

FREN 5310 & FREN 4900.001—French Discourse Analysis

Course Topic: Francophone Media & Current Events

Spring 2015, Monday, 5:00 pm-7:50 pm, LANG 215

Lawrence Williams

Associate Chair, Department of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

Associate Professor of French & Applied Linguistics

Arabic Program Coordinator

Office: LANG 101

Phone: (940) 565-2404

Important Dates

On the following dates, we will **not** meet in the classroom. Instead, assignments will be provided in Blackboard: **February 9, February 23, March 23, April 20, and April 27.**

Required Technological Skills/Tools

For this course, you will need to have a basic familiarity with **Microsoft Word, discussion forums, and recording audio files.** Since most students are usually quite familiar with MS Word and discussion forums, we will discuss audio files in class so that you can learn a few easy, efficient ways to create audio files that can be uploaded to Blackboard. If you do not have a computer with a microphone and/or speakers, there are many computers that you can use in LANG 105 (and elsewhere on campus).

Office Hours

- Monday, 3:30 pm-4:30 pm (Jan. 26; Feb. 2; Feb. 16; Mar. 30; Apr. 6; Apr. 13)
- Monday, 2:30 pm-3:30 pm (Mar. 2; Mar. 9)
- During any week when our class meeting is replaced by Blackboard projects, office hours will be available by appointment only. (Feb. 9; Feb. 23; Mar. 23; Apr. 20; Apr. 27)

Statement on Disability Accommodation

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at [940.565.4323](tel:940.565.4323).

Course Grade

Your grade in this course will be determined according to attendance and the categories indicated below. Only 1 unexcused absence from classroom meetings is allowed. **Each additional unexcused absence will result in lowering your final course grade by 5 points.** For example, if your final course grade is initially calculated as 93.4%, but you have 2 unexcused absences (i.e., 1 unexcused absence beyond the allowed number), your grade will be lowered from 93.4% (A) to 88.4% (B). For details regarding authorized absences and absences for religious holidays, please consult the following sources:

- Undergraduate Catalog:
http://catalog.unt.edu/content.php?catoid=11&navoid=710#Class_Attendance
- Graduate Catalog:
http://catalog.unt.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=870#Class_Attendance

Category	Percentage
Homework (12)	40%
Presentations (7)	10%
Mid-Term Exam (March 9, 2015)	25%
Final Exam (May 11, 2015)	25%

Your letter grade in this course will be determined according to the percentages provided in the table below.

Percentage	Letter
91.0-100	A
81.0-90.9	B
71.0-80.9	C
61.0-70.9	D
0-60.9	F

Homework will be assigned according to the weekly schedule provided below. The tasks assigned as homework will typically involve grammatical analysis, translation exercises, preparing an audio file, participating in a discussion forum, and/or summarizing online news articles.

Presentations will be given in class according to the weekly schedule provided below. Every time a presentation is scheduled, every student will give a presentation that lasts 5-7 minutes. The content of these presentations will be similar each week since the same topic will be assigned to everyone. However, each student will focus on a different francophone region/country, which must be selected at the beginning of the semester. The order for selecting a francophone region/country will be determined by randomizing software, and the order will be announced in class. Undergraduate students (FREN 4900.001) will have first choice.

The **Mid-Term Exam** and the **Final Exam** will mostly have the same types of tasks that you are asked to do as homework. No dictionaries or any other resources may be used during exams. However, some resources may be provided by the instructor. Undergraduate students and graduate students in this course will have slightly different exams.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Monday, January 19

University closed (Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday)

Week 2

Monday, January 26

Homework 1 due in Blackboard by midnight on Sunday, February 1, 2015.

Week 3

Monday, February 2

Classroom Presentation 1: Geography.

Homework 2 due in Blackboard by midnight on Sunday, February 8, 2015.

Week 4

Monday, February 9

Blackboard assignment(s); No classroom meeting

Homework 3 due in Blackboard by midnight on Sunday, February 15, 2015.

Week 5

Monday, February 16

Classroom Presentation 2: Government/History.

Homework 4 due in Blackboard by midnight on Sunday, February 22, 2015.

Week 6

Monday, February 23

Blackboard assignment(s); No classroom meeting

Homework 5 due in Blackboard by midnight on Sunday, March 1, 2015.

Week 7

Monday, March 2

Classroom Presentation 3: Current Event(s).

[No homework will be assigned during this week. Focus on preparing for the mid-term exam.]

Week 8

Monday, March 9

Mid-Term Exam

Spring Break (University closed on Monday, March 16)

Week 9

Monday, March 23

Blackboard assignment(s); No classroom meeting

Homework 6 due in Blackboard by midnight on Sunday, March 29, 2015.

Week 10

Monday, March 30

Classroom Presentation 4: Current Event(s).

Homework 7 due in Blackboard by midnight on Sunday, April 5, 2015.

Week 11

Monday, April 6

Classroom Presentation 5: Nourriture/Cuisine.

Homework 8 due in Blackboard by midnight on Sunday, April 12, 2015.

Week 12

Monday, April 13

Classroom Presentation 6: Current Event(s).

Homework 9 due in Blackboard by midnight on Sunday, April 19, 2015.

Week 13

Monday, April 20

Blackboard assignment(s); No classroom meeting

Homework 10 due in Blackboard by midnight on Sunday, April 26, 2015.

Week 14

Monday, April 27

Blackboard assignment(s); No classroom meeting

Homework 11 due in Blackboard by midnight on Sunday, May 3, 2015.

Week 15

Monday, May 4

Classroom Presentation 7: Current Event(s).

Homework 12 due in Blackboard by midnight on Sunday, May 10, 2015.

Final Exam

Monday, May 11, 5:00 pm-6:50 pm, LANG 215