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**French Language and Literature (Year 2 Students Taking the Single-Semester Course on the Following Profiles: Languages for** **Management and Tourism; Languages, Communication and Media)**

## Prof. Ilaria Vidotto

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

*La Princesse de Clèves* de Mme de Lafayette : “Lisez donc ce roman, vous serez surpris”

The course aims to explore, as a single-subject study, Mme de Lafayette's novel, *La Princesse de Clèves* (1678). In addition to the full reading and analysis of the work, the historical-literary context of the *Grand Siècle* will be presented, with a particular focus on the genre of the novel and the linguistic-stylistic peculiarities of the text.

The **expected learning outcomes** are:

- accurate knowledge of *La Princesse de Clèves*, which must be read in French and correctly understood. The ability to do so is considered preliminary to the presentation of the critical analysis. Accordingly, students will be asked to read aloud (with phonetic accuracy) and translate the text during the exam to demonstrate this skill.

- *critical knowledge and understanding* of the aesthetics of the novel, with a particular focus on the themes addressed (love passion, *galanterie*, conflict between *amour et devoir*, treatment of history, etc.), as well as the narrative structure (plot, characters) and stylistic choices.

***COURSE CONTENT***

a) Contextualisation of prose genres in the seventeenth century; situation of the novel in the *âge Classique*;

b) Mme de Lafayette, *femme de cour*, *femme de lettres*; key biographical points and a brief overview of the works, with particular attention on the novels preceding the *Princesse de Clèves*: *La Princesse de Montpensier* (1662) and *La Comtesse de Tende* (1660);

c) *La Princesse de Clèves*: general presentation of the novel (plot, characters, historical-social background, composition), genre issues (historical novel, psychological novel, heroic novel?), reception;

d) Reading and commentary of the main sections and episodes, with a focus on language and style.

***READING LIST***

Required reading:

1. Mme de Lafayette, *La Princesse de Clèves*, ed. B. Pingaud, Paris, Gallimard, “Folio Classiques”, 2000, ISBN: 2070414434; alternatively: Mme de Lafayette, *La Princesse de Clèves*, ed. J. Mesnard, Paris, Flammarion, “GF”, 2019, ISBN: 9782081489738:

2. Course packs provided by the lecturer and downloadable from the *Blackboard* platform.

3. M. Landi (ed.), *Letteratura francese*, vol. I: Dalle origini al Settecento, Milan, Le Monnier Università, 2020, “Il Seicento”, chaps. 4 and 5, p. 199-213.

4. Course notes, PowerPoint slides and other materials uploaded to the Blackboard platform.

Recommended reading

F. Gevrey, *L’Esthétique de Mme de Lafayette*, Paris, SEDES, 1980.

D. Bensoussan, *Madame de Lafayette*, *“La Princesse de Clèves”*: *40 questions, 40 réponses, 4 études*, Paris, Ellipses, 2000.

N. Fournier, *Grammaire du français classique*, Paris, Belin, “Belin Sup Lettres”, 2002.

C. Esmein-Sarrazin, “Introduction”, *in* Mme de Lafayette, *Œuvres complètes,* Paris, Gallimard, “Bibliothèque de la Pléiade, 2014.

J. Rohou, G. Siouffi, *Lectures de Mme de Lafayette*, Rennes, PUR, 2015.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course is delivered primarily by means of frontal lectures. The course materials (Powerpoint slides and additional material) are made available on the **Blackboard platform**, which is an indispensable tool for organising the material and communicating with the lecturer. Registration on the platform is automatic for the students to whom the course is addressed. However, students must update their email addresses in the “dati personali” section, so that they can receive any documents or notices. Regular consultation of the platform is essential in order to prepare for the exam, and more information on how it works will be provided during the course. The single-subject syllabus will be supplemented by *practical classes* (Dr Pedrazzini, 10 hours for students taking only 1 semester, 20 hours for students taking the year-long course). See the specific schedule of practical classes below.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students on the three-year course:

must have taken the written and oral language examination BEFORE taking the literature examination. The written and oral tests together form the weighted average; this is then added to the mark for the Literature exam, which is the final exam. The Literature Exam consists of the practical classes test (Prof. Pedrazzini) and the single-subject exam. Passing the test for the practical classes is a prerequisite for accessing the final examination.

