

FREN 3340-001 Paris Through the Centuries

Instructor Information

Lawrence Williams

Office: LANG 405F

E-mail: lawrence.williams@unt.edu

Course Description and Learning Objectives

Study of the socio-cultural history of Paris over the past few centuries. The French capital's iconic monuments and linguistic landscape are explored from different perspectives.

This course meets on Tuesday and Thursday from 11:10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in LANG 304.

For some class meetings, you will work on projects instead of meeting in the classroom (see the dates highlighted in yellow in the weekly schedule).

Learning objectives include the following: 1) Analysis of the linguistic landscape; 2) exploration of geography and monuments; and 3) developing an understanding of historical events that have shaped the city over the past few centuries.

Accommodation Statement

The University of North Texas makes reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. To request accommodations, you must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) by completing an application for services and providing documentation to verify your eligibility each semester. Once your eligibility is confirmed, you may request your letter of accommodation. ODA will then email your faculty a letter of reasonable accommodation, initiating a private discussion about your specific needs in the course.

You can request accommodations at any time, but it's important to provide ODA notice to your faculty as early as possible in the semester to avoid delays in implementation. Keep in mind that you must obtain a new letter of accommodation for each semester and meet with each faculty member before accommodations can be implemented in each class. You are strongly encouraged to meet with faculty regarding your accommodations during office hours or by appointment. Faculty have the authority to ask you to discuss your letter during their designated office hours to protect your privacy. For more information and to access resources that can support your needs, refer to the [Office of Disability Access](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access) website (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>).

Resources

UNT strives to offer a high-quality education in a supportive environment where you can learn, grow, and thrive. As a faculty member, I am committed to supporting you, and I want to remind you that UNT offers a range of mental health and wellness services to help maintain balance and well-being. Utilizing these resources is a proactive way to support your academic and personal success. To explore campus resources designed to support you, check out [mental health services](#), visit unt.edu/success, and explore unt.edu/wellness. To get all your enrollment and student financial-related questions answered, go to scrappysays.unt.edu.

Required/Recommended Materials

There is no required textbook for this course. We will use open educational resources, articles available through the e-journals space of UNT Libraries, and photos from my linguistic landscape corpus of Paris.

Recommended readings and videos will be added in Canvas whenever such readings and videos are deemed to be relevant as we move through the semester.

This course has digital components. To fully participate in this class, students will need internet access to reference content on the Canvas Learning Management System. If circumstances change, you will be informed of other technical needs to access course content. Information on how to be successful in a digital learning environment can be found at [Learn Anywhere](#).

Course Requirements

- Project 1, 10 points maximum, 10% of course grade, due September 3, 2026
- Presentation 1, 10 points maximum, 10% of course grade, Week 4 in class
- Project 2, 10 points maximum, 10% of course grade, due October 1, 2026
- Presentation 2, 10 points maximum, 10% of course grade, Week 8 in class
- Project 3, 10 points maximum, 10% of course grade
- Presentation 3, 10 points maximum, 10% of course grade
- Project 4, 10 points maximum, 10% of course grade
- Project 5, 10 points maximum, 10% of course grade
- Presentation 4, 10 points maximum, 10% of course grade
- Presentation 5, 10 points maximum, 10% of course grade

Evaluating Your Work

Students are required to follow the [Academic Integrity Policy](#) (PDF).

In this course, you should use Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) when it makes sense. You are encouraged to use all tools to support your learning and develop skills for a GenAI-oriented workforce. This use will help us stay technically proficient and ethically grounded. However, GenAI should complement—not replace—our course materials. **When you use any type of AI to create part or all of an assignment, you are required to include a statement explaining how you used AI.**

In addition to standards for success in courses, there are UNT policies and procedures that you may list or link to in your syllabus. You can access these policies on the [Student Support Services & Policies](#) page.

Grading Scale

A = 90-100 points
B = 80-89.9 points
C = 70-79.9 points
D = 60-69.9 points
F = 0-59.9 points

If you have more than 4 unexcused absences, you will not be eligible for a grade of A in this course.

Attendance and Participation

Research has shown that students who attend class are more likely to be successful. You should attend every class unless you have a university excused absence such as active military service, a religious holy day, or an official university function as stated in the [Student Attendance and Authorized Absences Policy \(PDF\)](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039) (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039>). **Please note that feeling under the weather or not feeling like coming to class are not excused absences, according to the UNT policy. This means that you should save your “sick days” to use as your unexcused absences.**

If you have more than 4 unexcused absences, you will not be eligible for a grade of A in this course.

Weekly Schedule – Fall 2026

Students will be notified by Eagle Alert if there is a campus closing that will impact a class and describe that the calendar is subject to change, citing the [Campus Closures Policy](#).

Week 1

- August 18, overview of Paris
- August 20, overview of Paris

Week 2

- August 25, history of Paris
- August 27, history of Paris

Week 3

- September 1, Project 1
- September 3, Project 1 [Due before midnight in Canvas]

Week 4

- September 8, Presentation 1 [Due during class based on alternating schedule]
- September 10, Presentation 1 [Due during class based on alternating schedule]

Week 5

- September 15, architecture in Paris
- September 17, architecture in Paris

Week 6

- September 22, transportation in Paris
- September 24, transportation in Paris

Week 7

- September 29, Project 2
- October 1, Project 2 [Due before midnight in Canvas]

Week 8

- October 6, Presentation 2 [Due during class based on alternating schedule]
- October 8, Presentation 2 [Due during class based on alternating schedule]

Week 9

- October 13, le grand Paris (the greater Paris area)
- October 15, le grand Paris (the greater Paris area)

Week 10

- October 20, linguistic landscape in Paris
- October 22, linguistic landscape in Paris

Week 11

- October 27, Project 3
- October 29, Project 3 [Due before midnight in Canvas]

Week 12

- November 3, Presentation 3 [Due during class based on alternating schedule]
- November 5, Presentation 3 [Due during class based on alternating schedule]

Week 13

- November 10, Project 4
- November 12, Project 4 [Due before midnight in Canvas]

Week 14

- November 17, Presentation 4 (PowerPoint) [Due date at the end of Thanksgiving Break]
- November 19, Project 5 (Canvas quiz) [Due date at the end of Thanksgiving Break]

November 23-27, Thanksgiving Break, No classes

Week 15

- December 1, Presentation 5 [Due during class based on random drawing]
- December 3, Presentation 5 [Due during class based on random drawing]

There is no final exam in this course. Project 5 is an individual project that replaces the final exam.

Project 5 is due in Canvas before 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 10, 2026.