School of Humanities and Languages

ARTS 2487 French Popular Culture
Semester 2, 2015

Convenor: Dr Miriam Thompson

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1. Course Staff and Contact Details

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Convenor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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<td>Phone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consultation Time</td>
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<tr>
<th>Lecturer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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<td>Phone</td>
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<td>Consultation Time</td>
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<tr>
<th>Tutors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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<td>Name</td>
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<td>Phone</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## 2. Course Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Units of Credit (UoC)</th>
<th>6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Description</td>
<td>This course invites the student to examine different forms of contemporary French popular culture with a grounding in the social and political history of France. Materials will be sourced from cartoons, satirical press, visual art, music, television and film. You will learn to analyse using different theoretical models of popular culture familiarise yourself with different cultural theorists. You will also be encouraged to consider the socio-economic and political contexts in which popular culture is generated and consumed. Taught in English.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Aims</td>
<td>To expose students to a broad range of literary, visual and auditory examples of modern and contemporary French popular culture through theoretical considerations of aesthetic value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To apply different cultural and social theories to popular forms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To encourage the ability to initiate and conduct original research in the field of French popular culture;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Learning Outcomes</td>
<td>1. Acquisition of a deeper knowledge popular French cultural production and how it is consumed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Appreciation of how meaning is created within different popular genres.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Confidence in ability to undertake independent research in a vibrant field of study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Ability to analyse critically a wide range of different types of popular cultural production applying different theories of cultural practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Attributes</td>
<td>1. the capacity for analytical and critical thinking and for creative problem-solving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. the ability to engage in independent and reflective learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. an appreciation of, and respect for, diversity in language and culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. the skills involved in collecting, documenting, organising, and systematically analysing information;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Learning and Teaching Rationale

Students will look at different forms of French popular culture from the twentieth century through to the present. Materials will be sourced from cartoons, satirical press, visual art, music, television and film. Topics of study include:

- The recent debate about satire, secularism, Islamophobia, and freedom of expression in relation to the Charlie Hebdo shootings in January 2015.
- The genealogy of a popular French cultural figure – that of the French maid – and its aesthetic and political permutations in French cultural production.
- Place and popular culture.

Students will familiarise themselves with the thought Bourdieu and de Certeau, among others, and will consider the socio-economic and political contexts in which popular culture is generated and inevitably consumed. Research into popular culture has tended to focus either on the discourse of the popular, or on its sociological and anthropological aspects, which has arguably been to the detriment of our understanding of how popular culture is produced and consumed. We start from the premise that popular works are conceived as acts of creativity and invention and we will investigate the question of how aesthetic value is determined. It will also explore the intersections between cultural production and developments in French society.

4. Teaching Strategies

Students will be given survey lectures relevant to the particular topics outlined below. This will constitute an interactive forum for discussion and in depth consideration of the texts and issues raised in the course.

Students are required to read the relevant readings before coming to lectures and are expected to follow up with independent reading and research on the weekly topics in preparation for tutorials.

Students are expected to take an active approach to their learning in and outside of class. Participation is expected so that knowledge can be shared and debated. A student-led contribution will take place in the form of an oral presentation followed by feedback and questions from peers.

5. Course Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes Assessed</th>
<th>Graduate Attributes Assessed</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
<td>10 mins</td>
<td>10 %</td>
<td>1,2,3,4</td>
<td>2,3.</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination</td>
<td>2h</td>
<td>40 %</td>
<td>1,2,3,4</td>
<td>1,2,3.</td>
<td>31 August 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>2500 words</td>
<td>50 %</td>
<td>1,2,3.4</td>
<td>1,2,3,4.</td>
<td>6 November 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please Note: The Arts and Social Sciences Protocols and Guidelines state:

A student who attends less than 80% of the classes/activities and has not submitted appropriate supporting documentation to the Course Authority to explain their absence may be awarded a grade of UF (Unsatisfactory Fail).

