

FREN 221 French Literary Studies

School of Asian & European Languages & Cultures

Trimester 1 2008

22 Points

STAFF

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CLASS TIMES AND ROOMS

Classes are held three times a week:

Mon, Tues, Thurs

1.10 – 2.00 pm

MY (Murphy) LT 102

COURSE CONTENT

In this wide-ranging literary course, students are introduced to some of the most famous and relevant writers of poetry and fiction. We begin with a study of Maupassant's "*nouvelle*", the work of one of the greatest story-tellers of the 19th century; followed by Jean-Paul Sartre's *L'Enfance d'un chef* with its satire and existentialist thought. The course continues with, an introduction to French popular poetry, Prévert's *Paroles*, and closes with a novel from contemporary writer Amélie Nothomb.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course concentrates on works from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, in order to introduce students to representative texts of different genres (the novel, short story and poetry) and to some of the artistic and literary trends which have shaped France's intellectual and cultural history (naturalism, existentialism, poetic realism and contemporary writing).

By the end of the course students should be familiar with the set texts and be able to discuss and appreciate them in their appropriate socio-historical and literary contexts.

TEXTS

Maupassant	<i>Une nuit [Claire de Lune et Autres contes]</i> (Folio)
Sartre	<i>L'Enfance d'un chef</i> from <i>Le Mur</i> (Folio)
Prévert	<i>Paroles</i> (Folio)
Nothomb	<i>Acide sulfurique</i> (Broche)

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty Committee on Workload and Assessment recommends that students devote 15 hours per week on average to a course of this level and duration. Preparation for class and revision of class material is expected.

ASSESSMENT

Relationship between aims and assessment:

Assessment has been organised to ensure that each of the primary texts is studied in some depth. Each of the two tests, the essay and the exam questions will require students to discuss in detail, through interpretation and analysis, an aspect of a set text or of a literary movement in relation to a text or texts.

The course is assessed internally (60%) and by final examination (40%).

TESTS (IN TERM)

60%

Test I week 7 (Maupassant/Sartre) 15%

Test II week 12 (Nothomb) 15%

Essay (approx 1200 words on Maupassant, Sartre or Prévert, to be written IN FRENCH, due by end of week 10 (Friday 16 May). 30%

All essays must include a cover sheet available from SAELC Reception on level 6 of von Zedlitz.

Essays are to be dropped in the French assignment slot located to the left of the SAELC Reception area and a copy must also be emailed to french@vuw.ac.nz for submission to Turnitin (see Plagiarism below).

FINAL EXAM (3 hours) [not open book]

40%

Students will be required to answer three out of four questions – one on each author. All questions will be of equal value.

NB Students must write at least once on each of the four authors studied, i.e., in either the Internal Assessment tests, essay or the final exam.

All students enrolled for this course are expected to be available for the exam period 6 – 28 June.

ILLNESS AND OTHER FACTORS AFFECTING YOUR WORK

It is important to inform your coordinator of any problems affecting your work. If you miss any test through illness, you must make it up by completing equivalent work (see next section) and bring in a medical certificate, to be sighted by the course coordinator and then filed by the French Programme Administrator (Alison Dixie).

LATE WORK

Please note due dates with care: it is essential that students respect these dates. In some cases, it may be possible to allow extra time, BUT ONLY WITH PRIOR PERMISSION. Late work may be penalised. If you are having difficulties, see your course coordinator.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The University supports students with disabilities and arrangements will be made wherever possible to meet your needs. Please see the course coordinator or the School of Asian & European Languages coordinator for students with disabilities, Richard Millington, vZ 613, tel 463 5976, email Richard.millington@vuw.ac.nz

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To receive a pass grade in this course, students must have completed the work indicated in the ASSESSMENT section of the course outline (i.e. both tests and the essay). In addition, students should have attended at least 80% of classes.

PLAGIARISM

Copying directly from another student's work, or from any other source without proper acknowledgement, is plagiarism:

Student work provided for assessment in this course will be automatically checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <<http://www.turnitin.com>>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which identifies material that may have been copied from other sources including the Internet, books, journals, periodicals or the work of other students. Turnitin is used to assist academic staff in detecting misreferencing, misquotation, and the inclusion of unattributed material, which may be forms of cheating or plagiarism. The decision about whether any copying is plagiarism will be made in the first instance by the course coordinator based on the information supplied by Turnitin. You are strongly advised to check with your lecturer if you are uncertain about how to use and cite material from other sources. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

You should also refer to the University policy on plagiarism on the website.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have any questions which are not answered in this course outline, please see the course coordinator. From time to time, announcements concerning the course may be made in class, and important information will be posted on the French noticeboard on level 5 of the Von Zedlitz building opposite the lifts and on Blackboard. It is important to check these noticeboards regularly.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES AND STUDENT EVALUATIONS

In the second week of lectures, staff will facilitate the election of a class representative. Student reps are a valuable means of communication between teaching staff and students. Each trimester student reps of SAELC courses will meet together with the Head of School. At the end of the course students may be asked to fill out questionnaires prepared by the University's Teaching and Development Centre in order to evaluate individual lecturers' performance and/or the course as a whole.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS, POLICIES AND STATUTES

Information on the General University Requirements, Policies and Statutes can be found on Blackboard.

CALENDAR 2008

Trimester 1

Week No.	Week Beginning	Mon	Tues	Thurs
1	25/2	Maupassant JA	Maupassant	Maupassant
2	3/3	Maupassant	Maupassant	Maupassant
3	10/3	Maupassant	Maupassant	Sartre JML
4	17/3	Sartre	Sartre	Sartre
5	24/3	Easter Monday	University Holiday	Sartre
6	31/3	Sartre	Sartre	Sartre
7	7/4	Test: Maupassant & Sartre	Prévert	Prévert
MID-TERM BREAK				
8	28/4	Prévert	Prévert	Prévert
9	5/5	Prévert	Prévert	Prévert
10	12/5	Nothomb	Nothomb	Nothomb
11	19/5	Nothomb	Nothomb	Nothomb
12	26/5	Nothomb	Nothomb	Test: Nothomb
MID-YEAR BREAK				

