

THE CITADEL  
School of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures  
Spring 2017

**French 421 French Literature of the Middle Ages and Renaissance**  
Section 01 MW 2:00-3:15 Capers 211

**Instructor:** Dr. Alison T. Smith  
**Office:** 234A Capers Hall  
**Phone:** 953-7092; 216-8389 (home-no calls after 8:30 PM)  
**Email:** tsmith22@citadel.edu  
**Office hours:** MWF 11:00-11:50; M 8-8:50, and by appointment

**Texts required:**

- *Anthologie de la littérature française: des origines à la fin du dix-huitième siècle*. Tome I, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Robert Leggewie (editor). Oxford University Press, 1990. **ISBN-13:** 978-0195062762

*La Chanson de Roland*, Ian Short (editor and translator). Livres de poche, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 1990. ISBN: 9782253053415

*Lais*, Marie de France. Éditions Gallimard, 2000. **ISBN:** 9782070300563

**Recommended resources:**

Tex's French Grammar: <http://www.laits.utexas.edu/tex/>

WordReference online dictionary: <http://www.wordreference.com/>

**Course description and Objectives:**

An introduction to the literature and culture of the Middle Ages and Renaissance, this course examines the birth of the national literature of France and its subsequent evolution. We will study literature as it addresses cultural, philosophical, and artistic issues that question assumptions on diplomacy, warfare, honor, love, ethics, art, and the nature of the self. Readings in this course include epics (*La Chanson de Roland*), medieval romances and lais (Chrétien de Troyes, Marie de France), poetry (Troubadour poets, Villon, Du Bellay, Ronsard, Labé), and prose humanists (Rabelais, Montaigne, Marguerite de Navarre).

**Attendance:**

Class attendance is required. Students with excessive absences will not pass the course. Absence from class does not exempt the student from responsibilities, and work that is handed in late may not be accepted. Tardiness to class is also unacceptable, and habitual tardiness will result in a lowering of the final grade.  
There are NO MAKE-UP EXAMS.

**Electronic devices** (such as phones) must be turned off and put away during class. Failure to do so will have a negative impact on your participation grade. Anything that interferes with your

full engagement and participation in class will have a negative impact on your participation grade.

**Translation Programs:** Use of online translators, translation software, etc. is prohibited.

**Participation:**

Students are expected to prepare thoroughly for each class and to participate actively in French during class. An evaluation of your participation in class is an important component of your grade, and your participation grade will be measured by consistent classroom efforts, a consistent effort to communicate in French, and attendance.

**Grade distribution:**

Class participation and preparation (includes quizzes and pop quizzes) 25%

Homework (compositions, oral presentations, and other assignments) 25%

Tests 30%

Final exam 20%

**Grading scale:**

A 90 - 100

B 80-89

C 70 - 79

D 60 - 69

F 59 and below

All students are expected to adhere to the Honor Code. Students should be aware that violations include any type of cheating or copying of exams, quizzes, homework, and compositions, in addition to the use of online or other translation programs previously mentioned.

Any student eligible for and needing academic adjustments or accommodations because of a disability should speak with the instructor during office hours or outside of class.

## SCHEDULE OF TESTS AND FINAL EXAM

Jan 11	<i>Les Serments de Strasbourg</i>	
Jan 18	<i>La Chanson de Roland</i>	
Jan 23-27	<i>La Chanson de Roland,</i> Troubadours	
Jan 30-Feb 3	<i>La Chanson de Roland,</i> Troubadours	
Feb 6-10	<i>La Chanson de Roland,</i> Troubadours	
Feb 13-17	<i>La Chanson de Roland</i>	Rédaction I (2/15)
Feb 20-24	Marie de France	Examen I (2/22)
Feb 27-March 3	Marie de France, Chrétien de Troyes	
March 6-10	Marie de France, Chrétien de Troyes	Rédaction II (3/8)
March 13-17	Marie de France, Chrétien de Troyes	
March 20-24	Marie de France, François Villon	Examen II (3/22) <i>Spring break March 25 to April 2</i>
April 3-7	DuBellay, Ronsard, Labé	
April 10-14	Rabelais, Marguerite de Navarre	Rédaction III (4/15)
April 17-21	Montaigne	
April 24-25	Montaigne, Review	

**EXAMEN FINAL:** Monday, May 1 at 0800