



French
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Department of French
FSL312H1F
Writing French: The Language of the Media
STUDENT'S COURSE GUIDE
FALL 2022

« On ne peut le nier, les médias agissent de manière puissante sur l'imaginaire social, la socialisation des individus et la construction de la réalité sociale. »

– Marchessault, Guy. *Témoigner de sa foi, dans les médias, aujourd'hui*. Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press, 2005, p.415.

COURSE INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Rosa Saverino (*She/Her/Elle*)

EMAIL ADDRESS: r.saverino@utoronto.ca (Replies to Emails may be expected within 48 hours, not including weekends)

COURSE DETAILS AND FORMAT: Thursdays from 10 a.m-1 p.m at Teefy Hall, Room 201.

The course lectures, as well as class activities, tests and assignments will be carried out in French.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Using current online media (in French), broaden your understanding of the French language; deepen your grammatical knowledge; expand your vocabulary (including idioms); review key aspects of French syntax; and fine-tune your reading skills in French. Weekly reading and writing workshops are an integral part of this course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

While we will focus on several forms of French-language media, we will also discuss various elements of media language and content (headlines, feature articles, editorials, etc.). Important topics related to French as the language of the media, such as neutrality and position-taking, will also be addressed. Your understanding of French-language media will often be put into practice in analysis (reading, interpretation and analysis) and writing (writing and editing) workshops. Language capsules (grammar, vocabulary, syntax, etc.) will also be provided based on concepts that are relevant to the discussion and study French-language media.

PREREQUISITE: FSL221Y1 (63%)/ FSL222H1 (63%). Students may also fulfill this prerequisite requirement based on the results of their French Placement Test.

EXCLUSIONS: FSL320H1, FSL321Y1, FSL322H1, FSL375H1, FSL375Y1, FSL 400-level courses.

***THIS COURSE IS NOT OPEN TO NATIVE OR FLUENT SPEAKERS OF FRENCH.**

REQUIRED TEXTS: A course reader.

Weekly readings will be uploaded to Quercus prior to each class in the form of course “Modules”. Students are expected to print out the relevant documents and bring them to class with them.

Recommended Texts: (monolingual dictionary)

- *Le Robert-Collins* (French-English dictionary)
- *Bescherelle 1 – L’art de conjuguer* (conjugation guide)

Assignments and Evaluation:

- **4 In-class Tests/Textual Analysis (60 minutes) [25% x 2; 20% x 2] (In-person tests)
- Overall Assessment [10%]

**Please note that the in-class tests will take place in the classroom on the dates indicated in the course timetable (please see course schedule below). Test content will include grammar, vocabulary, reading comprehension and reflection questions, as well as elements of written production and analysis, etc. Details pertaining to tests will be shared with students prior to each test date.

Overall Assessment [10%]: Regular preparation of the course material is essential for steady progress and good performance. Regular attendance, punctuality, active participation and engagement in the course both during class meetings (lecture) and for asynchronous activities (preparation of course readings, homework, etc) 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 this 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 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.

COURSE TIMETABLE (SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2022)

DATE	OBJECTIFS DU COURS	TESTS ET TRAVAUX
8 septembre	Introduction au cours. Présentation du syllabus, de l'enseignante et des étudiant.e.s Présentation du thème du cours : « The Language of the Media »	
15 septembre	Les grandes agences de presse : Agence France Presse (AFP), La Presse Canadienne (PC), Reuters, Associated Press (AP) Dépêches, chroniques, blogues, éditoriaux : les principales caractéristiques	
22 septembre	Les grands titres : l'impact du vocabulaire Médias dits sérieux et médias alternatifs ; Les grands sujets de l'actualité	
29 septembre	La vérification des faits à l'ère de la post-vérité (vérification de la fiabilité des sources) Les <i>fake news</i> et les pages de mèmes (<i>memes</i>) satiriques	 Test #1 (20%)
6 octobre	Les préjugés favorables ou défavorables (<i>bias</i>) : la neutralité est-elle possible ?	
13 octobre	Les dépêches : éviter de prendre position (neutralité).	
20 octobre	Le point de vue personnel, la prise de position, langue imagée, usage de la vulgarité, expressions familières (variations des registres), l'humour	 Test #2 (25%)
27 octobre	Partager son opinion (deuxième partie) ; Analyse de chroniques et de blogues sur des sujets variés	
3 novembre	Les éditoriaux : Exprimer une opinion collective	 Test #3 (20%)
10 novembre	Fall Break – No classes	
17 novembre	La publicité et le rôle de l'image	
24 novembre	Dernières remarques / Révisions	
1er décembre	Test final en classe	 Test #4 (25%)

IMPORTANT DATES (September to December 2022)

SEPTEMBER	
8	Courses begin in F and Y courses
16	Waitlists for F and Y courses close at end of day

21	Last day to enrol in F and Y courses Program/course fee freeze date (F and Y) First day to select a Credit/No-Credit (CR/NCR) option for F and Y courses
OCTOBER	
10	No classes – Thanksgiving Day
NOVEMBER	
7-11	No classes – Fall Reading Week
16	Last day to drop F courses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note that some courses cannot be cancelled using ACORN and students must contact their College or Department to do so.
DECEMBER	
7	Classes end in F courses and in Y courses (for Fall term) Last day to add or remove a CR/NCR option in Fall F courses Deadline to request Late Withdrawal (LWD) from F courses
9	Study Day
10-20	Final assessments in F courses Term tests in Y courses
21-30	University closed for Winter Holidays from December 22, 2022 to January 1, 2023 inclusive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winter classes for S courses begin. Classes in Y courses resume on January 9, 2023