FREN 2060: Québec: Literature & Society
(0.5 credit)
Études françaises, School of Languages and Literatures
University of Guelph
Fall 2020 (Draft. Subject to change)

Instructor: Dr. Stéphanie Nutting
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Description:
This course provides an introduction to French-Canadian and Québécois literature and society from the seventeenth century to the present. It covers a lot of ground. For this reason, it provides an excellent foundation for further studies in Canadian studies (politics, history, literature and sociology) as well as in fields of Francophone studies, teaching and linguistics. We will study major genres – the novel, poetry, theatre and essays – as well as film, video and music, all with a view to better understanding Québec and its relationship with the rest of Canada. Fren*2060 is a prerequisite for all French courses at the 3000 level.

As a “flipped” course, the format will have short recorded “capsules” from the professor and TA. These will be supplemented by live group discussion for 50 minutes once a week via videoconferencing every Thursday morning during regularly scheduled class time. The live discussions will be the opportunity to ask questions, deepen understanding, and participate in peer activities.

The seminars, which will be facilitated by a TA in French studies, will support students as they delve further into the readings from the course textbook. These will be held live during the regularly scheduled time of your seminar. Because some of the readings are challenging, a main focus is placed on reading comprehension and discussion. Through guided exercises and activities, your TA will help you enhance your understanding of written works. Your TA will also guide you as you research and prepare your video presentation on a chosen cultural topic. This will also help you develop your oral and written expression skills.

Learning outcomes:
By the end of this course, successful students will be able to:
* Identify and compare the major literary genres and artistic movements that have emerged within Quebec from the early days of New France to the present through the reading of authentic texts.
* Describe and interpret major historical and cultural events which have shaped Quebec and French-Canadian society
* Articulate, in writing and in speech, several ways in which Québec is culturally and historically unique.
* Apply fundamental literary methodology through the writing of a literary essay in French.
* Understand and communicate complex ideas, in writing and in speech, through the use of new vocabulary.

**Prerequisites:** Please refer to the Academic Calendar.

**Required Materials**

**Anthology:**
Vaillancourt, Claude. *Anthologie de la littérature québécoise*. Montréal : Les Éditions de la Chenelière, 3e édition, 2018. Electronic access is required. **Note:** we will be using the third edition of this course reader.

**Top Hat:**
Top Hat is an electronic platform which will house your course materials will be placed. Students must purchase a subscription.

**Novel:**

**Method of evaluation:**
- Mid-term oral test with the professor via video-conferencing: 15%
- Literary essay (on *Ru*): 20%
- Video presentation on a cultural topic: 15%
- Various graded assessments throughout the semester (multiple choice, short-answer questions, etc.): 15%
- Participation in Seminars: 10%
- Final ‘take-home’ test in lieu of a final examination: 25%

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