



Department of French Studies
French 2907B - Writing Workshop in French
Winter 2026

French 2907B - Writing Workshop in French

Course Location: AHB 1B06

Course Day/Time: Tuesdays 4:30-5:30 pm
Thursdays 3:30-5:30pm

Format: In person

Antirequisites: None

Prerequisites: French 1900E or French 1910 or French 1999 or permission of the Department of French Studies.

Extra Information: 3 lecture hours.

Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course, and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Instructor:

Name: Nadine de Moras

E-mail: ndemora@uwo.ca

Office: UC 2121

Phone number: 519-661-2111 Ext. 28277

Office hours: Tuesday 3:30-4:30 pm

Thursday 2:30-3:30 pm

+ Appointments, which can be in person or on Zoom depending on students' availability

Office hours

Office hours are to discuss what was not clear in the course, or in the textbook, to discuss grades and comments about assignments, or to discuss any other issue related to the course.

Office hours are not intended for catching up on missed classes. If you miss a class, you will find all information on the Brightspace website and may ask fellow students for additional information.

Current calendar course description

This course introduces students to effective writing practices. The emphasis will be placed on writing through analysis of texts of various genres, in-class exercises, peer workshops, journaling and short compositions. Students will learn effective strategies of composition, including revising, editing and proofreading written texts.

Course description

This course emphasizes the development and refinement of academic writing skills. Students will learn how to identify and gather relevant information, assess its quality, and structure their ideas effectively through an outline. The course covers the essential components of academic writing, including how to craft strong introductions, coherent paragraphs, and effective conclusions. Students will also gain proficiency in quoting sources, creating bibliographies, and using argumentation persuasively. Special attention is given to improving language accuracy and learning effective proofreading techniques.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to identify and analyze key strategies employed by authors, critically assess written texts, and produce their own writing that meets academic standards and conventions. French 2907A/B is designed to help students strengthen their written expression in French and develop a deeper understanding of the writing process.

Learning Outcomes / Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Write with greater proficiency by mastering fundamental writing structures and techniques.
 - Apply a range of writing strategies with increased ease and confidence.
 - Demonstrate effective argumentation, coherent organization, and appropriate lexical choices across various types of written tasks.
 - Apply critical thinking skills and writing competencies when providing constructive evaluations of peers' work (in class).
 - Exhibit improved fluency, accuracy, and confidence in written French.
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Required Text:

- Custom Course Book French 2907B - Nadine de Moras - 2026.

Printing cost = about \$15, with your own printer.

Free if you access the coursebook on your laptop or tablet on Brightspace.

Methods of Evaluation

The overall course grade will be calculated as listed below:

– Attendance, participation and engagement	5%
– Weekly Quizzes (on Brightspace)	15%
– Assignment 1: Outline, introduction, bibliography and summary of research	5%
– Assignment 2: Full paper – First Draft	10%
– Assignment 3: Full paper – Final Version	15%
– Assignment 4: Curriculum Vitae – First Draft	10%
– Assignment 5: Cover letter	5%
– Assignment 6: CV – Final Version	15%
– Assignment 7: Reflection paper (in class)	20%

There is no final exam

Course Schedule

	Dates	Course Content	Evaluations
1	6-8 January	Presentation of the course, professor and students. Important tools: proofreading, spell check, dictionaries, AI, Brightspace site, first page ... - Principles of writing, purpose, audience, research...	Quiz 1
2	13-15 January	- Preparing to write. Finding sources and ideas, content, research and quotations, bibliography Choice and organization of ideas, res...	Quiz 2
3	20-22 January	- Argumentation. Facts, opinions, personal ideas	Quiz 3
4	27-29 January	- The choice of topics, the main ideas, the outline	Quiz 4
5	3-5 February	- The introduction	Quiz 5 + Assignment 1: outline, introduction & bibliography
6	10-12 February	- The body and paragraphs	Quiz 6
	17-19 Febr.	Reading week	
7	24-26 February	- The conclusion	Quiz 7 + Assignment 2: Full paper 1 st draft
8	3-5 March	- Improve vocabulary (1). Linking words and phrases (between parts and paragraphs)	Quiz 8
9	10-12 March	- Improve vocabulary (2). Useful vocabulary for the essay + CV1- Explanations, class practice	Quiz 9
10	17-19 March	- Improving vocabulary (3). Improving the essay. + CV2 - Explanations, class practice	Quiz 10 + Assignment 3: Whole assignment final version
11	24-26 March	- CV3 & CV4 - Explanations, class practice	Quiz 11 + Assignment 4: CV-1 st draft
12	31 March- 2 April	- The cover letter 1, 2, 3 + CV5 + - Assignment 5 in class	Assignment 5: cover letter in class
13	7-9 April	- CV6 + Final assignment (Assignment 7) in class, Wednesday, April 09	Assignment 6: CV final version + Assignment 7: Reflection paper in class

Due dates

- Weekly quizzes are done on Mondays, one day (24hrs) before each class, at 4:00 pm.