The Attendance Guidelines can be found in full at:
https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/Protocols-Guidelines/

Examination in class during WEEK 6: 31 August (2 hours)

Students will be assessed on their knowledge of the issues regarding concepts of popular culture, and will complete an exercise in response to a passage or extract from one or more of the texts studied so far.

This assessment will examine understandings of theoretical concepts cognate to the field and the ability to close read and analyse cultural texts.

More information about the exam will be provided in week 3.

Individual tutorial presentation: starting in week 3

Students are required to give a ten minute presentation in the tutorial on a topic related to the topic of that week. Students are encouraged to devise their own presentation subject in consultation with the convenor at least a week in advance.

Presentations must be delivered in English and will be assessed according to the quality of the content, the level of research and analysis undertaken, the structure of the presentation, and the clarity of communication.

Part of the final mark will be dedicated to assessing your success in engaging your class members in a discussion following your presentation. It is a good idea to have a couple of questions to put to the audience and to be prepared to handle any questions they might ask.

A written summary of no more than 400 words is to be submitted via email to the convenor the day before the presentation.

Students are encouraged to use visual communication aids.

One or two students will present weekly from week 3 to week 13.

A detailed marking rubric will be circulated in week 2.

Essay of 2500 words due 6 November 2015 at 4pm (hardcopy submitted with cover sheet at the School Office)

Students are encouraged to formulate their own essay question in consultation with the course leader. Time will be provided inside class for discussion about how to formulate an essay question, and students are welcome to email the convenor for feedback on their proposed essay topic.

The essay question must not be on the same topic as the tutorial presentation.

A detailed marking rubric will be circulated in week 12.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Assignments which are submitted to the School Assignment Box must have a properly completed School Assessment Coversheet, with the declaration signed and dated by hand. The Coversheet can be downloaded from
https://hal.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/courses/course-outlines/. It is your responsibility to make a backup copy of the assignment prior to submission and retain it.

Assignments must be submitted before 4:00pm on the due date. Assignments received after this time will be marked as having been received late.

Late Submission of Assignments

The Arts and Social Sciences late submissions guidelines state the following:

- An assessed task is deemed late if it is submitted after the specified time and date as set out in the course Learning Management System (LMS).
- The late penalty is the loss of 3% of the total possible marks for the task for each day or part thereof the work is late.
- Work submitted 14 days after the due date will be marked and feedback provided but no mark will be recorded. If the work would have received a pass mark but the lateness and the work is a compulsory course component a student will be deemed to have met that requirement. This does not apply to a task that is assessed but no mark is awarded.
- Work submitted 21 days after the due date will not be accepted for marking or feedback and will receive no mark or grade. If the assessment task is a compulsory component of the course a student will automatically fail the course.

The Late Submissions Guidelines can be found in full at: https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/Protocols-Guidelines/

The penalty may not apply where students are able to provide documentary evidence of illness or serious misadventure. Time pressure resulting from undertaking assignments for other courses does not constitute an acceptable excuse for lateness.

Grades

All results are reviewed at the end of each semester and may be adjusted to ensure equitable marking across the School. The proportion of marks lying in each grading range is determined not by any formula or quota system, but by the way that students respond to assessment tasks and how well they meet the objectives of the course. Nevertheless, since higher grades imply performance that is well above average, the number of distinctions and high distinctions awarded in a typical course is relatively small. At the other extreme, on average 6.1% of students do not meet minimum standards and a little more (8.6%) in first year courses. For more information on the grading categories see: https://student.unsw.edu.au/grades

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The penalty may not apply where students are able to provide documentary evidence of illness or serious misadventure. Time pressure resulting from undertaking assignments for other courses does not constitute an acceptable excuse for lateness.

### 6. Extension of Time for Submission of Assessment Tasks

The Arts and Social Sciences Extension Guidelines apply to all assessed tasks regardless of whether or not a grade is awarded, except the following:
1. any form of test/examination/assessed activity undertaken during regular class contact hours
2. any task specifically identified by the Course Authority (the academic in charge of the course) in the Course Outline or Learning Management System (LMS), for example, Moodle, as not available for extension requests.