The examination consists of an oral test **in French**, during which students must demonstrate that they have read and understood the text accurately. First of all, the student’s ability to accurately translate a passage from the novel (notes on the student’s books in any format are allowed and strongly encouraged) will be assessed; the translation is aimed at verifying the understanding of the text, which is indispensable for carrying out critical analysis. No more than five translation errors shall be allowed for the passage chosen by the lecturer. Students will only qualify for the literary analysis assessment once they have passed the assessment on linguistic knowledge of the text. Literary analysis will be assessed according to the criteria below. Students will also be assessed on their participation in the lectures and learning activities delivered by the lecturer during the semester.

*Assessment criteria for the French Literature exam, years I and II*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Last name and first name | Enrolment number |  |
| Skills assessed | **Maximum** marks available |  |
| 1. Knowledge of texts  Phonetic accuracy (reading); accuracy and linguistic competence of the translation  Understanding of text; Text commentary | 15 |  |
| 2. Knowledge of literary history  Historical-chronological context | 8 |  |
| 3. Personal development of information and concepts  Ability to link/compare texts and authors;  Critical capabilities | 7 |  |

**Final mark …. / 30**

*In addition to excellence in the three skills assessed,* lode *is awarded to students demonstrating a considerable capacity for criticism and for approaching the text.*

**The final mark for Literature will be calculated as follows: 50% of the mark for the general part (Dr Pedrazzini) + 50% of the mark for Prof. Vidotto's course.**

During the oral test, relative to the level of progression through their studies, students must demonstrate:

– phonetic-phonological accuracy;

– communicative fluency;

– grammatical accuracy;

– lexical mastery;

– interactive capacity with regard to communication situations in private, public and professional life (from the Faculty Guide).

The final mark will be based on the weighted average of the interim written and spoken language tests (up to a maximum of 1/6 and 2/6 of the final mark respectively).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

The course is intended for the following students:

- 2nd year students on the three year programme on the curriculum in Foreign languages and literatures of the Faculty of Linguistic Sciences (in semester 1: students will have taken Prof. Verna's course); 2nd year students on all other curricula.

Prerequisites:

There are no specific prerequisites for this course in terms of contents. However, students taking the semester-long course will have already taken, in the first year, the French literature practical classes on the 16th and 17th centuries, while the students on the three-year programme on the Foreign languages and literatures curriculum of the Faculty of Linguistic Sciences (on the one-year Literature course) will have already taken the course on the 17th century in the first semester (Prof. Verna). It is therefore assumed that students have adequate knowledge of the historical-literary context being addressed, as well as of the main literary genres, authors and specific themes of the period.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.

*French Literature Practical Classes*

Prof. MariaCristina Pedrazzini

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The main aim of the course is to provide a representative overview of the history of 9th-century French literature.

By the end of the course, students will be able to contextualise, in spoken French, the historical period, literary movements and main authors studied on the course. They will be also be able to read original-language extracts in the course pack and whole works, translate accurately, analyse them in terms of meter and rhetoric and commentate them.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Extracts from the anthology of the main authors of poetry, prose and theatre in the 19th century.

***READING LIST***

*Required reading*

1. *Textes littéraires du XIXe siècle*, a cura di M.C. Pedrazzini (course pack to be made available on the course Blackboard page).
2. Charles Baudelaire, *Le Spleen de Paris*, *Petits poèmes en prose*, Le Livre de Poche, Paris, 1978.
3. Victor HUGO, *Ruy Blas*, Petits classiques Larousse, Paris, 2010.

*Background reading*

To place the works in their historical-literary context, see (available from the UC library)

J.P. Bertrand-A. Vaillant-P. Regnier (éd.), *Histoire de la littérature française du XIXe siècle*, Presses Universitaires de Rennes, Rennes, 2007.