Quiz 1 – January 09

Quiz 2 – January 12

Quiz 3 – January 19

Quiz 4 – January 26

Quiz 5 – February 02

Quiz 6 – February 09

Quiz 7 – February 23

Quiz 8 – March 02

Quiz 9 – March 09

Quiz 10 – March 16

Quiz 11 – March 23

- Assignments are due on the last day of class, Thursdays at 10 p.m.

Assignment 1: Outline, introduction & bibliography – February 05

Assignment 2: Full paper 1st draft – January 26

Assignment 3: Whole assignment final version – March 19

Assignment 4: CV -1st draft – March 26

Assignment 5: Cover letter – April 02

Assignment 6: The CV final version – April 09

Assignment 7: Reflection paper in class – April 09

Attendance (5%)

Active participation during class sessions is essential for practicing key concepts and receiving timely feedback before graded assignments. Students are expected to come to class having read and studied the assigned materials and completed any preparatory work. Students are encouraged to bring their first draft in class for each assignment, in order to receive peers and instructor feedback before submitting their assignment on Brightspace.

Full marks for attendance require consistent engagement in discussions and activities. Please do not email me if you miss a class: I take regular attendance, therefore if you're not here, I already know. I will not answer emails sent for the sole purpose of giving me such notice, even if it's advance notice.

Weekly Online Quizzes (15%)

Quizzes (1.5% each) are due on Mondays, one day (24hrs) before each class, at 4:00 pm, in Brightspace. Students are expected to learn most of the material before coming to class. All the information to be learned is explained in the textbook and PowerPoint presentations. The quizzes encourage students to do their homework and come to class well prepared, so that they can participate in class activities. The format of the online quizzes are mostly multiple choices and sometimes fill-in the blanks. They cannot be done later, even with accommodation. If you find a mistake in the quizzes, the first student to contact me and signal the mistake will receive an additional 2 points for that quiz.

Assignment 1: Outline, Introduction, Bibliography, and Research Summary (5%)

This assignment lays the groundwork for the essay. Students will submit a preliminary bibliography, an essay outline, and an introduction that reflects the structure of the outline. Constructive feedback will be provided to guide students in shaping their ideas effectively from the start. You'll find the details of this assignment and a marking grid on Brightspace.

Assignment 2: Full Paper – First Draft (10%)

The first full draft serves as a foundation for improvement. Students will submit a complete version of their essay to receive detailed feedback. Since early drafts often contain areas for development, this assignment is an opportunity to identify strengths and weaknesses before final submission. As part of this assignment, students will also write a paragraph about an AI tool comments and suggestions on how to improve their essay. You'll find the details of this assignment and a marking grid on Brightspace.

Assignment 3: Full Paper – Final Version (15%)

Based on feedback from the first draft, from AI and from the professor, students will revise and refine their essay to produce a polished final version. Emphasis will be placed on clarity, structure, argumentation, language and integration of feedback.

Students will also write a paragraph about the writing process and how they included the feedback. You'll find the details of this assignment and a marking grid on Brightspace.

Assignment 4: CV – First Draft (10%)

Using a real job advertisement as a reference or planning on applying to one if one does not exist, students will draft a tailored résumé relevant to their intended career path. The initial version will be reviewed for structure, relevance, language, esthetics and effectiveness, with feedback provided for improvement. You'll find the details of this assignment and a marking grid on Brightspace.

Assignment 5: Cover Letter (5%)

Students will write a professional cover letter in response to the same job posting used for their résumé. This task will reinforce principles of persuasive writing and proper formatting, resulting in a document that could be adapted for real-world use. You can bring notes (PowerPoint presentation), that fit on one page. This assignment will be done in class.

You'll find the details of this assignment and a marking grid on Brightspace.

Assignment 6: CV – Final Version (After Instructor Review) (15%)

Incorporating both instructor and AI feedback, students will revise their résumé to produce a final, job-ready version. By the end of this task, students will have a complete and convincing application package, résumé and cover letter, ready for real job opportunities.

