

**BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**  
**FRENCH 4903A**  
**ADVANCED FRENCH COMMUNICATION**  
**September – December 2018**  
**Instructor: Sigrid Hynscht**

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**CURRENT CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides students with skills related to Advanced French Communication: fluency, vocabulary, listening skills, oral and written comprehension and production.  
3 lecture hours, 0.5 course

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**COURSE PREREQUISITES**

Prerequisite(s): French 3900 (or equivalent) with a minimum final grade of 75% or permission of the Department based on Placement Test.

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will use the advanced levels of the *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages* (CEFR) as its inspiration. Using oral and reading comprehension at the C1 level of the CEFR, students will analyze and apply advanced French vocabulary and language structures to interactive and authentic communication situations on current topics in the news around the world. Themes related to language, culture, social science or science will be used as a springboard to enhance students' French and their ability to discuss and write about these topics at an advanced level in a spontaneous manner. These situations could include everything from forums on environmental change to discussions on the impact of social media. This action-oriented approach will include debates, discussions, role plays and exposés. Written products based on these same themes will include synthesis, short essays and formal and informal written productions. This course is highly recommended for students wishing to become French teachers as the CEFR and the teaching strategies associated with it are the basis of the Ontario French as a Second Language curriculum at both the elementary and secondary levels.

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**HOURS PER WEEK**

Tuesdays: 5:30-8:30 p.m. Ursuline Hall 27

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**INSTRUCTOR**

Name: Sigrid Hynscht  
Email:shynscht@uwo.ca

Office Hours: Tuesdays 4:00-5:00

## COURSE MATERIAL

### Required Texts

Barrière Isabelle, and Marie-Louise Parizet. *Abc Dalf C1/C2*. Clé International, 2015.

### Recommended

Collins-Robert large French-English/English French Dictionary

Charest, Simone et al. *Le Grande Druide des co-occurrences*. Druide, 2013. (not obligatory, but highly enriching)

Larousse Dictionary (also available as an application)

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## EVALUATION

All oral and written formats below will be practiced in class before they are evaluated. Most evaluations will occur during class time to more closely simulate authentic communication.

<b>Two oral comprehension exercises</b> at the C1 level 2 x 10%	20%
<b>Two written comprehension exercises</b> at the C1 level 2 x 10%	20%
<b>Participation</b>	10%
<b>One 15 minute exposé</b> + debate on a social science or science-related topic (1 hour preparation)	25%
<b>One synthesis</b> (250 words). This written production is often used in the French educational system and will assist students interested in taking the DALF C1 test. One unilingual French dictionary allowed.	10%
<b>Written production</b> = one argumentative essay or letter (250 words). One unilingual French dictionary allowed.	15%
<b>Total</b>	100%

## IMPORTANT DATES

- **September 25, 2018:** Oral comprehension test 1, written comprehension test 1.
  - **October 23, 2018.** Exposé. Debate to follow on sign-up sheet, time and date will vary according to student and instructor needs.
  - **November 13, 2018:** Oral comprehension test 2. Written comprehension test 2.
  - **Final exam date tbd:** Synthesis and written production – argumentative essay or letter 2.5 hours.
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## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- better understand and analyze written and aural texts at an advanced level
- improve their written and oral communication on complex topics that are relevant to their world today
- better structure their argumentation skills and hold readers' or listeners' attention using appropriate expressions
- propose tentative solutions to some of the complex issues facing our world today
- feel more confident when speaking and writing about abstract topics that could be outside of their area of expertise
- use language that reveals a high degree of accuracy and includes more elaborate vocabulary
- describe the basic strategies used to instruct an FSL class using the CEFR (*Common European Framework of Reference for Languages*)

## **BRESCIA COMPETENCIES**

**Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:**

### **1. COMMUNICATION: AURAL AND WRITTEN COMPREHENSION**

- follow most interviews, debates, lectures, discussions, exposés or films on abstract topics that are possibly outside their area of expertise requiring little help from an expert.
- understand unfamiliar accents with little help from an expert.
- understand recorded materials in a non-standard language and identify and analyze the fine details including the implicit attitudes and relations between speakers
- understand long and complex texts in detail, whether or not they be in their area of expertise.
- reread the parts of these texts that are difficult and identify their most salient points.
- understand and summarize in detail a large variety of texts encountered in a social, professional or university context and identify fine details, attitudes or points of view whether they be explicit or implicit
- apply their knowledge and skills in written production to authentic communication situations (letters, blogs, essays, syntheses)
- use a broad lexical repertoire that adapts to the socio-linguistic context of communication with a high degree of accuracy. If gaps do occur, students are able to use circumlocutions without listeners noticing.

