

FLLT/WOMS 319

THE SALON EXPERIENCE:

Women and Men Writing about Love in Seventeenth-Century France

Foreign Languages & Literatures
[University of Delaware](http://www.udel.edu)

Spring 2009

Course meets TR 11-12:15, Smith 202



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Office Hours: TR 1:30-2:30 pm

Is love an ennobling passion? a dangerous snare? an unattainable ideal? a game of mirrors? In this course we will study the prevailing ideas about love in seventeenth-century France, considering male and female points of view, and a variety of literary genres: comedy, fairy tale, maxim, letter, story and novel. To the extent possible, the course will be conducted as a literary salon: students will engage in debate, try their hand at composition, and critique each other's work.

Texts:

- (Jean-Baptiste Poquelin de) Molière, *Precious Provincials* (in *Don Juan and Other Plays*, Oxford World Classics)
- Molière, *The School for Wives* and *The School for Wives Criticized* (in *The Misanthrope, Tartuffe and Other Plays*, Oxford World Classics)
- Cyr, *Letters of a Portuguese Nun* (Miramax)
- La Rochefoucauld, *Maxims*
- La Fayette, *The Princess of Clèves* (Norton)
- Perrault, *Perrault's Fairy Tales* (Wordsworth)
- Choisy, L'Héritier and Perrault, *The Story of the Marquise-Marquis de Banneville* (MLA)
- Course reader, available at Lieberman's Books on Main St., tel. 283-9980, or www.lubonline.com (contains texts by d'Urfé, Scudéry, d'Aulnoy, Françoise Pascal, Sévigné)

Requirements:

Since FLLT/WOMS 319 is a discussion class, regular attendance, thorough preparation and active participation are essential. Please arrive on time and plan to stay until the end of class. If the number of unexcused absences exceeds three, the student's final participation grade will be lowered ten points for each absence. Students who know they will be absent on a given day should be sure to give the instructor advance notice. **Furthermore, students who have missed class are responsible for checking SAKAI for the day's homework, and for contacting a classmate to find out what was covered.**

All written assignments must be turned in at the start of class on the day they are due, and online assignments must be completed by the specified deadline. **NEVER SKIP CLASS** or come late just because an assignment is not ready!! If you are having exceptional difficulties completing a paper (computer problems, insufficient time to proofread, etc.) you must notify me of this in class to make arrangements for submission of the late work. **Please note that I do not accept papers sent as e-mail attachments, unless I specifically request this delivery method.** Since e-mail will be used for course announcements, all students are required to activate their university e-mail accounts if they have not already done so, and to check their mail regularly. **Written work for the course must be word-processed, double-spaced, computer spell-checked and thoroughly proofread.**

IMPORTANT: In accordance with University and departmental policy, academic dishonesty including plagiarism will result in an F for the course and a permanent stain on your academic record. In your writing, it is absolutely essential that you make it clear where your ideas end and those of another author begin. If you have any questions about documenting your sources, including online sources, please consult the MLA guidelines (available at <http://www.english.udel.edu/wc/student/handouts/index.html>), and see me with any concerns about documentation.

Grade determination:

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| • Participation, preparation (readings, homeworks, discussion) | 20% |
| • Individual creative projects (map, gallant question, maxim, portrait) | 15% |
| • Group written project (5-6 page fairy tale) | 15% |
| • Reaction paper (1000 words) | 15% |
| • Oral Presentation | 15% |
| • Final paper (2000 words) | 20% |

Due dates:

- February 24: “Map of Tenderness”
- March 12: Reaction paper, *The School for Wives Criticized*
- March 24: Fairy tale due (in class, or under my office door by 5pm)
- April 14: maxims
- May 7: self-portrait
- May 22: Final paper due (under my office door by 4pm)

Films:

- *Les Amours d’Astrée et Céladon* (February)
- *Peau d’âne* (March)

Course schedule (subject to slight modification) :

- February 10, 12 : Introduction; d’Urfé, *Astrea* (excerpt, in reader)
- February 17, 19 : Scudéry and *la préciosité* (excerpt, in reader)
- February 24, 26 : Molière, *Precious Provincials*
- March 3, 5 : Molière, *The School for Wives*
- March 10, 12 : fairy tales of Perrault and Mme d’Aulnoy
- March 17, 19: fairy tales; *Letters of a Portuguese Nun*
- March 24, 26: *Letters of a Portuguese Nun*
- Week of March 30: SPRING BREAK
- April 7, 9 : La Rochefoucauld, *Maxims*
- April 14, 16: La Rochefoucauld, *Maxims*; La Fayette, *The Princess of Clèves*
- April 21, 23: La Fayette, *The Princess of Clèves*
- April 28, 30: La Fayette, *The Princess of Clèves*
- May 5, 7: letters of Mme de Sévigné (in reader); Choisy, L’Héritier et Perrault, *Story of the Marquise-Marquis de Banneville*
- May 12, 14: Choisy, L’Héritier et Perrault, *Story of the Marquise-Marquis*
- May 19 : Conclusion

For further information contact Dr. Steinberger, at 831-2044, or by e-mail:

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