

Département d'études françaises
FR3612G — Formes et pratiques esthétiques
Sujet : les femmes meurtrières
Hiver 2026

Locaux et coordonnées

Cours magistral	Le jeudi de 9 h 30 à 12 h 30 au local AHB-1B04
Professeure	Madame Heather Kirk
Courriel	hkirk4@uwo.ca
Bureau	University College 2123
Heures de bureau	Le lundi de 10 h 30 à 11 h 30 et le mercredi de 11 h 30 à 12 h 30, ou sur rendez-vous

Description prise du calendrier universitaire

These specialized courses will deal with literary and cultural topics, themes and issues, which may cross historical, generic and cultural borders. For particular courses offered each year, please consult the French Studies website. Prerequisites : FR1900E, FR1910, or permission of the Department.

Prerequisites: Both FR2605F/G and FR2606F/G (or FR2600E)

Description et objectifs du cours

La femme meurtrière nous fascine. Comment la femme — maternelle, douce, tendre, docile — arrive-t-elle à trahir cette image fondamentale (voire stéréotypée) en commettant un meurtre ? Si l'on associe la criminalité aux hommes, la femme qui tue agit contre sa nature. Terrifiante, anormale et dégoûtante, la meurtrière fait figure de monstre dans les médias modernes, souvent macabres et sensationnels, qui cherchent à comprendre sa sociologie et sa psychologie.

Au cours du semestre, nous aussi chercherons à comprendre la femme meurtrière et à expliquer son comportement exécrationnel. À travers des analyses sociopsychologiques des trois meurtrières du corpus, nous devinerons les mobiles des crimes et chercherons à expliquer cette fascination populaire pour le crime au féminin. Ce parcours nous permettra de nous pencher sur les notions de criminalité, de culpabilité, de féminité et d'agency.

Objectifs pédagogiques/Compétences transférables

French 3612G est un cours interactif qui oblige la participation active de chaque étudiant.e. À la fin de ce cours, les étudiant.e.s devront être capables de :

- Identifier et définir les caractéristiques principales du roman français du XX^e siècle.
- Définir l'intérêt psychosociologique de la femme criminelle ou meurtrière.
- Formuler et partager leurs propres opinions et critiques littéraires par le biais de discussions et de projets collaboratifs.

- Acquérir de meilleures compétences d'esprit critique.
- Enrichir leur vocabulaire passif et actif.
- Employer de nouveaux modes de communication (le compte rendu critique, la rédaction de réflexion).

Manuels et prix du matériel obligatoire

Textes obligatoires	Prix approximatif
Duras, Marguerite. <i>L'Amante anglaise</i> . Gallimard, coll. « Folio théâtre », 2017.	12,50 \$
Mauriac, François. <i>Thérèse Desqueyroux</i> . Le Livre de Poche, 1989.	10,95 \$
Slimani, Leïla. <i>Chanson douce</i> . Gallimard, coll. « Folio », 2016.	16,50 \$
Textes recommandés	Prix approximatif
Un dictionnaire bilingue, tel le <i>Robert-Collins</i> .	9,99 \$
Un dictionnaire de verbes, tel le <i>Bescherelle</i> .	18,95 \$

Barème du cours

Tâche		Échéance
Quiz de lecture (3 x 5 %)	15 %	
Quiz de lecture 1		15 janvier 2026
Quiz de lecture 2		12 février 2026
Quiz de lecture 3		12 mars 2026
Compte rendu critique sur table*	15 %	5 février 2026
Dossier de réflexion	35 %	
Conversation	5 %	Avant le 26 février 2026
Plan de rédaction	5 %	Avant le 5 mars 2026
Évaluation par des pairs	5 %	2 avril 2026
Rédaction finale	20 %	9 avril 2026
Participation active aux cours	15 %	
Examen final	20 %	

**This assignment has been designated as central to the learning outcomes of the course; formal supporting documentation is required for academic consideration*

Explication de la méthode d'évaluation

Quiz de lecture : Les quiz inscrits au programme serviront de contrôle de connaissances sur les éléments d'intrigue, les personnages et leurs motivations, la structure et le genre des

œuvres. Puisque l'objectif du test est d'assurer que chaque étudiant.e lit les œuvres du corpus, les tests auront lieu avant que nous ne parlions des textes en classe.