The complete Arts and Social Sciences Extension Guidelines can be read [here](https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/Protocols-Guidelines/). If you wish to request an extension for submission of an assessment task you need to do so via myUNSW using the Special Consideration section. You will need to submit documentary evidence in support of your request.

A student who missed an assessment activity held within class contact hours should apply for Special Consideration via myUNSW.

### 7. Attendance

The Arts and Social Sciences Attendance Guidelines state the following:

- A student is expected to attend all class contact hours for a face-to-face or blended course and complete all activities for a blended or fully online course.
- If a student is unable to attend all classes for a course due to timetable clashes, the student must complete the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences Permitted Timetable Clash form (see information at Item 8 below). A student unable to attend lectures in a course conducted by the School of Education can apply for “Permission to Participate in Lectures Online”.
- Where practical, a student’s attendance will be recorded. Individual course outlines/LMS will set out the conditions under which attendance will be measured.
- A student who arrives **more than 15 minutes late** may be penalised for non-attendance. If such a penalty is imposed, the student must be informed verbally at the end of class and advised in writing within 24 hours.
• If a student experiences illness, misadventure or other occurrence that makes absence from a class/activity unavoidable, or expects to be absent from a forthcoming class/activity, they should seek permission from the Course Authority, and where applicable, should be accompanied by an original or certified copy of a medical certificate or other form of appropriate evidence.

• Reserve members of the Australian Defence Force who require absences of more than two weeks due to full-time service may be provided an exemption. The student may also be permitted to discontinue enrolment without academic or financial penalty.

• If a Course Authority rejects a student’s request for absence from a class or activity the student must be advised in writing of the grounds for the rejection.

• A Course Authority may excuse a student from classes or activities for up to one month. However, they may assign additional and/or alternative tasks to ensure compliance.

• A Course Authority considering the granting of absence must be satisfied a student will still be able to meet the course’s learning outcomes and/or volume of learning.

• A student seeking approval to be absent for more than one month must apply in writing to the Dean and provide all original or certified supporting documentation.

• The Dean will only grant such a request after consultation with the Course Authority to ensure that measures can be organised that will allow the student to meet the course’s learning outcomes and volume of learning.

• A student who attends less than 80% of the classes/activities and has not submitted appropriate supporting documentation to the Course Authority to explain their absence may be awarded a final grade of UF (Unsatisfactory Fail).

• A student who has submitted the appropriate documentation but attends less than 66% of the classes/activities will be asked by the Course Authority to apply to discontinue the course without failure rather than be awarded a final grade of UF. The final decision as to whether a student can be withdrawn without fail is made by Student Administration and Records.

Students who falsify their attendance or falsify attendance on behalf of another student will be dealt with under the Student Misconduct Policy.

8. Class Clash

Students who are enrolled in an Arts and Social Sciences program (single or dual) and have an unavoidable timetable clash can apply for permissible timetable clash by completing an online application form. Students must meet the rules and conditions in order to apply for permissible clash. The rules and conditions can be accessed online in full at: https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/media/FASSFile/Permissible_Clash_Rules.pdf

For students who are enrolled in a non-Arts and Social Sciences program, they must seek advice from their home faculty on permissible clash approval.
9. Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting someone else’s thoughts or work as your own. It can take many forms, from not having appropriate academic referencing to deliberate cheating.

In many cases plagiarism is the result of inexperience about academic conventions. The University has resources and information to assist you to avoid plagiarism.

The Learning Centre assists students with understanding academic integrity and how to not plagiarise. Information is available on their website: https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism/. They also hold workshops and can help students one-on-one.

