

**SUNY Cortland**  
**Department of International Communications and Culture**  
**FRE 423-001 / FRE 515 : Short Story**

Spring 2012  
3 cr. hrs  
W: 4:20-6:50

Old Main 224

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Office hrs: WF 11:10-1:40  
& by appt.  
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**Textbooks:** Texts for the course will be available from the instructor.

**Course Description:** Themes as basis for study of several works or authors, e.g., women, love, society, revolution. For students with knowledge of French, although subject may be comparative in nature if indicated by subtitle. May be repeated as subtitle changes. Prerequisite: FRE 315 or 316. Fulfills: LASR. (3 cr. hr.)

**Attendance:**

Courses in French at SUNY Cortland serve not only to provide exposure to the course content but also to help students achieve communicative goals through active participation. For this reason attendance at class meetings is essential. Therefore, **if you have more than 3 unexcused absences by the end of the semester your grade will be lowered by 5/100 for each additional absence.** (Only serious illnesses and problems at home, religious holidays and sports competitions are considered excused absences. A doctor's note will be required.) It is to your advantage to inform me before any class which you must miss. Contact ICC or my office. Work missed whether from an excused or unexcused absence must still be completed, and it is **the student's responsibility** to see that this is done quickly.

**Evaluation:**

Papers	40%
Homework - preparation	10%
Class presentations	10%
Mid-term	10%
Final Exam	30%

A scale of 0-100 will be used as follow:

A+	97	-	100
A	93	-	96
A-	90	-	92
B+	87	-	89
B	83	-	86 etc...

***Tests:***

All major tests will be announced. **ABSENCE FROM TESTS WILL BE EXCUSED ONLY IN THE PRESENCE OF WRITTEN PROOF OF A VALID REASON FOR YOUR ABSENCE. UNEXCUSED ABSENCE CAN RESULT IN FAILURE IN THE COURSE.** Notify me ahead of time when you know you must miss a test and make appropriate arrangements.

***\*Papers:***

Three 5-page papers will be written for this class (i.e. at least 5 pages). This class is labeled as a WI class. In fact, all upper level language classes have always essentially more than met the WI requirements. We will address writing techniques in class and you will rewrite your first draft of papers.

***Class presentations:*** Students will present reports on particular themes as assigned.

**Goals and Objectives - Communication:**

The short story is a major genre of the nineteenth century and is closely tied to literary movements and contemporary culture. We will develop a good basic knowledge of the French short story, its origins and evolution, as we work on your ability to talk and write about these texts.

**Final Exam:** Mon. 12/8, 4:20-6:50 pm.

## Syllabus:

Wk 1-18j Introduction : le conte, genre. origine orale  
les fables (Androclès), l'épopée (Gilgamesh, Homère), la Bible  
Moyen âge : Roland, les fabliaux, l'amour courtois  
Marie de France - *Le Laustic*,

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*Mélu*sine  
*le roman de Renart*  
*Aucassin et Nicolette*  
Cont. Week 2

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Wk 2-25j (3) 16<sup>e</sup> : Renaissance et humanisme  
Marguerite de Navarre - *Deux Cordeliers*  
Rabelais - Moutons de Panurge (2 chapt.)  
*100 Nouvelles Nouvelles*

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Wk 3-1f (4) 17<sup>e</sup> : Classicisme, Préciosité  
La Fontaine - fables  
Charles Perrault - contes  
Mme de LaFayette - *La Princesse de Clèves* (nouvelle)

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Wk 4-8f 18<sup>e</sup> : Lumières  
Montesquieu - Troglodites (*Lettres Persanes*)  
Saint Simon - Mémoires  
Diderot - *Ceci n'est pas un conte*  
**Paper I, 1<sup>st</sup> draft**

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Wk 5-15f Voltaire  
Le monde comme il va  
Micromégas  
Extrait de Candide  
La Belle et la Bête

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Wk 6-22f Mid-term (*very short exam*)  
19<sup>e</sup> : Révolution et Romantisme  
le Réalisme  
Balzac : *La maison du chat qui pelote* ()  
Mérimée : *Mateo Falcone* (1829)

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Wk 7-29f le Fantastique  
Mérimée : *La Vénus d'Ille* (1837)  
Gautier : *La morte amoureuse* (1836)

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Wk 8-14m Flaubert : *Un cœur simple* (1877) - le mot juste  
Jules Barbey d'Aurevilly : *Le bonheur est dans le crime* ()  
**Paper II, 1<sup>st</sup> draft**

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Wk 9-21m Guy de Maupassant

1er conte publié : *Boule de suif* / John Ford - *Stagecoach* (1945)  
*La parure*

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Wk 10-28m Maupassant cont.  
Les paysans : *Aux champs*  
interprétation psychanalytique : *Nuit de Noël*  
la face cachée de la société : *Sauvée - Le Signe*  
l'argent : *La dot*

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Wk 11-4a Daudet : « Lettres de mon moulin » (1866) :  
*La chèvre de M. Seguin, Les trois messes basses, La dernière classe.*  
Zola : *Le grand Michu, Pour une nuit d'amour*

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Wk 12-11a 20<sup>e</sup> Modernisme  
Proust, *La Confession d'une jeune fille* (1886)  
Anatole France, *Crinquebille* (1902)

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Wk 13-18a Existentialisme  
Sartre: *Le mur*  
Camus: *L'hôte*  
Colette : *L'autre femme* (1942)  
Marcel Aymé: *Le Passe-muraille* (1943)

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Wk 14-25a Post-moderne? - **Paper III**  
Ionesco  
Beckett: *Molloy*  
Tournier: *La Mère Noël*  
Gosciny : *Le Petit Nicolas : On a eu l'inspecteur*

**Final Exam:** 5D Wed. May 9, 4:00-6:00 pm.