Compte rendu critique sur table : Ce travail comporte deux étapes distinctes. Dans un premier temps, l'étudiant.e lira et annotera un article d'une publication savante (*scholarly article*) proposé par la professeure dans la semaine qui précède l'épreuve sur table. Ensuite, l'étudiant.e répondra à des questions de compréhension lors d'un exercice en classe.

Dossier de réflexion : Dans ce devoir, l'étudiant.e rédigera une rédaction qui explorera des notions essentielles du cours. Une rédaction de réflexion est moins formelle qu'une dissertation : elle permet aux étudiant.e.s d'évaluer et d'analyser leur compréhension des textes et des enjeux du cours en répondant à un sujet proposé par la professeure tout en utilisant des sources secondaires, des opinions, des connaissances préalables pour mener à bien leur analyse. Ce devoir comporte 4 tâches échafaudées : 1) une conversation sur le sujet avec un.e GTA, 2) le plan du devoir, 3) l'évaluation par des pairs et 4) la rédaction finale.

Participation active aux cours : Cette note sera accordée en fonction de l'assiduité, la préparation, la participation et le respect de l'étiquette de classe de l'étudiant.e Lors de chaque rencontre, une note sur 10 sera accordée en fonction de l'assiduité, la préparation, la participation et l'échange des idées de chaque étudiant.e. NB. : Les retards prolongés ou les départs avant la fin de la séance compteront contre cette note.

Hiver 2026 — programme hebdomadaire

	Sujets du cours et textes à lire	Devoirs
Semaine 1 : 8 janvier	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prise de contact et présentation du cours • Les stéréotypes du genre 	
Semaine 2 : 15 janvier	Thérèse Desqueyroux de Mauriac <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rappel : le XX^e siècle littéraire • Le roman mauriacien 	Quiz 1
Semaine 3 : 22 janvier	Thérèse Desqueyroux de Mauriac <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Le regard masculin (« the male gaze ») • Le crime raté et la culpabilité 	
Semaine 4 : 29 janvier	Thérèse Desqueyroux de Mauriac <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Le déterminisme et le catholicisme • Conclusions 	
Semaine 5 : 5 février	Devoir sur table (évaluation d'un article critique)	Compte rendu sur table
Semaine 6 : 12 février	L'Amante anglaise de Marguerite Duras <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction à l'œuvre durassienne • Le fait divers 	Quiz 2
Semaine 7 : 19 février	La semaine de lecture	
Semaine 8 : 26 février	L'Amante anglaise de Marguerite Duras <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • La violence et le crime sur scène • La non-culpabilité, la vengeance 	Conversation avec un.e GTA
Semaine 9 : 5 mars	L'Amante anglaise de Marguerite Duras <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • La folie et la raison • Conclusions 	Plan de la rédaction

Semaine 10 : 12 mars	Chanson douce de Leïla Slimani <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Le roman postmoderne 	Quiz 3
Semaine 11 : 19 mars	Chanson douce de Leïla Slimani <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Les causes et conséquences du crime • Pitié, culpabilité, criminalité, sociopathie 	
Semaine 12 : 26 mars	Chanson douce de Leïla Slimani <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • La marginalisation (le racisme, l'élitisme, etc.) 	
Semaine 13 : 2 avril	Chanson douce de Leïla Slimani <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclusions • Le crime et la fascination 	Évaluation par des pairs
Semaine 14 : 9 avril	Conclusions Révisions, préparations pour l'examen final	Rédaction finale
Dernier cours du semestre d'hiver : jeudi 9 avril 2026 <i>NB. : l'examen final aura lieu pendant la période d'examens du 12 au 30 avril 2026</i>		

General Information and Policies

General Information about Missed Coursework/Academic Consideration

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. When students elect to make one request for academic consideration without supporting documentation, their missed assignment is due 48 hours after the original due date.

Students are expected to submit each of the course assignments by the deadline listed herein. Should extenuating circumstances arise, students should request Academic Consideration for the assessment missed and make arrangements with the instructor to set a new due date/assessment date. **Late assignments will be assessed a penalty of 5%/day.**

As most of the assignments in this course are flexible in nature, the instructor reserves the right to deny academic consideration for missed or late elements. The « Compte rendu critique sur table » has been designated as central to the learning objectives for this course. Accordingly, students seeking academic consideration for this assignment will be required to provide formal supporting documentation.

The final day to submit coursework for evaluation is the last day of term, Thursday, April 9, 2026.

OWL Brightspace

Complementary course material will be posted to OWL: <https://westernu.brightspace.com>. Students are responsible for checking the course site

on a regular basis for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class.

