

DEPARTMENT: Department of Modern Languages
COURSE PREFIX: FRE **COURSE NUMBER: 302** **CREDIT HOURS: 3**

I. TITLE: Conversation and Composition

Professor: Dr. Roxane Riegler
Office: FH 404A
Office hours: MWF 11-12:15, TTh 12:30-2:30, and/or by appointment
Email: riegler@murraystate.edu (pref.)
Tel.: 270-809-5864

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITE(S):

Additional practice in speaking and writing based on a variety of topics and materials.

In this course you will improve your command of French grammar and stylistics by doing exercises and by writing a series of compositions and essays. You will apply your newly acquired grammatical and stylistic know-how through extended class discussions. You will develop concrete writing skills for a variety of writing tasks. The writing strategies aim to teach students not just to write correct French sentences and paragraphs but to read and think critically, and write and speak convincingly, in French.

Prerequisite: FRE 301 or consent of the instructor.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The student will be able to

- A. write sustained compositions and essays (descriptive, argumentative, analytical etc.)
- B. demonstrate sensitivity to and to imitate and create various types of French prose compositions
- C. critically reflect and judge in the light of evidence and argument orally and in writing
- D. discuss as well as put into practice grammatical rules and concepts
- E. demonstrate the ability to recognize and analyze grammatical and usage errors in own and others' writing and speaking.
- F. deploy an appropriate range of vocabulary, structures and registers in writing and speaking.

IV. CONTENT OUTLINE:

Tentative: Dictionary work, texte d'information, résumé, essai argumentatif, description de lieu, compte rendu critique, récit

V. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

The course will provide step-by-step guidance with each stage in creating an essay. Included are techniques for getting started, short writing tasks, models for writing taken both from both literary and non-literary sources, help with all levels of writing, group activities, an emphasis on rewriting and revising and an elaborate writing project at the end of each chapter. We will discuss the topics in class and work on the acquisition of pertinent vocabulary. In addition, we will review important grammar points as necessary and/or relevant to each chapter's project.

You are expected to prepare assigned material before every class period. Pay special attention to vocabulary; practice and review during each chapter.

Homework is to be done for each class and will be collected for grading; writing and other exercises will be assigned for each chapter.

Assignments will not be accepted late unless by prior arrangement.

VI. FIELD, CLINICAL, AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES:

Opportunities for cultural events will be announced during the course. There will be two films in French shown in the Cinema International series; check for other "soirées de cinéma" as the semester progresses. Three French coffee hours count as one cultural event. A report on French related cultural events in French will be required to earn extra credit.

VII. TEXT(S) AND RESOURCES:

Required Books: Lorient-Raymer, Gisèle. *A vous d'écrire: Atelier de français*

Recommended: Dictionary, College edition

Useful websites: <http://wordreference.com/enfr/welcome>
<http://www.linguee.com/>

VIII. EVALUATION AND GRADING PROCEDURES:

Class preparation and participation: Your participation and readiness to discuss the day's topic depends on your preparation. This is a function of close reading and preparatory exercises of the chapter, and attentive engagement with class activities. **25%**

Written homework: Incorporates sentence-level and discourse-level tasks. **20 %**

Compositions: You will hand in one elaborate composition per chapter. **40 %**

Grammar quizzes: occasional grammar quizzes **5 %**

Oral midterm and final: Discussion with your instructor on one of the topics covered in class. **10%**

[Extra credit opportunities: maximum of 2%]

There will be neither written midterm nor final in this class.

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students are expected to adhere to the MSU Attendance Policy outlined in the current *MSU Bulletin*. Students are expected to attend all classes in which they are enrolled for credit or audit purposes.

Responsibilities of Students: Students missing class as a result of activities covered above shall notify the instructor in writing at the beginning of the semester and, in the case of scheduled events, this notification shall not be less than one week prior to the absence. Students with excused absences are excused from class attendance but are not excused from work assigned or expected as a part of that class period. Students, in conjunction with each course instructor, are required to develop a plan for alternative assignments or the make-up of all work missed and must complete this work within a time frame mutually agreed upon with the instructor.

Responsibilities of Faculty: Faculty are expected to plan with students who have excused absences to develop alternatives and make-up assignments. Such alternatives are not expected to diminish faculty expectations of students, nor may they reduce opportunities for students to demonstrate performance.

For the complete policy refer to: <http://www.murraystate.edu/provost/catalogs/01university.html#Policies>.

Note: More than one unexcused absence will result in a lower participation grade and likely in a lower overall grade.

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

Murray State University takes seriously its moral and educational obligation to maintain high standards of academic honesty and ethical behavior. Instructors are expected to evaluate students' academic achievements accurately, as well as ascertain that work submitted by students is authentic and the result of their own efforts, and consistent with established academic standards. Students are obligated to respect and abide by the basic standards of personal and professional integrity.

Violations of Academic Honesty include:

Cheating - Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized information such as books, notes, study aids, or other electronic, online, or digital devices in any academic exercise; as well as unauthorized communication of information by any means to or from others during any academic exercise.

Fabrication and Falsification - Intentional alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification involves changing information whereas fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information.

Multiple Submission - The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work, including oral reports, for credit more than once without authorization from the instructor.

Plagiarism - Intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, creative work, or data of someone else as one's own in any academic exercise, without due and proper acknowledgment.

Instructors should outline their expectations that may go beyond the scope of this policy at the beginning of each course and identify such expectations and restrictions in the course syllabus. When an instructor receives evidence, either directly or indirectly, of academic dishonesty, he or she should investigate the instance. The faculty member should then take appropriate disciplinary action.

Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to the following:

- 1) Requiring the student(s) to repeat the exercise or do additional related exercise(s).
- 2) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) on the particular exercise(s) involved.
- 3) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) in the course.

If the disciplinary action results in the awarding of a grade of E in the course, the student(s) may not drop the course.

Faculty reserve the right to invalidate any exercise or other evaluative measures if substantial evidence exists that the integrity of the exercise has been compromised. Faculty also reserve the right to document in the course syllabi further academic honesty policy elements related to the individual disciplines.

A student may appeal the decision of the faculty member with the department chair in writing within five working days. Note: If, at any point in this process, the student alleges that actions have taken place that may be in violation of the Murray State University Non-Discrimination Statement, this process must be suspended and the matter be directed to the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access. Any appeal will be forwarded to the appropriate university committee as determined by the Provost.

XI. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Policy Statement

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact the Executive Director of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access, 103 Wells Hall, (270) 809-3155 (voice), (270) 809-3361 (TDD).

Students with Disabilities

Students requiring special assistance due to a disability should visit the Office of Student Disability Services immediately for assistance with accommodations. For more information, students should contact the Office of Student Disability Services, 423 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071. 270-809-2018 (voice) 270-809-5889(TDD).

XII. [OTHER REQUIRED DEPARTMENTAL OR COLLEGIATE COMMITTEE INFORMATION]