



French  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

FCS 198H1F / Fall 2022

**The literacy of Images: Interactions Between Text and Other Media**  
Department of French  
Dr. Rosa Saverino

« [...] A picture may instantly present what a book could set forth only in a hundred pages ». – Ivan Tourgueniev (*Fathers and sons*, 1862)

**COURSE INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Rosa Saverino (*she/her*)

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**COURSE DETAILS AND FORMAT:** Tuesday from 3-5 p.m at Carr Hall, Room 107. As determined by the Faculty of Arts & Science, class lectures for this course will take place exclusively in person. It is important to note that the evolving situation of the COVID-19 pandemic may lead to changes in the course format. Students will be notified of any new developments as they occur.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** How do images create meaning in texts? How do words guide the interpretation of images? This course will examine relations between texts from different literary genres (The Bande Dessinée, fiction and autobiography) and other media (illustration, photography, cinema) through an interdisciplinary theoretical framework, by combining perspectives from literature, cinema, illustration, and photography. The course will be held in English.

**Prerequisites:** None.

**Exclusions:** Restricted to first-year students. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

**Please note:** You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you must withdraw from this course for not fulfilling the course enrolment requirements. This decision may not be appealed.

**Required Texts (available at the U of T Bookstore, Koffler Student Centre - <https://uoftbookstore.com/>):**

- (2003) Satrapi, Marjane. *Persepolis: The story of a childhood*. Paris, L'Association, ISBN: 9780375714573
  - (2005) Mouawad, Wajdi. *Scorched*. Toronto, Playwrights Canada Press, ISBN: 9780887549267
  - (2017) Ernaux, Annie. *The years*. New York, Seven Stories Press, ISBN: 9781609807870
- \*Please note that a digital copy of the novel *The years* is available through Amazon (Kindle Edition): [https://www.amazon.ca/Years-Annie-Ernaux-ebook/dp/B07465HWS3/ref=sr\\_1\\_3?crid=35JDYO7PANTV7&keywords=the+years&qid=1662998363&srefix=the+year%2Caps%2C287&sr=8-3](https://www.amazon.ca/Years-Annie-Ernaux-ebook/dp/B07465HWS3/ref=sr_1_3?crid=35JDYO7PANTV7&keywords=the+years&qid=1662998363&srefix=the+year%2Caps%2C287&sr=8-3), Kobo (Rakuten Kobo): <https://www.kobo.com/ca/en/ebook/the-years-28>, Google Books: [https://play.google.com/store/books/details?id=v\\_EtDwAAQBAJ&rdid=book-v\\_EtDwAAQBAJ&rdot=1&source=gbs\\_atb&pcampaignid=books\\_booksearch\\_atb](https://play.google.com/store/books/details?id=v_EtDwAAQBAJ&rdid=book-v_EtDwAAQBAJ&rdot=1&source=gbs_atb&pcampaignid=books_booksearch_atb) or in print through your preferred online bookstore.

### **Cinematic Adaptations (Not shown during class):**

- *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi and Vincent Paronnaud, 2007
- *Incendies* by Denis Villeneuve, 2010

Additional documents such as literary texts, book summaries and critical and theoretical articles will also be distributed to students and/or posted on Quercus throughout the semester.

### **Assignments and Evaluation:**

- Oral Presentation (20%)
- 2 In-class tests (2 x 15%) (in-person)
- Essay and Research Outline (10%) (online submission)
- Final Paper [1250 words] (25%) (online submission)
- Overall Assessment (15%)

### **Description of Tests and Assignments:**

**Oral Presentation [5 minutes] (20%):** This assignment will consist of an oral presentation on an assigned topic. Submission will take place online through our course Quercus website in the form of a video recording. Specifics about the assignment, along with submission instructions and details regarding the marking scheme, will be provided to you prior to the deadline.

**In-class Tests (2 x 15%):** These tests will take place during the main lecture; they will cover material discussed in this course and will be based on your readings and understanding of the course materials and lectures. They may consist of a combination of short answer (one or multiple words) and/or mini essay questions (maximum 8 lines) or questions requiring an in-depth response (longer than 8 lines) based on the interpretation of a textual excerpt and/or image. A detailed guide will be provided to you prior to the test date.

