

FR3580F 001 (Fall 2025)

La danse : fiction et autobiographie

L'heure et le lieu : 9h30-12h30, le mercredi en PAB 117

Prof. Servanne Woodward

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heures de bureau par zoom, et RDV

Prerequisites: Both French 2605F/G and French 2606F/G (or French 2600E) or Permission of the Department of French Studies.

Unless you have either the requisites 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.

Antirequisites: None

Description : Nous observerons comment le « Ballet » (article de Cahusac) apparaît dans l'*Encyclopédie* de Diderot et d'Alembert et les différences entre le ballet de spectacle (de cour aussi, comme divertissement sérieux ; ou théâtrale) et d'autres danses de performance sociale (la bourrée, le menuet, la contredanse...), dans la fiction, et dans les autobiographies. Pour ce qui est de la fiction, le chapitre de *Zadig* porte sur la danse d'une façon comique « oriental » (Voltaire) comme test d'honnêteté ; ou comme effet de tyrannie patriarcale dans l'*Histoire d'une Grecque moderne*, de l'Abbé Prévost ; la bourrée comme danse grossière car trop énergique (*Arlequin poli par l'Amour* de Marivaux). Le théâtre introduit aussi des danses d'esclaves (cf. article de Poirson). Dans la série des autobiographies, la danse devient plutôt une des activités parmi les amusements sociaux et le prolongement de la culture musicale (*Mémoires* de Marmontel), permettant d'exposer la grâce et l'habileté corporelle ou la prestance de chacun, et d'exprimer la fierté vitale de soi (les *Mémoires* de Mme de Genlis). Jean-Jacques Rousseau donne une dimension socio-politique aux bals, de la joie champêtre aux perversissements de la culture française, dans les *Rêveries du promeneur solitaire*. En nouvelle France c'est dans les journaux de voyage à visée anthropologique que l'on recueille des observations sur les rites autochtones dansés.



Objectifs :

1. Apprendre à lire un phénomène culturel vécu à une certaine étape de l'histoire, pour mieux en comprendre les résonances dans la fiction. (Lecture « historique » de la fiction). [Y a-t-il des échos modernes (le bal des débutantes ?) ? Bal de fin d'année des lycées américains (*Prom*) et canadiens ?]
2. Comment l'expression corporelle esthétisée par une gestuelle réglée correspond à l'image publique de soi. [fiction et pratique culturelle]
3. Ce que représente le refus ou l'obligation de danser. [Fiction versus autobiographie]

4. Exposition de la perspective de la morale (chrétienne) et la danse — sur le mode de la satire à l'époque des Lumières. [articles et notes de cours]
5. Esthétique et politique (idéologie) des gestes de danse.
6. Comprendre la danse comme pantomime, ou l'expressivité du geste cadencé par la musique et l'émotion. [Diderot]
7. Distinguer la fiction autobiographique de l'autobiographie comme deux régimes d'énonciation distincts.

Comment vous êtes notés : un journal de dix rapports (40%) ; présence et discussion active initiée par des questions de lecture (20%) [vous êtes notés sur les 7 meilleures fiches de question et sur votre participation active]; un travail de recherche sur un des ouvrages du cours de 8 à 10 pages (Times new roman, double interligne .12, avec 6 sources, = 40%).

Certains livres sont facilement accessibles en format papier ; tous sont en ligne, gratuitement.

En vous souhaitant un excellent semestre !

Emploi du temps :

L'heure et le lieu : 9h30-12h30, le mercredi en PAB 117	En cours	Votre travail (les questions sont rendues à la fin du cours et sont individuelles ou en groupe)
10 septembre	« Ballet », Cahusac	Journal et questions de lecture
17 septembre	Zadig, Voltaire	Journal et questions de lecture
24 septembre	<i>L'histoire d'une Grecque Moderne</i>	Journal et questions de lecture
1 ^{er} octobre	<i>L'histoire d'une Grecque Moderne</i>	Journal et questions de lecture
8 octobre	<i>L'histoire d'une Grecque Moderne</i>	Journal [Rendre la première partie du journal] = 20%
15 octobre	<i>Rêveries du promeneur solitaire</i>	Journal et questions de lecture
22 octobre	<i>Rêveries du promeneur solitaire</i>	Journal//DATE DE RENDU pour le travail de recherche (40%)
29 octobre	<i>Rêveries du promeneur solitaire</i>	Journal et questions de lecture
12 novembre	Marivaux	Journal et questions de lecture
19 novembre	Marivaux	Journal et questions de lecture
26 novembre	Mémoires Genlis	Rendre la seconde partie du journal = 20%
3 décembre	Mémoires Marmontel/Genlis	questions de lecture

Liste de lectures

1. **Cahusac, BALLET**, *Encyclopédie, ou dictionnaire raisonné des sciences, des arts et des métiers, etc.*, eds. Denis Diderot and Jean le Rond d'Alembert. University of Chicago: ARTFL Encyclopédie Project (Autumn 2022 Edition), Robert Morrissey and Glenn Roe (eds): <https://encyclopedie.uchicago.edu>. Accessed on 20 August, 2025

<https://artflsrv04.uchicago.edu/philologic4.7/encyclopedie0922/navigate/2/355?byte=580553>

