

University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

**FLL 320-2E – Advanced French Composition**

TTh 2:00-3:15pm

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Office hours, Fall 2009  
TTh 3:30-4:30pm, TTh and by appointment.  
Feel free to also stop by my office.

**SYLLABUS**

**Course description:** This course will concentrate on enhancing writing skills in French, focusing on French syntactical patterns, correct usage, grammar, vocabulary building, stylistic control and free composition. It will also use readings and collateral materials to explore the customs, traditions, values, and institutions of France, and investigate culture as it interacts with historical, geographical, political, social, and economic forces. Finally, the course will develop the students' ability to think logically and critically, respond to an assigned topic in French, write a logical argument, and apply knowledge from multiple disciplines to different contexts.

**Course objectives:** The objectives of this course are for each student to enhance their writing skills in French and demonstrate an advanced-level writing competency in French as they construct compositions that narrate, explain, summarize, critically interpret or describe. The course will provide tools for a better understanding of French grammar and style. It will help students enrich their vocabulary and will give students the opportunity to further develop their appreciation for French culture.

**Learning Outcomes:** By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

- Write accurately, at an advanced level, with respect to orthography, punctuation, and the essential rules of writing in French.
- Respond to an assigned topic in French, being aware of an identified audience.
- Construct compositions that narrate, summarize, critically interpret or describe in French.
- Formulate a thesis statement in French.
- Compose an argument paper in French.
- Write descriptive essays in French that incorporate pertinent external sources, documenting them accurately and appropriately.
- Expand and enrich their vocabulary through readings and vocabulary building exercises.
- Use French tenses and moods accurately for narration, description, and “subjective encryption.”

- Develop an understanding of French culture in its artistic, historical, social, economic, and geo-political context.
- Apply knowledge from multiple disciplines to different contexts.
- Think logically and critically about the production and reception of culture.
- Become more responsibly and culturally engaged in their community.
- Recognize diversity within their own environment.

**Textbooks:**

- Nina M. Furry and Hannelore Jarausch. Bonne Continuation. Approfondissement à l'écrit et à l'oral. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson / Prentice Hall, 2008.

**Grades:** 2 exams: 30% / Homework 20% / Class attendance and participation: 10% / 7 compositions: 25% / Final exam (includes writing portfolio): 15%

**Grading scale:**

90-100 = A // 89.9-80 = B // 79.9-70 = C // 69.9-60 = D // 59.9 and below = F

**Exams and assignments:** All tests will consist of *dictées*, grammar exercises, vocabulary exercises, and essay questions. You can expect to be tested on all material covered in class and in the syllabus, all classroom discussions, material sent via email by the instructor, all handouts distributed in class. Part of your final grade will come from the grading of your writing portfolio for the class. All compositions will be on assigned topics, asking you to narrate, summarize, critically interpret or describe, formulate a thesis statement, and/or develop an argument in French. 12 graded homework assignments will come from your book and Xeroxes but you also need to report, in French, on six UAB events (including one volunteering event of your choice). You only have a week after the event to turn in your cultural events report, no more. I strongly suggest that you do not wait until the last month of classes to attend events. This way you will have choices and options. There will be no substitution possible for the “event assignments.” All homework will be typed and double spaced. Late homework is not accepted.

**Class preparation and participation:** Participation and attendance will count for 10% of your grade. You will be graded on the following factors:

- Attendance
- Being well-prepared for class
- Making positive contributions to the class
- Recycling concepts from previous chapters, and drawing comparisons
- Alertness and positive attitude

**Attendance policy:** The University of Alabama at Birmingham recognizes that the academic success of individual students is related to their class attendance and participation. The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures complies with the official UAB Attendance and Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduate Programs and therefore allows, with anticipated proper official documentation, absences due to jury or military duty as well as absences due to participation in specific university-sponsored activities.

UAB Attendance and Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduate Programs:

[http://www.app.uab.edu/policy\\_change.asp#Attendance%20and%20Excused%20Absence%20Policy](http://www.app.uab.edu/policy_change.asp#Attendance%20and%20Excused%20Absence%20Policy)

FR 320 is a collaborative class. All students and your instructor will be working together and learning together. Regular attendance is necessary to build a successful collaborative learning atmosphere. Repeated absences, tardiness, passivity, and silence will be reflected in your course

grade. 2 % from the FINAL grade will be deducted for EACH unexcused absence above 3. More than 7 absences will result in an automatic “F”.

**Other class policies:** Exams must be taken on dates and at times indicated. There will be NO make-ups, except with a documented medical excuse or an official UAB excused absence. Please turn off your cell phone when in class and put it in your bag/purse. No use of cell phones is permitted in class. Laptop computers are only allowed for note taking.

**Early Alert System (EAS):** EAS is designed to help students be more successful academically at UAB. If you receive an email with EAS in the title, please open it, read it and take advantage of the support that UAB offers to all students. UAB is committed to ensuring that students receive academic support and are aware of the resources available that will help assist them in successfully completing their degree program.