### **2. ANALYSIS (COMPREHENSION, WRITTEN OR ORAL PRODUCTION)**

- identify and analyze points of view, quality of evidence, bias and source reliability in various oral or written sources
- write a synthesis of two to three documents on the same theme, being able to identify the salient points of each and synthesizing these into a well-organized text.
- apply their knowledge and skills in oral production in authentic communication situations (small and large group discussions, debates, role plays etc) that are often on abstract topics

- be able to respond to points of view that are different to theirs almost without effort in a spontaneous fashion, using appropriate evidence

### **3. CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING (WRITTEN OR ORAL PRODUCTION)**

- after having read numerous documents on a similar topic, adopt a point of view or propose a solution to a problem by writing well-structured texts on complex topics, emphasizing the most salient points and supporting their main argument by integrating secondary arguments, and appropriate examples and providing an appropriate conclusion.
- make a clear and well-structured, 15 minute presentation including a main argument on a complex topic, developing and confirming their points of view in detailed fashion using secondary arguments, justifications and pertinent examples to support their main argument

### **4. SELF AWARENESS**

- use metacognition strategies, i.e. analyze and identify how they best comprehend auditive or textual documents using their learning styles
- develop strategies for better organizing their ideas
- describe and analyze their strengths and weakness as language learners to capitalize on their strengths and improve upon their weaknesses by identifying appropriate resources both in and outside the classroom that can help them learn better

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## **ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION**

Attendance and participation in this class is essential to a students' success because it is based on intense practice at an advanced level of French. Thus, a student who has missed more than 25% of the classes may not be allowed to produce the final exposé or submit the synthesis and short essay. Please see below for further details. Participation is demonstrated through active involvement in class activities and completion of exercises.

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## **MISSED WORK POLICY**

1. A student who misses one of the above in-class evaluations must contact the instructor via email as soon as possible at the following address: shynscht@uwo.ca.
2. For any of the above evaluations, students must submit documentation and contact an academic advisor in order to obtain an official accommodation recommendation from an academic advisor. In the event of a missed evaluation, students will produce a similar oral or written document on a similar topic within one week of the missed assignment or evaluation. Failure to write within that time will result in a 0% for the assignment or evaluation in question. Students must consult with the instructor and a prior permission must be obtained before the due date.

## 2018-19 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

**1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES** When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation must be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated. Students must submit their documentation along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements for classes/labs/tutorials, arranging Special Exams or Incompletes, re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawals without academic penalty. Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation. A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded from: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf) . The student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is not adequate to support a request for academic accommodation. The full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness can be viewed at:

[http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page\\_12](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12)

**2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS** If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds are not normally considered. If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official sessional dates in the Academic Calendar, see the Sessional Dates tab at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/index.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=> ). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.

**3. ABSENCES** Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions. Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate and warranted. It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory ([http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading\\_68](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_68) ).

**4. SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES** Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at: [http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page\\_20](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20) . Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the

occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar. If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse. The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University. Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence. All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>). Computer-marked Tests/exams: Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

**5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS** All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, she may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal. For information on academic appeals you can consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the

Academic Calendar

[http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page\\_14](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14). Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

**6. PREREQUISITES** Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from the Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

**7. SUPPORT** Support Services The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/>. The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>. Mental Health and Wellness Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can learn more about mental health and wellness at Brescia at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/mental-health-wellness/>. Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness at Western, [http://uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/index.html](http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html), for information about how to obtain help for yourself or others. Sexual Violence All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence. If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/sexual-violence/>.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.