

FRE 5755 Old French

Fall Semester, 2004= Tu, Th 2-3:15, DIF 212

Dr. Lori J. Walters: lwalters@mailier.fsu.edu

Tel: 644-8301; if no answer, leave message at 644-3728.

Office Hours: TTh 3:15-4:00; Tu 12-12:30; Diffenbaugh 370

FRE 5755. Old French (3 credits; a requirement for the MA degree).

The primary objectives are:

- 1) To acquire a reading knowledge of the language
- 2) To learn basic concepts concerning its structure and development.
- 3) To serve as an introduction to the literature of the Middle Ages
- 4) To serve as an introduction to the Master's Exam in the literature of the medieval period.

NOTE: A student receiving a grade of B or lower in FRE 5755 is REQUIRED to take a section on the Old French language on the MA exam. Students who receive a grade of B+ or above in FRE 5755 are considered to have fulfilled the requirement.

Required purchases:

1. Kibler, William W. *An Introduction to Old French.*
2. Machonis, Peter. *Histoire de la langue: du latin à l'ancien français.*
3. *Lais* de Marie de France (O.F.+Modern Fr. trans. by Harf-Lancner)
ISBN 2-253-05271-X

Recommended purchases:

(for background reading for the course & for MA exam preparation):

1. *Le Dictionnaire des Lettres Françaises, Le Moyen Age* (Livre de Poche, about \$25)
ISBN 2-2530-5662-6
2. M. Zink, *Introduction à la littérature française du moyen age.* Paris: Livre de Poche, 2003; 2-253-06422-X
3. Baumgartner, Emmanuèle. *Tristan et Iseut.* (to provide background material for Marie's *Chievrefoil*). ISBN 2-13-039847-2

Grading Standards:

The final grade will be calculated in the following manner:

Tests (5)	75% (15% each)
Final Exam	25%

NOTE:

The final exam consists of several translation passages from *Lais* of Marie de France that we will not have translated in class.

These passages can be taken from:

- 1) The General Prologue 2) *Laüstic* 3) *Chievrefoil* 4) *Equitan*. The way that you prepare for this exam is to familiarize yourself very well with these *Lais* (which figure on the MA reading list).

Attendance Policy: It is assumed that a graduate student be present for every class session. We review homework assignments together in class. If you are absent, it is your

responsibility to make up the missed work *on your own* and be prepared for the following class. Office hours are to supplement work done in class, not to make up for classes the student does not attend.

Makeup Policy: There are NO make ups for missed tests.

EXCUSED ABSENCES: The only way to be excused from an exam is to present a signed doctor's excuse during the class following the missed session (and then I divide by 4 rather than by 5 in calculating the final test grade). You can only get one excused absence for a test over the course of the semester.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:

If your absence is not excused (by me), then you receive a 0 for that test or exam, which has a disastrous effect on your test average, which in turn influences your final grade.

NO INCOMPLETES ARE GIVEN IN THIS COURSE FOR ANY REASON.

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

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 knowing it and conforming to it.

Plan of Study:

During the first half of the semester, we study the language from a *diachronic* point of view, i.e., how the language evolves and develops over time. For this part of the course, we will refer to the fourteen chapters of Peter Machonis's book.

During the second half of the semester, we study the language from a *synchronic* point of view; i.e., we concentrate on the language at a particular moment of its history, the period of Old French (end 9th century-end 13th century; see Machonis, pp. 21-22.) This is covered in the first 15 chapters of Kibler's book, which also contain translation exercises based upon a *lai* (a short narrative work) by the twelfth-century writer, Marie de France.

In the continuation of this course, FRE 5756, we will do additional translations of narrative works and deepen our knowledge of medieval French literature. Several works from the M.A. reading list will be covered in class.

COURSE CALENDAR:

- #1 August 24 INTRODUCTION TO COURSE.
August 26 Intro. *Histoire de la langue*; Chapter 1
- #2 August 31 Chapters 2 & 3
Sept. 2 Chapter 4
- #3 Sept. 7 Chapter 5
Sept. 9 **Test #1**
- #4 Sept. 14 Chapter 6
Sept. 16 Chapter 7
- #5 Sept. 21 Chapter 8
Sept. 23 Chapter 9 and review
- #6 Sept. 28 **Test #2 Oct 12**
Sept. 30 Chapter 10
- #7 Oct. 5 Chapter 11

- Oct. 7 Chapter 12
- #8 Oct. 12 Chapter 13 Test #2
Oct. 14 Chapter 14
- #9 Oct. 19 **Test #3**
Oct. 21 Chapters 1 & 2 Kibler
- #10 Oct. 26 Chapter 2 & 3
Oct. 28 Chapters 4 & 5
- #11 Nov. 2 Intro. to Chapter 6 & **Test #4**
Nov. 4 Chapters 6 & 7
- #12 Nov. 9 Chapters 8 & 9
Nov. 11 No class; read other *Lais*
- #13 Nov. 16 Chapters 9 & 10
Nov. 18 Chaps. 11 & 12
- #14 Nov. 23 **Test #5**
Read *Lais*; do translation of final sections of Fresne.
- Nov. 25 Thanksgiving (no class)
- #15 Nov. 30 Chaps. 13 & 14
Dec. 2 Chap. 15 & Review
Dec. 7 **Final Exam**, Time TBA