

The University of Texas at Arlington
Department of Modern Languages

Grammar & Composition

FREN 3304-002
Fall 2017

Instructor: Najia Alameddin

Faculty Profile: <https://www.uta.edu/profiles/najia-alameddin>

Course Number, Section Number, and Course Title:

FREN 3304 Sec. 002 *Grammar & Composition*

Office Number: 226 Hammond Hall

Dep't. of Modern Languages: 817-272-3161

Email Address: nea@uta.edu

Office Hours: M/W 2:45-3:45 pm & by apt

Time and Place of Class Meetings: Mo We Fr 11:00PM - 11:50PM

ROOM UH 16

Blackboard: <https://elearn.uta.edu/webapps/login>

For administrative purposes, this document is in English. This class, however, will be taught entirely in French.

Description of Course Content: This course is an introduction to the analysis of literary texts with emphasis on reading comprehension, grammar review, development of reading comprehension writing skills and compositional techniques.

Student Learning Outcomes: Students who come prepared to class every day and who actively participate can expect to:

- ✓ Acquire proficiency in the four main skills: listening, reading, speaking and writing, with an emphasis on writing.
- ✓ Will improve their grammatical knowledge and proper usage.
- ✓ Will improve their writing skills ,be able to write longer compositions and will demonstrate the ability to think and write thematically.
- ✓ Will enhance fluency in the French language.

Course Materials:

- *En Bonne Forme*, by Simone Renaud et Alii, eighth edition. Please order today!
Available on, Amazon, Barnes and Nobles and Chegg.com
- *Bescherelle, La Conjugaison pour tous (Nouvelle Edition)* ISBN-13 -978221895198

Livres Supplémentaires [Highly recommended:](#)

- A good French Dictionary, e.g. Le Petit Robert, Le Petit Larousse, etc.
- A good French/English Dictionary, e.g. Harrap's, Cassel's, Collins, Larousse, etc.

[Additional online materials will be posted on Blackboard.](#)

Grade Distribution

Participation/préparation/ *verbathon	10%
Contrôles (quizzes) (3)	20%
Online Dictées (dictation)	5%
Devoir à la maison (homework) (3)	15 %
Compositions (3)	30%
Final Exam	20%

(* Students in groups will have a timed activity on a randomly chosen verb. The subject/person will be randomly chosen and students must conjugate the verb in the following forms/tenses)

To figure out what you are making in the class: Final grades are calculated by multiplying the grade of each assignment by the percentage points it is worth, and then adding each percentage value for a score out of 100. See categories above. Final **Grade Key: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 65-69=D; 0-64=F**

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:

The emphasis in this course will be split between writing and intensive grammar review. The class will be conducted entirely in French. We will work on intensive and extensive writing. Learning advanced grammar will be a necessary component of the class. An intermediate understanding of French grammar will be assumed based on the material covered through French 2314 which you have already assimilated. In-class discussions will focus on more advanced concepts. All assignments are due on the days and times indicated!

Compositions: Since the development of your composition skills is a primary focus of this course, you will be assigned compositions (2-3 pages). There will be a series of three (3) compositions due during the semester. Compositions are writing assignments following on diverse themes. You will be allowed a re-write for all assignments. Compositions will be typed (including accents) double-spaced, type-written pages in length (12-times New roman).

Grammar Quizzes : There will be in class *Interrogations de Grammaire..* Quizzes will consist of a grammar portion and a dictation. The grammar exercises are very important because they are valuable tool for writing. **No make-up quizzes will be given.**

Homework In addition to the compositions, students are responsible for reading grammar explanations and any literary texts provided, for completing all exercises on the days indicated in the syllabus, as well as additional homework assignments in the forms of grammar review, and vocabulary exercises. These assignments require extended responses. You cannot respond to questions with one or two words (be aware that no points will be given in such case, even of the response is correct). You need to practice formulating a thorough response in French. All assignments **MUST** be turned in on the day they are due. If you are absent that day, you must turn in assignments on the day you return to class. All assignments **MUST** be turned in on the day they are due. If you are absent that day, you must turn in assignments on the day you return to class

Dictées: online exercises : <http://fondationppl.ca/audio/dictee/select/3>

One each week, due on **Wednesday**. *La dictée* is an excellent tool to train your ears to hearing and writing. Choose your level (as each student has a different level). If it's too easy, go up a level, too hard, go down a level. Listen to it as many times as you would like. You will have to bring a printout of the screen. Students will receive a grade of 100 as a completion grade if submitted in class on time and a zero for failing to turning in the assignment.

Final Exam: The final exam will consist of a grammar section, a reading exercise with comprehension questions and a composition

Grading Policy: This is a content-oriented course in French focused on grammar and writing. The student is expected to effectively comprehend and work with the course assignments to produce quality content. In short, there is one grading standard for all students, regardless of cultural or linguistic background and **since it is a grammar and writing based course, spelling, syntax, command of grammatical structures will all count**. Please note that diacritical marks -accents--are part of the spelling of the word. The presence or absence of accents will count. You are graded against yourself and not compared with others..

To figure out what you are making in the class: Final grades are calculated by multiplying the grade of each assignment by the percentage points it is worth, and then adding each percentage value for a score out of 100. See categories above.