The chapters on the authors on the syllabus must be studied for the exam.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures will cover general content to provide a historical overview of the period, including the philosophy and literature of the 19th centuries. They will also include the reading of texts together with their literal translation and textual, metric and rhetorical analysis and commentary.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students must take this exam as a prerequisite for accessing the single-subject part. The mark awarded counts for 50% of the final mark

Students will be assessed by means of an oral exam in French, during which they must make a presentation on the history of the periods and literary movements on the syllabus as well as read phonetically, translate literally, analyse (in terms of metre and rhetoric) and comment on the texts on the syllabus, which must be read unabridged and in the original language.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

This 20-hour course will take place in semester 1 and is intended for all students in the second year of their three-year degree with the Faculty of Linguistic Sciences. *Students taking one semester only will follow the first 10 hours*. Texts on the syllabus not covered in class must be read at home and studied for the exam.

Students are expected to have acquired the contents of the first year’s practical classes.

Students are advised to check the Department noticeboard (Via Necchi 9; 4th floor) and the lecturer's webpage for any changes and additions to this syllabus.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.

**French Language Practical Classes (Year 2, Three-year Course Students)**

Dr Valérie Durand; Dr Magalie Courrier; Dr Carolina Viola

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to develop the knowledge of French phonetics, morphosyntax, and vocabulary acquired during year 1.

At the end of the course, students will reach an upper-intermediate level of French (corresponding to an advanced B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages).

***COURSE CONTENT***

*Prof. Magalie Courrier*

1. Course focused on the oral language: development of communication and listening comprehension skills in public life situations (introducing someone, dialogues, interactions, audio-visual comprehension).

*Prof. Carolina Viola*

2. Course aimed at reviewing and broadening students’ knowledge of morphosyntax, with particular reference to subordinating clauses.

3. An introduction to translation: “Le thème français” (from Italian to French).

*Prof. Valérie Durand*

4. Course aimed at learning new vocabulary through the systematic analysis of authentic texts.

5. An introduction to summary techniques, with practical exercises.

6. Preparation for the dictation.

***READING LIST***

Compulsory texts

C. Viola, *Traduction et grammaire, Deuxième année*, EDUCatt, 2019.

N. Hirschsprung, T. Tricot*, Cosmopolite 4 Méthode de français B2,* Hachette FLE 2019, ISBN : 978-2-01-513560-1

E. Mathieu-Benoit, A. Dorey-Mater, A. Lombardini*, Cosmopolite 4 Cahier d’activités,* Hachette FLE 2019, ISBN : 978-2-01-513570-0

J. Rey-Debove-A. Rey, *Le Nouveau Petit Robert,* *dictionnaire alphabétique et analogique de la langue française*, Paris.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The oral language course (2 hours per week) aims to encourage students to speak French in public: presenting a text, debating, telling something, describing and analysing images, or playing a role. Students will also learn to develop their receptive skills through listening comprehension exercises taken from audio files and movie clips.

The course focused on grammar and translation (2 hours per week) aims to help students learn the morphosyntactic structures listed in the programme, and acquire translation skills from Italian to French.

The course on vocabulary and summary (2 hours per week) aims to facilitate the learning of vocabulary through different exercises (e.g. on homonymy, polysemy, false friends, and locutions), and develop writing skills through the analysis and the summary of argumentative texts.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Written and oral assessment (known as “prove intermedie”) on one of the texts from the book *Alter Ego 4 Plus.* The list of extracts will be published on the lecturers’ *Blackboard* pages.

The text presented will serve as the basis for the subsequent oral exam, in which students will be asked to express their opinion, illustrate it with relevant examples and justify it with robust argumentation.

The written assessment is composed of a grammar test (25% of the final mark), a lexical test (12,5%), a dictation exercise (12,5%), a translation from Italian to French (25%), and the summary of a written text (25%). Students are allowed to use paper monolingual dictionaries for the translation and the summary tests.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Students attending this course are expected to have a proper knowledge of the topics explained during the previous year (year 1).

In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.