

**SUNY Cortland**  
**FRE 423/515 (WI)**

Themes in French Literature (3 cr.)

The Couple and the Role of Women in French Literature

MWF 8:00-8:50

OM G-12

Fall 2014

<http://web.cortland.edu/ponterior/couple/>

**ICC Dept.**  
**Robert Ponterio**

753-2027

OM 225-D

Office hours: MW 11:15-1:15; T 2-3 & by appt.

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**Texts :**

Vivre au moyen âge (ch. 2, Abélard puni de castration, ch 3. Amours illicites et sexe interdit, ch 4 Les fabliaux...)

Elisabeth Badinter – L'un est l'autre

Poésie Lyrique du moyen âge (extraits : Guillaume IX, Jauffré Rudel, Christine de Pisan)

Anonyme « Por coi me bait mes maris, Laisette ? »

Anonyme - Aucassin et Nicolette (extraits)

Chrétien de Troyes - Erec et Enide (extraits)

Ronsard (poèmes choisis Mignonne allons voir...)

Marguerite de Navarre - Heptaméron : D'un Cordelier qui faict grand crime envers les marys de battre leurs femmes

Molière – Les Femmes savantes

Madame de La Fayette – La Princesses de Clèves extraits

Laclos - Liaisons dangereuses, lettre 1

L'abbé Prévost – Manon Lescaut

Rousseau - Emile, livre 5

Maupassant – La Dot, Sauvée, Le Signe

Colette – Sido

Simone de Beauvoir – Le Deuxième sexe (extrait)

Marguerite Duras – Moderato Cantabile

Olympe de Gouges - Déclaration des droits de la femme et de la citoyenne

Coup de Foudre (film though perhaps we will look at something else)

Most texts will consist of photocopied excerpts but these full texts may be obtained via the Internet : The best and least expensive source at the moment is <http://amazon.ca> (Note this is the Canadian Amazon, not the US source where prices are higher and it takes much longer for French books to arrive).

Molière – Les Femmes savantes

Any of these editions of the French text is ok.

- Livre de Poche (Lgf) (Livre Poche Theatre) ;

- Bordas (Bord :101 expériences faciles et sans...);

- Gallimard (Editions) (Folio Classique N.P.) ;

L'abbé Prévost – Histoire du Chevalier Des Grieux et de Manon Lescaut

- Flammarion (Editions) (Librio) ;

Marguerite Duras – Moderato Cantabile

- Minuit ;

Elisabeth Badinter – L'un est l'autre

**Course description :**

Much of French literature presents men and women in a way that allows us to examine their relations to each other and their respective roles in society. From the middle ages to the present day these relations and roles have evolved. Through our study of the works read we will learn about how the major ideas in society have been reflected and helped to define this evolution (carpe diem, androgyny, reformation, préciosité, age of reason, romanticism, liberation des femmes).

**FRE 423 and the Conceptual Framework :**

This course, as is the case with all of our offerings in the ICC Department, is rooted in the ideals of liberal learning. The underlying ideal in all of our classes, whether they be literature, culture, or language based, is that all three of these elements are interwoven. The specific knowledge and perspectives that will be acquired in this class reflect SUNY Cortland's commitment to instilling in our students an acumen for themes and issues pertaining to Global Understanding (knowledge of the interconnectedness of the natural and human experience through exposure to the political, social, economic and religious differences of the target language s literature and civilization) and Social Justice (comparison and contrast of issues of social justice, equality, and democracy between our society and those of the target language).

**Goals:**

Be able to recognize and describe the evolution of the couple as presented in French literature and as it is reflected in society.

**Attendance :**

Attendance is required. One absence per credit hour will not be counted.

**Written work** will consist of :

Class presentations	20%.
Papers : I. 2 pp., II. 4 pp., III. + IV. 5 pp.	60%
Final	20%

For papers, a page implies a full page, Times 12 point font, 1 inch margins. Essential elements of all written work are accurate grammar, good vocabulary usage, and clear structure (introduction, thesis, paragraph development, conclusion). We will work on these skills in class and for paper rewrites.

**Disability notice:**

If you are a student with a disability and wish to request accommodations, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services located in B-40 Van Hoesen Hall or call (607) 753-2066 for an appointment. Information regarding your disability will be treated in a confidential manner. Because many accommodations require early planning, requests for accommodations should be made as early as possible.

## Course schedule and activities: (TENTATIVE)

### Week

1:  
25 août Introduction;  
Moyen âge: Overview; La Pernelle; Great Chain of Being; la Genèse, les androgynes  
Anonyme « Por coi me bait mes maris, Laisette ? »

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2 :  
1 septembre Poésie Lyrique du moyen âge (Guillaume IX, Jauffré Rudel, Christine de Pisan).  
Jeanne d'Arc.  
Vivre au moyen âge (ch 3. Amours illicites et sexe interdit, ch 4 Les fabliaux...) présentations  
Abélard & Héloïse : ch. 2, Abélard puni de castration (A. 1079-1142)

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3:  
8 sept. Aliénor d'Aquitaine (1122-1204)  
Aucassin et Nicolette (extraits)  
Chrétien de Troyes - Erec et Enide (extraits) (peut-être Marie de France ou Silence)  
16<sup>e</sup> : Overview

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4:  
15 sept. 16<sup>e</sup> : Marguerite de Navarre - Heptaméron : D'un Cordelier qui faict grand crime  
envers les marys de battre leurs femmes  
Ronsard (poèmes choisis Mignonne allons voir..., Quand vous serez bien vieille...)  
Louise Labé  
Retour de Martin Guerre

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5:  
22 sept. 17<sup>e</sup> : Classicisme ; Molière – Les Femmes savantes  
Paper I. due (Moyen âge)

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6:  
29 sept. Madame de La Fayette – La Princesses de Clèves extraits  
18<sup>e</sup> : Lumières ; Laclos - Liaisons dangereuses, lettre 1  
  
L'abbé Prévost – Manon Lescaut  
Paper II. due (Molière)

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7:  
6 oct. L'abbé Prévost (cont.)

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8:  
13 oct. Rousseau - Emile, livre 5  
  
Voltaire - Candide, ch 1.

Olympe de Gouges - Déclaration des droits de la femme et de la citoyenne

Coup de Foudre (film)

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9:

20 oct.

Chansons (Dame Lombarde, Ah vous dirai-je maman, Le Divorce)  
Paper III. due (Prévoist)

19<sup>e</sup> : Le Romantisme - quelques poèmes  
Lamartine, Musset (& George Sand), Baudelaire

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10:

27 octobre

Maupassant – La Dot, Sauvée, Le Signe

Sand (Chanson extrait de la Mare au diable)  
Notre Dame de Paris - Fleur de Lys (jalousie) Diam's, DJ

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11:

3 novembre

Verlaine / Rimbaud

Simone de Beauvoir – Le Deuxième sexe (extrait)

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12:

10 nov.

Marguerite Duras – Moderato Cantabile

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13:

17 nov.

Marguerite Duras – Moderato Cantabile

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14:

24 nov.

Paper IV. due (Duras)

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15:

1 déc.