Final Grade Key: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 65-69=D; 0-64=F

An “A” on an assignment will not be given for good work. An “A” is for outstanding or impeccable work. It follows that “B” is for good work—above average and demonstrating originality and creative thinking. A “C” is mastery of the material, adequate demonstration of content. (The above is adapted from Dr. Sol’s system)

Classroom Etiquette: Please arrive on time; no food, only drinks are allowed. There is a **zero-tolerance policy** for texting or any other cell phone use in class. If you expect an important phone call, please inform me before class and quietly excuse yourself when you receive it. For every instance of texting or other cell phone use that the instructor observes during lecture class, you will lose half of your participation points and you will receive a notification on BB (under the *participation column*)

Attendance/ Participation Policy: Simply attending class does not constitute participation. You are expected to actively participate in the writing activity in class, and in doing so, you will receive a grade of 100 on that day.

At the University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required university-wide. Rather, each faculty member or department is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. However numerous studies have shown that there is a significant positive correlation between class attendance and grades. For this reason, and due to the communicative and interactive nature of language learning, **I** will be taking attendance in this class. Failing to attend class will have a direct and detrimental impact on your grade as the

lectures are an important part of learning this material. Failing to attend class will have a direct and detrimental impact on your grade as the lectures are an important part of learning this material.

However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients “begin attendance in a course.” UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

Absence and tardiness result in missed instructional time, missed announcements, missed participation opportunities, and a low quiz and test average. You should therefore plan to attend class regularly and to arrive early. Students who miss class are responsible for checking the syllabus and confirming with classmates prior to contacting the instructor regarding missed announcements or material covered in class. Students who arrive late are responsible for reporting their presence to the instructor after class is dismissed. Points may be deducted from the student's grade for habitual tardiness. Whether an absence is excused or not, it is the student's responsibility to make up missed work. The student is also responsible for the material covered in class during lecture. Be sure to get contact information from fellow students so that you can go over the class lecture notes.

For purposes of makeup exams and essays, excused absences include a documented illness or death in the family, brief periods of military service*, university authorized absences*, and religious holy days*. Absences for any other reason, including undocumented illness or the illness of a family member, may not entitle the student to make up missed exams or essays unless you receive prior permission from the instructor, who must adhere to departmental and university guidelines and who may take documentation and prior absentee record into account. See the catalog for additional details.

<http://www.uta.edu/catalog/2001/general/academicreg.html>

Expectations for Out-of-Class Study: A general rule of thumb is this: for every credit hour earned, a student should spend 3 hours per week working outside of class. Hence, a 3-credit course might have a minimum expectation of 9 hours of reading, study, etc. Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional **9** hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types

of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships.

Disability Accommodations: UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the **Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD)**. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671.

Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Non-Discrimination Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos.

Title IX: The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX

Academic Integrity: (READ CAREFULLY!!!)

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2) ****Plagiarism is not and will not be tolerated in my class. DO NOT steal**

another's thoughts. Believe in yourself and understand that I am most interested in what you have to say on the topic.

All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

Please note : Translation from any other language into French or vice-versa without proper attribution and identification of author and source falls under the rubric of plagiarism. This applies to material found on the WEB as well as books, periodicals, brochures, etc. If you have any doubts or questions pertaining to your research, your writing, or the formalities of citation, do not hesitate to consult your professor or the Modern Language Guidelines. If you are not sure about what constitutes plagiarism, find out! Come and ask me.

Most cases of plagiarism can be avoided, however, by citing sources. Simply acknowledging that certain material has been borrowed, and providing your audience with the information necessary to find that source, is usually enough to prevent plagiarism. We want you to research and read secondary sources. You are, in many cases, required to do so. Scholars' and students' work participate in and contribute to an ongoing intellectual conversation. However, you must be certain and careful to properly give your sources their due. **Any incidences or suspected incidences of plagiarism will be referred to the proper UTA authorities.**

Electronic communication: The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University email address as an official means of communication with students. Through the use of email, UT-Arlington is able to provide students with relevant and timely information, designed to facilitate student success. In particular, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation may be sent to students through email.

All students are assigned an email account and information about activating and using it is available at www.uta.edu/email. New students (first semester at UTA) are able to activate their email account 24 hours after registering for courses. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active as long as a student is enrolled at UT-Arlington.

Email Policy: You are responsible to check your UTA email frequently for official communications

- ❖ Write from your mavmail account.
- ❖ Write a clear subject line that actually summarizes what the question is and what it might be connected to in the course.
- ❖ Tell me which class you are in and please give me some context for the question, situating it in the particular assignment or activity you're working on.

- ❖ Punctuate. Capitalize appropriately. Use complete words and sentences; this is not texting. Check your spelling.
- ❖ Sign your full name *Adapted from guidelines developed by Dr. Alice Pawley and her students.*

Campus Carry: Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located to your left. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals. http://www.uta.edu/campus-ops/ehs/fire/Evac_Maps_Buildings.php

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

The IDEAS Center (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **free** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email IDEAS@uta.edu or call (817) 272-6593.

Language Lab: The Language Acquisition Center (LAC), located on the third floor of Trimble Hall, offers audio, video, and computer services. Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Librarian to Contact: Jody Bailey is the Modern Languages Librarian. She can be reached at 817.272.7516, and by e-mail at jbailey@uta.edu. Furthermore, you will find some useful research information at: <http://www.uta.edu/library/research/rt-foreign.html>

<p>Emergency Phone Numbers: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (non-campus phone), 2-3003 (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381</p>

By staying in this course, students acknowledge that they have received, read, understood and accept the terms of this syllabus. A copy of this syllabus will be posted on the course webpage as well as on Blackboard.

Tentative Course Schedule

Please check Blackboard for a detailed course schedule!