2. **Voltaire, F.-M. Arouet.** *Zadig ou la destinée*. Paris, Garnier Flammarion, 1966.
<https://beq.ebooksgratuits.com/vents/Voltaire-Zadig.pdf>
3. **Prévost, l'abbé.** *L'histoire d'une Grecque moderne*, Amsterdam, 1740,
<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k108835s.image>
4. **Rousseau, J.-J.** *Réveries du promeneur solitaire*. 1778 https://ebooks-bnr.com/ebooks/pdf4/rousseau_reveries_promeneur_solitaire.pdf
5. **Marivaux, P. de.** *Arlequin poli par l'amour*, 1723: http://theatre-classique.fr/pages/pdf/MARIVAUX_ARLEQUINPOLIPARLAMOUR.pdf
6. **Mme de Genlis [Stéphanie Félicité Comtesse de].** *Mémoires [extraits 1825]*
<https://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/69541/pg69541-images.html>
7. **Marmontel, Jean-François,** *La guirlande*, 1751 (acte de ballet)
https://books.google.com/books?id=gTiW9WIlwysC&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_atb#v=onepage&q&f=false
Et ; Céphale et Procris (1761); *Mémoires [extraits: ballet]*
<https://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/27773/pg27773-images.html>

NB. Le cours inclut des informations sur les danseurs, sur les institutions, et d'autres documents présentés en classe par votre professeur ; des questionnaires, circonstances et avis portés sur les ballets seront postés sur OWL: <https://westernu.brightspace.com/>

Autres :

Students are responsible for checking the course OWL 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 site, they can seek support on the [OWL Brightspace Help](#) page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

Technical Requirements

This course requires you to have a reliable high-speed internet connection and a computer that meets the technical requirements for reading and writing—though handwritten work is acceptable and preferred for your journals.]

Electronic Devices No cell phone, smart watches, earpieces, nor computers in class

Statement on the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Google searches and assistance on your writing is allowed, but your personal reflection is expected. If you gather information from articles (in print or electronic form), quote and include the reference or you will be guilty of the offense of plagiarism (it is illegal and has consequences). *In this course, students are permitted to use AI tools exclusively for information gathering and preliminary research purposes. These tools are intended to enhance the learning experience by providing access to diverse information sources. However, it is essential that students critically evaluate the obtained information, exercise independent thinking, and engage in original research to synthesize and develop their own ideas, arguments, and perspectives. The use of AI tools can serve as a starting point for exploration; however, students are expected to uphold academic integrity by appropriately attributing all sources and avoiding plagiarism. Assignments should reflect the students' own thoughts and independent written work. By adhering to these guidelines, students contribute to a responsible and ethical learning environment that promotes critical thinking, independent inquiry and allows them to produce original written contributions.*

Missed exams/tests

Note that supporting documentation is **always** required for academic consideration requests for examinations scheduled by the office of the registrar (e.g. December and April exams) and for practical laboratory and performance tests typically scheduled during the last week of the term.

Please note that the journal is central to the learning objectives for this course. Accordingly, students seeking academic consideration for this assessment will be required to provide formal supporting documentation. Students who are granted academic consideration for this assessment will be provided with the following opportunity to make up this work: [\[make-up assignment\]](#)

IN THIS COURSE YOU MAY BE ABSENT TWICE WITHOUT CONSEQUENCES.

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.

All academic consideration requests must include supporting documentation; however, recognizing that formal documentation may not be available in some extenuating circumstances, the policy allows students to make one Academic Consideration request **without supporting documentation** in this course. However, the following assessments are excluded from this, and therefore always require formal supporting documentation:

Even when Academic Considerations are granted for missed coursework, the following are deemed essential to earn a passing grade.

- a passing grade on essays in a course designated as an “essay course” (i.e., with a suffix of E, F, G, or Z) to satisfy the Senate requirement that students must demonstrate “some minimal competence in essay writing” in order to pass the course,
- minimum participation in class discussion and questionnaires.

In such cases, the consequences of not meeting the requirement (e.g., a grade of 45) should be specified. Note that students should not be penalized for failing to meet a requirement where Academic Considerations are granted.

Deadline with a No-Late-Penalty Period

Assignments. Students are expected to submit each of the assignments by the deadline listed. Should extenuating circumstances arise, students do not need to request Academic Consideration and they are permitted to submit their assignment (**up to 72 hours**) past the deadline without a late penalty. Should students submit their assessment beyond **72 hours** past the deadline, a late penalty of XX% per day will be applied. **Academic Consideration requests may be granted only for extenuating circumstances that started before the deadline and lasted longer than the No-Late-Penalty Period (72 hours).** (Alternatively, the instructor may deny all requests, give them a zero mark, and let students follow the appeal pathway to ask for an exception. Note that instructors may not ask for medical documentation for privacy protection, but the student can voluntarily share information.)

Additional Statements

Academic Offences

material generated by AI programs or large language models such as ChatGPT and plagiarism]

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>.

Statement on the use of plagiarism-checking software [TURNITIN]

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

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.

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>

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/studentsupport/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/>.

IMPORTANT DATES

Found through **Office of the**

Registrar: https://registrar.uwo.ca/resources/important_dates_and_deadlines.html

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Found through the **University**

Secretariat: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/general.html

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