**UAB Honor Code:** UAB expects all members of its academic community to function according to the highest ethical and professional standards. Academic misconduct undermines the purpose of education. Unacceptable behaviors such as abetting, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, and misrepresentation are serious violations of the UAB Academic Honor Code and are punishable by a range of penalties. Any form of plagiarism or cheating in this class will result in serious consequences for your grade. For more information, please visit the UAB website: [http://www.catalog.uab.edu/UAB-Catalog2004-2006/progress\\_toward\\_degree.pdf](http://www.catalog.uab.edu/UAB-Catalog2004-2006/progress_toward_degree.pdf)

**UAB Disability Services:** UAB is committed to making its academic programs and services accessible to students with disabilities. Qualified students with disabilities are protected from discrimination based on their disability, as guaranteed by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. If you are registered with Disability Support Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss accommodations that may be necessary. If you have a disability but have not contacted Disability Support Services, please call 934-4205 or visit DSS at 516 Hill University Center. For more information about DSS, please visit the UAB web site at <http://students.uab.edu/services/>

## Syllabus

(Subject to change)

Class day	Lesson/reading to prepare	Assignments
18 août	Introduction	
20 août	<i>Les Français vus d'ailleurs</i> , lire “Un Américain arrive à Paris” et “La première destination mondiale” et <i>Les Français et la culture</i> , pp. 4-6, et les pages 14-17	Répondre aux questions de “ <i>Réfléchissez et discutez ensemble</i> ,” p. 5
25 août	Etudier pp. 7-17	Répondre aux 6 questions dans <i>Les Français et la culture</i> , pp. 6-7
27 août	Lire <i>La cathédrale</i> , pp. 24-25	Répondre aux <i>Questions de</i>

	Apprendre le vocabulaire pp 20-21	<i>compréhension</i> , A et B
1 septembre	Etudier pp. 28-29	Faire #1 de <i>Présentations</i> , p. 27 et #1 d' <i>Applications grammaticales</i> , p. 27
3 sept	Lire <i>Une lettre</i> , pp. 31-32 ainsi que la Pré-lecture pp 30-31	Répondre aux <i>Questions de compréhension</i> , A et B, p. 33
8 sept	Lire <i>Le portrait</i> , pp. 42-47	Répondre aux <i>Questions de compréhension</i> (A et B), p. 47 Composition 1
10 sept	Relire <i>Le portrait</i> . Etudier pp. 52-59	Faire <i>Applications grammaticales</i> A & B, pp. 48-9 Faire A l' <i>écrit</i> #1 ou <i>Synthèse</i> #2, p. 49
15 sept	Etudier pp. 60-67	Photocopies du <i>Cahier d'exercices</i> , pp. 27-34 Composition 2
17 sept	Apprendre le vocabulaire pp. 70-72 Lire <i>Le paysan et le diable</i> , pp. 74-76	Répondre aux <i>Questions de compréhension</i> (A et B) et <i>Réfléchissez et discutez ensemble</i> , p. 76
22 sept	Etudier pp. 77, 113-116	Photocopies
24 sept	Test 1	
29 sept	Lire <i>La Belle et la bête</i> , pp. 78-85	Lecture dirigée, questions, p. 79 Répondre aux <i>Questions de compréhension</i> (A et B), p. 85
1er octobre	Lire <i>La Belle et la bête</i> , pp. 86-92	Lecture dirigée, questions, p. 79 Répondre aux <i>Questions de compréhension</i> (A et B), pp. 92-93
6 oct	Lire Raconte-moi, p. 110 Etudier pp. 110-111	Composition 3
8 oct	Apprendre le vocabulaire pp. 120-122 Lire <i>Enfance</i> , pp. 124-25	Répondre aux <i>Questions de compréhension</i> (A et B), p. 125 Photocopies
13 oct	<i>La Belle et la bête</i>	
14 oct	Dernier jour pour se retirer du cours ( <i>withdraw deadline for undergrads</i> )	
15-18 oct	Mini-vacances d'automne	
20 oct	Etudier, pp. 164-175	Photocopies Composition 4
22 oct	Lire <i>L'amour au Val Fourré</i> , pp. 146-149	Répondre aux <i>Questions de compréhension</i> (A et B), p. 149

27 oct	Relire <i>L'amour au Val Fourré</i> , pp. 146-149	
29 oct	Test 2	
3 novembre	Apprendre le vocabulaire pp. 178-79 Lire <i>Le Patrimoine</i> , pp. 181-84	Répondre aux <i>Questions de compréhension</i> (A et B), p. 185
5 nov	Relire <i>Le Patrimoine</i> , pp. 181-84	Composition 5
10 nov	Lire <i>Jeanne d'Arc</i> , pp. 190-194	Répondre aux <i>Questions de compréhension</i> (A et B), pp. 191 et 194
12 nov	Relire <i>Son procès, son supplice etc.</i> , pp. 195-197.	Répondre aux <i>Questions de compréhension</i> (A et B), p. 196 Synthèse, p. 197
17 nov	Etudier, pp. 224-231	Photocopies Composition 6
19 nov	Etudier, pp. 224-231, révision des relatifs	Photocopies
24 nov	Lire <i>La fuite de la main habile</i> , pp. 198-203	Répondre aux <i>Questions de compréhension</i> (A et B), pp. 203-204
1er décembre	Lire <i>La fuite de la main habile</i> , pp. 203-206	Répondre aux <i>Questions de compréhension</i> (A et B), pp. 206-207 Composition 7
3 déc	Révisions	Préparation du portfolio
Mardi 8 déc	Examen final 1:30-4:00	