familiarize themselves with the *University Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs* posted on the Academic Calendar:

<https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academicpolicies/appeals/academicconsiderationSep24.pdf>

This policy does not apply to requests for academic consideration submitted for **attempted or completed work**, whether online or in person. The policy also does not apply to students experiencing longer-term impacts on their academic responsibilities. These students should consult: [Accessible Education](#).

For procedures on how to submit Academic Consideration requests, please see the information posted on the Office of the Registrar's webpage:

<https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academicconsiderations/>

All requests for Academic Consideration must be made within 48 hours after the assessment date or submission deadline.

All academic consideration requests must include supporting documentation; however, recognizing that formal documentation may not be available in some extenuating circumstances, the policy allows students to make one Academic Consideration request **without supporting documentation** in this course. However, the following assessments are excluded from this, and therefore always require formal supporting documentation: the final writing work (*Travail final*).

## 6. Additional Statements

### Statement on the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

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 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.

### Academic Offences

All course materials created for OWL by the instructor are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared. The recording of classes is prohibited.

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.

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

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academicpolicies/appeals/scholasticdisciplineundergrad.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>).

### Policy on Accommodation for Religious Holidays

Students should review the [policy for Accommodation for Religious Holidays](#). Where a student will be unable to write examinations and term tests due to a conflicting religious holiday, they should inform their instructors as soon as possible but **not later than two weeks** prior to writing the examination/term test. In the case of conflict with a midterm test, students should inform their instructor as soon as possible but not later than one week prior to the midterm.

### **Academic Accommodation and Accessible Education**

**Academic Accommodation** is “a means of adjusting the academic activities associated with a course or program of student in order to permit students with disabilities to participate in those activities at the University and to fulfill the essential requirements of a course or program.”

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academicpolicies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academicpolicies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation%20disabilities.pdf).

Students with disabilities are encouraged to register with **Accessible Education** at the earliest opportunity. “Accessible Education plays a central role in Western's efforts to ensure that its academic programs are accessible for all students.”

<http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessibleeducation/index.html>

### **Special Examinations**

A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents. To provide an opportunity for students to recover from the circumstances resulting in a Special Examination, the University has implemented Special Examinations dates. These dates as well as other important information about examinations and academic standing can be found [here](#).

### **Support Services**

#### **Academic Advising**

Your Home Faculty's 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/facultyacademiccounselling.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](#) (GBSV) and providing compassionate support to anyone who is going through or has gone through these traumatic events. If you are experiencing or have experienced GBSV

(either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at the following website:

<https://www.uwo.ca/health/studentsupport/survivorsupport/get-help.html>. To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact [support@uwo.ca](mailto:support@uwo.ca).

### **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.

### **USC**

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