

*FRT 3140-01 French Literature in Translation
Spring 2004 TTh 12:30-1:45 Dif 124*

Contact with Instructor:

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Office Hours: TBA*

Women and Love *(France, 1160-1700)*

Love has always been an ambiguous emotion for women. On the one hand it is a passion having the potential to realize their deepest aspirations, on the other, it is a feeling leading to their subjugation in personal and societal relationships. The reservations toward love expressed by writers such as Colette, Simone de Beauvoir, and Annie Ernaux, reservations that we may think of as typically modern, have their precedents in earlier periods of French literature. In this course we will turn our attention to depictions of the joys and the dangers of this universal emotion from the Middle Ages through the seventeenth century, with an emphasis on women's experience as expressed by women writers. The literary genres treated will include:

- 1. lyric poetry (the lyrics of Christine de Pizan; the Renaissance love sonnets of Louise Labé)*
- 2. the short narrative (the lais of Marie de France)*
- 3. the romance (Chrétien de Troyes's Lancelot)*
- 4. a narrative with lyric insertions (Christine de Pizan's Duke of True Lovers)*
- 5. the novel (the seventeenth-century Princess of Clèves)*

*To receive credit in French, you must write the papers on Marie de France and **Lancelot** in French.*

Required Texts:**In English:**

The Lais of Marie de France, Penguin Classics 0-14-044476-9

Christine de Pizan, The Book of the Duke of True Lovers

0-89255-166-6

The Princess of Clèves: Text, Contemporary Reactions, Criticism, ed.

É. tr. John D. Lyons. 0-393-96333-0

Lancelot and Guinevere: A Casebook, ed. Lori J. Walters

(paperback) 0-415-93911-9

Chrétien de Troyes' Lancelot, tr. Burton Raffel, Yale UP.

Packet of Materials: Poetry of Christine de Pizan, Louise Labé

In French:

Les Lais de Marie de France, ed. Harf-Lancsner 2-253-05271-X

Le Chevalier de la Charrette, ed. C. Méla 2-253-05401-1

Le Livre du Duc des Vrais Amants, ed. T. Fenster

Louise Labé, ed. F. Rigolot, 2-08-070413-3

Grading:

1 short paper 20%

1 take-home paper 30%

1 long paper 30%

Short oral presentations 10%

Class discussion and attendance 10%

Weekly Calendar

*Week #1 January 8**Introduction**Assignment: Read**The Lais of Marie de France: Intro and General Prologue**Week #2 January 13, 15**Jan. 13 Lecture: "Goodbye to Goldilocks: Louise Labé's
Critique of Courtly Convention"**Jan. 15 The Lais of Marie de France: Intro and Gen. Prologue**Week #3 January 20, 22**Guigemar and Equitan**Fresne and Bisclavret**Week #4 January 27, 29**The Lais of Marie de France: Yonec et Laüstic
Chevrefoil and Eliduc**Week #5 February 3, 5**Short paper due on Marie de France=Feb. 3**Chrétien de Troyes's Chevalier de la Charrete (Lancelot)**Week #6 February 10, 12**Lancelot**Read Introduction, Brewer, Bruckner, Noble, Krueger in Walters**Week #7 February 17, 19**Lancelot**Discussion of critical articles in Walters**Week #8 February 24, 26**Christine de Pizan: Early love poetry; the "seulette"**Christine de Pizan, The Book of the Duke of True Lovers**Week #9 March 2, 4**The Book of the Duke**Long paper on Lancelot due on Thurs. March 4**Spring Break March 8-12 Read The Princess of Clèves**Week #10 March 16, 18*

Louise Labé

Week #11 March 23, 25

*Lecture: Ladies, queens, and courtesans: La Princesse,
Diane de Poitiers, and Catherine de Médicis
The Princess of Clèves*

Week #12 March 30, April 1

March 30 The Princess

April 1- Class cancelled; 21st Century French Conference

http://www.fsu.edu/~icffs/div_program.html

Week #13 April 6, 8

The Princess of Clèves: Criticism-Articles TBA

Week #14 April 13, 15

The Princess of Clèves: Criticism

Week #15 April 20, 22

Take-home Paper Due April 20

Grading Procedures:

Your decision to remain in the course after reading this syllabus implies tacit agreement with the grading policy herein described.

General Policies:

Grading Scale: 100-93=A; 92-90=A-; 89-88=B+; 87-83=B; 82-80=B-; etc.

1. Incompletes-

There are NO INCOMPLETES given in this course for any reason.

2. LATENESS POLICY: Late papers or take-home exams receive a grade one letter grade lower than the normal grade. A late paper is one that the professor receives under her door after the assigned date. To avoid spreading viruses, Dr. Walters does not accept electronic submissions.

3. Attendance

*An attendance sheet will be placed at the front of the class at the beginning of each class period. It is the student's responsibility to sign in **several minutes before** the class begins. It is your responsibility to arrive in class on time (remember to take your own personal circumstances--state of your car, traffic patterns, and parking difficulties into consideration in your plans). Attendance is defined as the student's signature, in his or her own hand, on the sheet of paper for the date indicated. You cannot sign the attendance sheet on a day other than that on which the class is given! All sheets will be kept for verification. The administration has informed me that they may request to see my attendance sheets in order to determine eligibility for financial aid.*

4. Academic Honor Code:

Students are expected to uphold the academic honor code published in The FSU Bulletin and the Student Handbook. Please read it before the third class; you will be held responsible for conforming to it.

For students writing compositions in French:

All compositions must be entirely the student's own work. The only person who can give you assistance on your compositions is Dr. Walters (not a French T.A. or your French aunt). After reading three sentences of an essay, I am able to determine whether the author had help from a native French speaker. Such help is considered cheating and will result in a grade of 0, which is much more detrimental to your average than a low grade on a paper!

5. Disability Disclaimer: Students with special needs should make those needs known to the instructor.