You'll find the details of this assignment and a marking grid on Brightspace.

Assignment 7: Reflection Paper (20%)

This final assignment invites students to reflect on their progress throughout the course. Drawing on class discussions, readings, exercises, and assignment feedback, students will write a personal reflection on their growth, challenges, and accomplishments as writers. The paper should demonstrate mastery of the techniques studied and be formatted according to academic standards. No notes or device are allowed. You'll find the details of this assignment and a marking grid on Brightspace.

Brightspace

All course material will be posted to OWL: <https://westernu.brightspace.com/>

Students are responsible for checking their UWO emails and the course Brightspace site (<https://westernu.brightspace.com/>) regularly for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class.

If students need assistance with the course OWL Brightspace site, they can seek support on the OWL Brightspace Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. <https://wts.uwo.ca/helpdesk/> They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

Technical Requirements

This course requires you to have a reliable internet connection and a computer that meets the technical requirements for accessing the course outline, and to write the quizzes.

The use of laptops (or tablets) is allowed in class for note-taking purposes only, but not necessary.

Electronic Devices

Electronic devices and cell phones are NOT permitted in class or on tests and exams. If you have valid reasons to use your phone in class (if you are expecting an urgent email or text message), please come talk to me at the beginning of class or at the beginning of the term.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

In this course, the use of AI tools/software/apps (automatic translation tools, grammar checkers, ChatGPT... or other) can be used ONLY to provide extra feedback on two assignments: assignment

3 (the first draft of the essay), and **assignment 4** (the first draft of the résumé). You are asked to submit the first draft, done without any tools or help; the suggestions and feedback of an AI tool of your choice (ChatGPT); and a one paragraph reflection of the two types of feedback.

If AI is suspected to have been used for the original version (other than to provide feedback), the instructor will ask for research notes, rough drafts, and other materials used in preparing the assignment, and students may be asked to come to the instructor's office and rewrite the assignment manually, without any tools. Students are expected to retain these materials until after final grades have been entered. In the unlikely event of concerns being raised about the authenticity of any assignment, students may be asked to produce these materials; an inability to do so may weigh heavily against them.

No documents and no device are permitted during the reflection paper.

Academic Accommodation and Accessible Education

Academic Accommodation is “a means of adjusting the academic activities associated with a course or program of student in order to permit students with disabilities to participate in those activities at the University and to fulfill the essential requirements of a course or program.”

<https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academicpolicies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodationdisabilities.pdf>.

Students with disabilities are encouraged to register with **Accessible Education** at the earliest opportunity. “Accessible Education plays a central role in Western's efforts to ensure that its academic programs are accessible for all students” <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessibleeducation/index.html>

Note: For this course, there is no need to explain that you have accommodation, and you need extra time for quizzes. Students do not need any extra accommodation for quizzes as they are not timed. Students can take as much time as they need and the submission deadlines for quizzes already include flexibility in the form of numerous days of possible submission within the deadline period.

Accommodation for this course

Accommodation for quizzes - 24-hour grace period for quizzes

All quiz deadlines include an automatic 24-hour grace period. If you are unable to meet the original deadline (Mondays, at 4:00 pm), you have an additional 24 hours (at the latest on Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m., right before class) to submit your quiz without requiring academic consideration, instructor permission, or incurring a late penalty. There is no limit on the number of quizzes for which you can use this grace period. If you need extra time within this 24-hour window, take it. However, late submissions beyond the grace period will not be accepted.

Please keep in mind that the 24-hour grace period applies **only to quizzes** and does not extend to other assessments.

The submission deadlines for quizzes already include flexibility in two forms:

1. The 24-hour grace period.
2. The early availability of quizzes, and the possibility of submitting the quizzes well in advance.

In case students are granted accommodation by an academic advisor (with the instructor's agreement), please see the course accommodation below.

With accommodation	Without accommodation
<p>Quizzes The quizzes cannot be done later. The missed quizzes will be reported on the reflection paper.</p> <p>Attendance and participation Students can miss one class without penalty and without accommodation. After the 2nd missed class, the missed classes (attendance grade) will be reported on the reflective paper.</p> <p>Assignments With accommodation, missed assignments can be redone within one week. However, since there is an assignment almost each week, doing so means you will have to submit two assignments the same week, having little to no time to receive feedback.</p> <p>In-class final reflection paper The final reflection paper can be redone up to 5 days after the due date.</p>	<p>Quizzes Students will receive a 0 for the missed quizzes. The quizzes cannot be done later.</p> <p>Attendance and participation Students can miss one class without penalty and without accommodation. After the first missed class, each missed class hour will withdraw 0.14 points (5/36) from the attendance grade.</p> <p>Assignments Without accommodation, the missed assignments will be given the grade 0.</p> <p>Final reflection paper (answering questions) The missed reflection paper will be given the grade 0.</p>

Even with accommodation, quizzes cannot be submitted later than the end of the period of flexibility (after the 24-hour grace period) as students are given access to the quizzes answers after they are completed, and quizzes are blocked after the deadline.

