

FRES 1010: The Arthurian Tradition in France@
Fall 2009: Syllabus

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Office Hours: Tuesday 3:30-5,
Thursday 12 :30-1 :30,
and by appointment

Course objectives

Introduce students to the Arthurian tradition in France by analyzing representations of knighthood in medieval French romance as well as modern film adaptations.

Provide overview of past and current research into the Arthurian legend.

Assignments and Grading

This course is graded on a Satisfactory / Unsatisfactory basis. In order to earn an S, students must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Attend class regularly. A maximum of **two** absences will be allowed.
 2. Complete **9** of the 11 short written assignments marked with an asterisk* on the syllabus.
- N.B. **No late assignments** will be accepted; they must be completed and turned in **at the beginning of class**, as they will provide the basis for discussion.

Required texts: David Staines, trans. *The Complete Romances of Chrétien de Troyes* (Indiana University Press, 1993) -- available at UGA Bookstore.

Recommended Reading: Norris J. Lacy et al., *The Arthurian Handbook*. and *The New Arthurian Encyclopedia* (Both are located in the Reference Room on the first floor of the library. A copy of the *Arthurian Handbook* is also on reserve for this course at the library.)

N.B. Reading assignments are to be completed *before* the class period for which they are listed.

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| Aug. | 18 | Introduction: The Arthurian Romance in France and its Cultural Context |
| | 25 | The Historical Arthur; introduction to Chrétien de Troyes.
<u>Reading:</u> <i>The Complete Romances</i> , introduction pp. ix-xv and xxvii-xxviii
(Optional reading: <i>The Arthurian Handbook</i> , chapter 1)
*Written assignment 1: define terms / identify historical figures on handout |
| Sept. | 1 | <u>Reading:</u> <i>The Knight with the Lion</i> , pp. 257-91
* Written assignment 2: answer guide questions (WEB-CT: E-learning) |
| | 8 | <u>Reading:</u> <i>The Knight with the Lion</i> , pp. 291-313
* Written assignment 3: answer guide questions (WEB-CT: E-learning) |
| Sept. | 15 | <u>Reading:</u> <i>The Knight with the Lion</i> , pp. 313-38 |

- * **Written assignment 4:** formulate five questions on the reading, and provide answers
- 22 Reading: *The Knight of the Cart*, pp. 170-97
 * **Written assignment 5:** answer guide questions (WEB-CT: E-learning)
- 29 Reading: *The Knight of the Cart*, pp. 197-225
 * **Written assignment 6:** answer guide questions (WEB-CT: E-learning)
- Oct. 6 Reading: *The Knight of the Cart*, pp. 225-56
 * **Written assignment 7:** formulate five questions on the reading, and provide answers
- 13 View Film: *Lancelot du Lac* (*no class; view film on WEB-CT: E-learning)
- 20 Discussion of Film: *Lancelot du Lac*
 * **Written assignment 8:** critical analysis of the film (250 words or more)
- 27 Reading : Marie de France, “Lanval”
<http://www.english.ufl.edu/exemplaria/marie/lanval.pdf>
- Nov. 3 Reading: *The Story of the Grail*, pp. 339-61
 * **Written assignment 9:** answer guide questions (WEB-CT: E-learning)
- 10 Reading: *The Story of the Grail*, pp. 361-91
 * **Written assignment 10:** answer guide questions (WEB-CT: E-learning)
 Film: *Perceval le Gallois* (excerpts)
- 17 Reading: *The Story of the Grail*, pp. 391-418
 * **Written assignment 11:** *Perceval le Gallois* as adaptation (200 words or more)
Monty Python and the Holy Grail (excerpts)