**Essay and Research Outline (10%):** The Essay and Research Outline is a direct and clear outline of what your Final Paper is about. It shows what each paragraph will contain, the order in which paragraphs will appear, and how arguments and ideas will fit together as a whole. The outline will help you to organize your ideas, as well as to identify relevant information or quotes from sources in the early stages of writing to provide a steady foundation for the Essay. Details on the requirements and expectations of this assignment will be communicated to students prior to the assignment deadline. You will be required to fill out and attach the “Academic Integrity Checklist” to this assignment (located at the end of this course guide and included as a separate document under the “Tests and Assignments (Guides and Instructions)” tab of the “Modules” column in our course Quercus web page).

**Final Paper [1250 words] (25%):** This is a short essay of a maximum of 1250 words in length. You will be provided with three essay topics. You will choose one of the three assigned topics. Submission will take place online through our course Quercus website in either DOC or PDF format. Submission instructions as well as essay questions and details regarding the marking scheme will be provided to you prior to the deadline. You will be required to fill out and attach the “Academic Integrity Checklist” to this assignment (located at the end of this course guide and included as a separate document under the “Tests and Assignments (Guides and Instructions)” tab of the “Modules” column in our course Quercus web page).






**Overall Assessment [15%]:** Regular preparation of the course material is essential for steady progress and good performance. Regular attendance, punctuality, active participation and engagement in the course are an integral part of this course – attendance alone is not enough – so be prepared to actively engage in course lectures and activities! The various elements of the course that promote student engagement and participation will also be reflected in the “overall assessment/participation” portion of your final grade. The participation and engagement component of this course will be based on, but not limited to, the following criteria: Contributions to class discussions are frequent, demonstrate a high degree of reflection, are relevant to the course material, and are pertinent to the discussion topics; Student maintains positive interactions with the instructor and classmates (does not interrupt or keep others from speaking during discussions); Student successfully demonstrates that course readings are completed through contributions to classroom

and asynchronous course activities; Online questionnaires and activities are completed in a timely manner and/or by the assigned deadline; Short homework assignments are completed in a timely manner (by the assigned deadline, if applicable); Student seeks the help and advice of the instructor during office hours, etc.

**POLICY REGARDING LATE SUBMISSIONS:** A late penalty of **5% per day** (non negotiable) will be applied to all late assignments. All late assignments will be refused after ten days inclusive following the hand-in/required completion date.

**COURSE TIMETABLE:**

**Sep. 8** Classes begin / **Nov. 7-11** Reading Week / **Dec. 7** – Classes end

DATE	LECTURE TOPICS	READINGS TO PREPARE	DUE DATES TESTS & ASSIGNMENTS
September 13	Syllabus & Course Presentation		
September 20	Introduction to word and image relations	Please start reading <i>Persepolis</i>	
September 27	Marjane Satrapi, <i>Persepolis</i>	<i>Persepolis</i>	
October 4	Continued: Marjane Satrapi, <i>Persepolis</i>	<i>Persepolis</i>	
October 11	Conclusion: Marjane Satrapi, <i>Persepolis</i>	Please start reading <i>Scorched</i>	 In-class test (15%)
October 18	Wajdi Mouawad, <i>Scorched</i>	<i>Scorched</i>	
October 25	Continued: Wajdi Mouawad, <i>Scorched</i>	<i>Scorched</i>	
November 1	Conclusion: Wajdi Mouawad, <i>Scorched</i>	Please start reading <i>The years</i>	 Presentation (online submission) [20%]
November 8	<i>Reading Week – No classes</i>		
November 15	Annie Ernaux, <i>The years</i>	<i>The years</i>	
November 22	Continued: Annie Ernaux, <i>The years</i>	<i>The years</i>	 Essay and Research Outline (Submission via Quercus) [10%]
November 29	Conclusion: Annie Ernaux, <i>The years</i>	<b>* Please review your course notes for the Final Test</b>	
December 6	In-class Final Test		 In-class Final Test [15%]
December 16 (No class: Final Paper submission only)	Essay due date (Submission via Quercus)		 Essay (Submission via Quercus) [25%]