All academic consideration requests must include supporting documentation.

General information about missed coursework

Students must familiarize themselves with the *University Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs* posted on the Academic Calendar:

<https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academicpolicies/appeals/academicconsiderationSep24.pdf>

This policy does not apply to requests for academic consideration submitted for **attempted or completed work**, whether online or in person. The policy also does not apply to students experiencing longer-term impacts on their academic responsibilities. These students should consult: [Accessible Education](#).

For procedures on how to submit Academic Consideration requests, please see the information posted on the Office of the Registrar's

webpage: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academicconsiderations/> All requests for Academic Consideration must be made within 48 hours after the assessment date or submission deadline.

Course Expectations and Responsibilities

- Students are expected to arrive on time to class, stay the whole class and actively participate in the class activities. If they expect to be late on a regular basis, they should let me know.
 - Students are expected to come to class fully prepared: having read the coursebook and PowerPoint presentations, all of which is clearly explained in the syllabus, in addition to complete the weekly quizzes, and to come to class with their coursebooks or have access to the coursebook on a tablet.
 - If students are going to be absent for one class, they should NOT contact me. However, if they are absent for an extended period of time, or drop the course, they are expected to let me know.
 - Please note that being a native speaker, an immersion student, or having attended a French first-language school does not guarantee a high grade in this course. In this course, accuracy is evaluated more than fluency. The quality of vocabulary, grammar, organisation, argumentation require practice. Final grades reflect the quality and consistency of personal work completed throughout the term rather than a student's initial language level.
 - Students are responsible for completing all assigned work each week, including quizzes. There are opportunities to improve grades during the term. For example, students can bring their assignments to class to receive peer and instructor feedback, before submitting assignments.
 - However, **no extra work will be offered at the end of the course to compensate for missed assignments or low marks**. Final grades are based solely on the work completed during the academic term.
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Communication with the Instructor

When contacting the professor, students are expected to be respectful and professional. Emails should be written using "vous", addressed with the correct professor's name (Madame de Moras), sent from the student's UWO email, and include the student number, especially for serious matters.

Additional Statements

Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, here:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academicpolicies/appeals/scholasticdisciplineundergrad.pdf>.

Policy on Accommodation for Religious Holidays

Students should review the [policy for Accommodation for Religious Holidays](#) . Where a student will be unable to write examinations and term tests due to a conflicting religious holiday, they should inform their instructors as soon as possible but **not later than two weeks** prior to writing the examination/term test. In the case of conflict with a midterm test, students should inform their instructor as soon as possible but not later than one week prior to the midterm. Religious Accommodation requests for final exams should be submitted via the Student Absence Portal.

Special Examinations

A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents. To provide an

opportunity for students to recover from the circumstances resulting in a Special Examination, the University has implemented Special Examinations dates. These dates as well as other important information about examinations and academic standing can be found [here](#).

Support Services

Academic Advising

Your Home Faculty's Academic Advising Office will support or refer whenever you have an issue that is affecting your studies, including information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters. Do not hesitate to reach out to them if you are struggling and unsure where to go for help. Contact info for all Faculties is here: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/facultyacademiccounselling.html>

Mental Health Support

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<https://uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Gender-based and sexual violence

Western University [is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence](#) (GBSV) and providing compassionate support to anyone who is going through or has gone through these traumatic events. If you are experiencing or have experienced GBSV (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts, at the following website:

<https://www.uwo.ca/health/studentssupport/survivorsupport/get-help.html> .

To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Learning Development and Success

Counsellors at the Learning Development and Success Centre <https://learning.uwo.ca> are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

USC

Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, <https://westernusc.ca/services/>.

Copyright and intellectual property

PowerPoint lecture slides and notes, in-class activities, assignment guidelines, quizzes and other components of the course materials are typically the intellectual property of the instructor. Unauthorized reproduction through audio-recording, video recording, photographing, sharing on social media, or posting on course-sharing websites is an infringement of copyright and is prohibited. Such an action may be considered a Code of Conduct violation and lead to sanctions.
