

University of Guelph
Études françaises, School of Languages and Literatures
Fall 2020 Version finale

FREN*3160: Songs, Lyrics and Poetry in French (0.5 cr)

Instructor: Dr. Stéphanie Nutting
Email: snutting@uoguelph.ca

Course schedule:
Tuesdays 11:30 – 12:20 (synchronous)

Description:

This course will provide students with the opportunity to explore the cultural richness of song lyrics and slam poetry in the Francophone world. By engaging with a variety of songs including, but not limited to: political songs (“chansons engagées”), reggae, hip-hop, and “World music”, students will explore several facets of this diverse subject. Learning will include:

- Discovering how the personal stories of musicians influence the ways in which their songs are interpreted and received
- Taking apart songs (or slam poetry) to better appreciate their poetic form
- Creating a podcast or video essay on a chosen topic. The podcasts and video essays will be shared with the rest of the class, with the possibility of having a selection aired on the campus radio station, CFRU
- Engaging with a guest artist from Montréal who will guide students through the process of creating slam poetry

Format:

As a “flipped” virtual course, the format is comprised of three parts: I- live, virtual class meetings (synchronous) via Zoom and II- independent work (asynchronous) III-regular submission dates

Tuesday: 11:30- 12:20 Tune in for virtual class meetings (30 minutes) and virtual office hours (20 minutes)	Thursday: Independent work. Given that you have no other courses from 11:30-12:50, you are strongly encouraged to use the slot for working independently or together on your group assignments.	Friday: Regular due date for all short, interactive assignments as well as for all major term assignments
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There is an experiential component of the course, whereby a professional artist from Montréal will lead a four-part workshop on writing and performing slam poetry. All of the workshop meetings will occur via videoconferencing on four separate Tuesdays. Please see the syllabus for more details.

Learning outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students will be able to:

- Explain and give examples of the interplay between biography and how songs are received.
- Analyze and compare poetic forms (songs or slam) using critical vocabulary in French.
- Draw connections between songs (or slam poetry) and their historical or socio-political contexts.
- Create slam poetry and offer a well-crafted reflection statement on the process.
- Write and speak in French with very few errors in verbal forms whilst avoiding English sentence structures or expressions.
- Use audio software or video-editing software independently for the purposes of recording voice and music

Prerequisites: FREN*2020, FREN*2060, FREN*2520 or permission

Course Materials:

Top Hat

We will be using **Top Hat Pro** (www.tophat.com) for independent work and class participation. You will be able to submit answers to questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or through text message. For instructions on how to create a Top Hat account and enrol in our Top Hat Pro course, please refer to the invitation sent to your school email address or consult Top Hat's Getting Started Guide (<https://bit.ly/31TGMIw>).

If you already have a Top Hat account, go to <https://app.tophat.com/e/816257> to be taken directly to our course. If you are new to Top Hat, go to <https://app.tophat.com/register/student> and search for our course with the following join code: **816257**

Top Hat Pro may require a paid subscription. A full breakdown of all available subscription options can be found here: www.tophat.com/pricing.

Slate

Slate is a free community platform that allows us to remotely communicate with everyone across our university, keeping our campus connected. We will be using Slate for course announcements, questions and activities throughout the course.

How to join Slate:

Before proceeding, make sure that you have created a Top Hat account and enrolled in our Top Hat course using the steps linked above.

- Step 1: Go to <https://login.tophatblue.com/>, click "Login in with Top Hat," and input your

Top Hat account credentials

- Step 2: Check your school email for a message from Slate to verify your email address
- Step 3: Once directed back to Slate, input your real name in the username field when prompted
- Step 4: Locate our course channel in the left-side menu

You will be automatically added to our course channel upon entry to Slate. If you ever need to re-join our course channel manually, click the globe icon in the top-left menu and search the channel title **816257_songs-lyrics-and-poetry-in-french** in the channel directory.

Full details on how to use Slate can be found here:
<https://support.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Slate>.

Should you require assistance with Top Hat or Slate at any time please contact their Support Team directly by way of email (support@tophat.com), the in-app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491. Specific user information may be required by their technical support team when troubleshooting issues.

Coursebook of songs: This is your book for the course, prepared by the instructor and available free for download on Top Hat. If you prefer reading print, consider making a bound course book that you will bring to every synchronous class.

Digital sound files: Students are encouraged to create their own course playlist from the Coursebook of songs. For those who do not have a music subscription service (ie. Spotify), the songs are also accessible via You Tube.

Courselink website:

Slate is the official outlet for course announcements and peer communication. The readings, listening exercises, weekly assignments and participation will be managed through Top Hat www.courselink.uoguelph.ca. However, the three major semester assignments (essay, podcast/video essay, and slam summary and reflection statement will be submitted to the dropbox folder in Courselink).

Method of evaluation:

Critical essay: choice of	
1) a comparison of song/slam texts <u>or</u>	
2) a biographical film topic	20%
Weekly assignments and participation	20%
Creation of a 1) Podcast <u>or</u> 2) a video essay	
(script and abstract 10%; design and production 20%)	30%
Songwriting/ slam-writing workshop: Summary and reflection statement	30%

Late policy

For all major assignments (essay, podcast or slam reflection statement), students are urged to make every effort to submit on the day of the deadline. If you are ill or need accommodation for

compassionate reasons, a grace period of up to seven days will be granted. Students need only send an email to the professor before the deadline. After the seven day grace period, a penalty of 2% a day will be applied.

For minor weekly assignments and participation, it is not possible to submit late, for reasons of flow and class management; however, the two lowest grades will be dropped at the end of semester. This is to allow for minor illness and other minor, unforeseen problems. Please do not request accommodation for these unless you have a major life event that requires a more in-depth discussion with the professor. (see “When you Cannot meet a course requirement” below)

Online code of conduct

The code of conduct for this class can be summed up in three words: respect, integrity and kindness. Please remember that everyone is under a great deal of stress, much more than usual. Try to be kind, always.

Here are some examples of breaches of integrity and respect which will not be tolerated:

- Posting inflammatory messages about your instructor or fellow students
- Using offensive language online
- Copying or presenting someone else's work as your own
- Adapting information from the Internet without using proper citations or references
- Buying or selling term papers or assignments
- Posting or selling course materials to course notes websites
- Stating false claims about lost assignment submissions
- Threatening or harassing a student or instructor online
- Discriminating against fellow students, instructors and/or TAs
- Using the course website to promote profit-driven products or services
- Sharing your user name and password
- Recording lectures without the permission of the instructor

University Statements

Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to book their exams at least 7 days in advance and not later than the 40th Class Day.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas>

Academic Integrity

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity, and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community-faculty, staff, and students-to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff, and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that

encourages academic integrity. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Recording of Materials

Recording of Lecture Materials

The University of Guelph's primary mode of course delivery has shifted from face-to-face instruction to remote and online learning due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, some learning activities (e.g., synchronous lectures or student presentations) may be recorded by faculty, instructors and TAs and posted to CourseLink for grading and dissemination; students may be recorded during these sessions. By enrolling in a course, unless explicitly stated and brought forward to their instructor, it is assumed that students agree to the possibility of being recorded during lecture, seminar or other "live" course activities, whether delivery is in-class or online/remote.

Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Resources

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>

Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

Illness

The University will not normally require verification of illness (doctor's notes) for fall 2020 or winter 2021 semester courses. However, requests for Academic Consideration may still require medical documentation as appropriate.

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