

Pitt in Nantes
Summer 2019

FR 0006 MEDIA IN FRENCH CULTURE

Monday-Thursday 13h40-15h20

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Media have always been part of society; in addition to older media such as cinema, television, the radio and the press, the last decade has witnessed the emergence of new media such as social networks and platforms. This course will focus on six different media, all prevalent in France and all with their own way of communicating information about French culture and society. Through each of these media, you will familiarize yourself with current French issues and you will learn to examine and discuss (hyper) contemporary content with authentic documents such as press articles, graphic novels, films or YouTube videos.

- *Course expectations*

In this course, you are expected to:

- ✓ read and analyze a variety of texts (written or visual) in French
- ✓ expand your analytical and critical skills to discuss texts orally and in writing
- ✓ engage with course content and participate in class
- ✓ write and develop arguments at an intermediate level of French
- ✓ keep up with French news

- *Course documents*

No textbook is required for this course. Readings, assignments and other documents will be posted on Box. It is very important to check Box regularly for updates. The instructor will ask you to print and complete documents as needed.

- *Course content*

The course will be divided into 6 chapters, each chapter focusing on one medium.

Tentative schedule

Tuesday May 21 – Thursday May 23 Chapter 1: bande dessinée

Monday May 27 – Thursday May 29 Chapter 2: presse et journalisme

Monday June 3 – Thursday June 6 Chapter 3: radio et musique

Tuesday June 11 – Thursday June 13 Chapter 4: cinéma

Monday June 17 – Thursday June 20 Chapter 5: télévision

Monday June 24 – Thursday June 27 Chapter 6: réseaux sociaux

A detailed weekly calendar will be posted on Box.

- *Assignments*

At the end of all chapters (except chapter 3), you will be asked to complete a project and present your work in front of the class:

Chapter 1: Draw and write a comic strip

Chapter 2: Interview a French person

Chapter 4: Write a French film review

Chapter 5: Create a news report

Chapter 6: Keep a blog

In addition to your weekly projects, you will write 2 journals (on any two weeks of your choosing), and you will take 2 tests (dates to be determined). There will not be a midterm or final exam in this course.

Instructions for all assignments will be posted on Box ahead of time. It is your job to check Box regularly and read all instructions carefully before turning in your assignments.

- *Grade distribution*

Projects: 50% (10% each)

Journals: 20%

Tests: 20%

Preparation and participation: 10%

A+ 98%	B+ 88%	C+ 78%	D+ 68%	
A 93%	B 83%	C 73%	D 63%	F <60%
A- 90%	B- 80%	C- 70%	D- 60%	

You are allowed two unexcused absences in this course. On the third unexcused absence, you will lose 5% of your total grade and 1% for each additional absence.

Arriving late 3 times over the course of the term will count as an absence.

- *University of Pittsburgh policies*

Department of French and Italian Policy on Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a serious ethical matter and an infraction of University Policy. Students should familiarize themselves with both the University Policy on Academic Integrity (available at <http://www.as.pitt.edu/fac/policies/academic-integrity>) and the Department of French and Italian Plagiarism Policy

(<http://www.frenchanditalian.pitt.edu/undergraduate/plagiarism.php>).

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

1. Use of human or online translators (i.e. Google Translate)
2. Unauthorized editorial help (asking a friend in an upper level course for help)
3. Unattributed use of an author's ideas (theft of intellectual property)
4. Unattributed use of an author's words (lack of proper citation)

Any student who plagiarizes will be immediately reported to the Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Studies charged with matters of Academic Integrity. Sanctions for first-time violations typically result in a '0' or an 'F' for the assignment. Second violations may result in an 'F' for the course and expulsion from the University.

Classroom recording policy:

To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not record classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance can be used solely for the student's own private use.

Students with disabilities:

Students with disabilities who require special testing accommodations or other classroom modifications, and students with diagnosed conditions that could impede their progress in this course should notify the instructor at the beginning of the term.