Students may access the OWL Brightspace Learner Support site for assistance: <https://brightspacehelp.uwo.ca/> For IT related issues, they may contact Western Technology Services Helpdesk directly: <https://wts.uwo.ca/helpdesk/>.

Technical Requirements

Preparing your computer for class is your responsibility. The technical requirements of this course include a computer, the ability to type French accents (all accent mistakes are counted), reliable internet access, and a personal back-up solution for your notes and your assignments. Your @uwo.ca ID entitles you to cloud storage through OneDrive. There is no excuse not to back-up your material.

Electronic Devices

The use of electronic devices (such as a laptop, tablet, e-reader or electronic dictionary) is not permitted during in-class assessments.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI)

Using generative GAI such as ChatGPT, CoPilot, or other GAI writing assistants for graded course assessments is a scholastic offence which may be subject to the penalties outlined in the Academic Calendar. When you use AI to do your work, you are submitting work for academic credit that is not your own. If GAI use is suspected, you will be asked to provide research notes, rough drafts, and/or outlines typically used in preparing assignments. Students are expected to retain these materials until after the final grades have been entered. In the unlikely event that your instructor raises concerns about the authenticity of any assignment, you may be asked to produce these materials.

Submission of Work

Assignments must be submitted at the start of class on the due date via Brightspace. *Please do not submit assignments via email.* A late assignment will be assessed a 5%/day penalty. All assignments submitted on time will be returned promptly (within three weeks of submission) and will include, on return, written annotations, corrections, and commentary. Please consult the University's policies regarding plagiarism and academic offenses before completing any assignment.

Grade Fairness

Students are evaluated using the same criteria based on accuracy and achievement of learning outcomes. The grade that a student receives is always the grade that the student has earned: grades will not be adjusted on the basis of need (e.g., scholarship eligibility, admission to graduate school, etc). There is no extra work or assignments available for extra credit; it is not possible to redo assignments to improve a grade.

Student Attendance

Attendance is required at all lectures and tutorials. Repeated absences from class may result in a formal request to be debarred from writing the final exam, as set out in the Western Academic Calendar: “Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class will be reported to the Dean (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination.” Debarment from writing the final exam automatically results in failure of the course.

Academic Accommodation and Accessible Education

Students with disabilities are encouraged to register with Accessible Education at the earliest opportunity so that course activities and assignments may be adjusted to suit their needs. Please contact the course instructor if you require lecture or printed material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you.

Email

In most cases, I will not address course content questions by email. If you have any questions regarding lessons, assessments, texts, etc., please see me during my office hours in person, on Zoom, or by appointment. I will also not respond to blank message (messages without a greeting, a brief message, and a signature) as I feel that writing a professional email is an important skill to master during your studies. Please use your @uwo.ca account to communicate with your instructor and your Graduate Teaching Assistant. Please indicate the course code and the nature of your email in the subject line.

Copyright and Intellectual Property

All content including, but not limited to videos, audiofiles, lists of readings, in-class activities, assignment guidelines, 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 action may be considered a Code of Conduct violation and lead to sanctions.

Safe Space/Trigger Warnings

The study of literature is inextricable from engaging with events (and/or people) that challenge and discomfort us. The content of certain lessons may be triggering or offensive. The study of the Humanities pushes against conventions, assumptions, limits, and even good taste. Topics studied can therefore be culturally, morally, politically, racially, socially, religiously, ideologically, and/or linguistically or otherwise offensive to some. Historical events and subjects are especially likely to include potentially offensive material. In taking this course, you agree to expose yourself to material that you may find offensive and agree to read all required work and do all required assignments, even if the materials involved are offensive to you. It is understood that we can study and analyse history while including consideration of what is offensive and why, within the context of reasoned discussion and civil debate. Please contact the professor for details or if you

have any questions. As a cis-gendered, educated, white woman, I might be unaware of my privileges or biases when presenting certain subjects: please do not hesitate to politely point out omissions, missteps, or lapses so that I can learn and grow as a scholar and citizen.

If you benefit from content warnings for sensitive subjects, please speak with me so that I can review the course material with you in private.

Religious Accommodation

When a course requirement conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request accommodation for their absence in writing at least two weeks prior to the holiday to the course instructor and/or the Academic Counselling office of their Faculty of Registration. Please consult the [University's list of recognized religious holidays](#) (updated annually).

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/student_support/survivor_support/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.