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However, more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student’s work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism in an Honours thesis) or even suspension from the university. The Student Misconduct Procedures are available here: http://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf

10. Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Commencing</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Lecture Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 (27/07)</td>
<td>Introduction to the course</td>
<td>Situating French popular culture in context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>No tutorial this week</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 (03/08)</td>
<td>Popular culture and the State</td>
<td>French cultural policy since the 19th century and theories of popular culture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 (10/08)</td>
<td>Bande Dessinée</td>
<td><strong>Bande Dessinée</strong>: a quintessential popular cultural form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 (17/08)</td>
<td>Charlie Hebdo I</td>
<td>Satire and the State: situating the ‘freedom of expression’ debate and secularism in contemporary France.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 (31/08)</td>
<td>EXAM (NO LECTURE)</td>
<td>Tutorial will continue with Charlie Hebdo presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 (07/09)</td>
<td>Representing the République in the 21st century</td>
<td>Contestatory representations of the French State in popular music and visual culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 (14/09)</td>
<td>Intercultural dialogues in French television</td>
<td><em>The Tunnel</em> (2013) and <em>The Returned</em> (2012): high-popular aesthetics and the new international television drama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 (21/09)</td>
<td>The French maid</td>
<td>Fetish and stereotype in popular culture – the example of the French maid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28/09</td>
<td>MID-SEMESTER BREAK</td>
<td>NO CLASSES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 (05/10)</td>
<td>BANK HOLIDAY ON 05/10</td>
<td>LECTURE : NO TUTORIAL: YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 (12/10)</td>
<td>Mapping French popular culture</td>
<td>Place, identity and culture in a regional context.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 (19/10)</td>
<td>Popular culture and LGBTQI rights</td>
<td><em>Blue is the warmest colour</em> (Bande Dessinée and film)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 (26/10)</td>
<td>Conclusions on French popular culture</td>
<td>No lecture this week Tutorial yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 11. Course Resources

**Reference texts**


**NB** Further indications of weekly readings and other texts to consult will be provided progressively via Moodle.

### 12. Course Evaluation and Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students’ feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered using various means including UNSW’s Course and Teaching Evaluation and Improvement (CATEI) process.

### 13. Student Support

The Learning Centre is available for individual consultation and workshops on academic skills. Find out more by visiting the Centre’s website at:  
[http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au](http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au)
14. **Grievances**

All students should be treated fairly in the course of their studies at UNSW. Students who feel they have not been dealt with fairly should, in the first instance, attempt to resolve any issues with their tutor or the course convenors.

If such an approach fails to resolve the matter, the School of Humanities and Languages has an academic member of staff who acts as a Grievance Officer for the School. This staff member is identified on the notice board in the School of Humanities and Languages. Further information about UNSW grievance procedures is available at: https://student.unsw.edu.au/complaints

15. **Other Information**

**myUNSW**

myUNSW is the online access point for UNSW services and information, integrating online services for applicants, commencing and current students and UNSW staff. To visit myUNSW please visit either of the below links:

https://my.unsw.edu.au
https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/ABC.html

**OHS**

UNSW's Occupational Health and Safety Policy requires each person to work safely and responsibly, in order to avoid personal injury and to protect the safety of others. For all matters relating to Occupational Health, Safety and environment, see https://www.ohs.unsw.edu.au/

**Special Consideration**

In cases where illness or other circumstances produce repeated or sustained absence, students should apply for Special Consideration as soon as possible.

The application must be made via Online Services in myUNSW. Log into myUNSW and go to My Student Profile tab > My Student Services channel > Online Services > Special Consideration.

Applications on the grounds of illness must be filled in by a medical practitioner. Further information is available at: https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration

**Student Equity and Disabilities Unit**

Students who have a disability that requires some adjustment in their learning and teaching environment are encouraged to discuss their study needs with the course convener prior to or at the commencement of the course, or with the Student Equity Officers (Disability) in the Student Equity and Disabilities Unit (9385 4734). Information for students with disabilities is available at: http://www.studentequity.unsw.edu.au/

Issues that can be discussed may include access to materials, signers or note-takers, the provision of services and additional examination and assessment arrangements. Early notification is essential to enable any necessary adjustments to be made.