
TOPICS: PRISON EDUCATION WORKSHOP in Fall 2019 (LW3091B)

Course Code	LW3091B	Professor(s)	Albert Wu, Hannah Taieb
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	G-007
Class Schedule	W: 13:45-16:40 in G-002	Office Hours	Friday 15:30-16:30
Credits	4	Email	awu@aup.edu, htaieb@aup.edu
Semester	Fall 2019	Office Tel. Ext.	705

Course Description

Description. Students will read texts that include memoir, poetry, letters and sources from history, including diaries and letters. In weekly writing workshops, students discuss readings and practice writing in the genres we are studying, in either French and English. Readings include Marilynne Robinson, James Baldwin, Rigoberta Menchu, Mariama Ba, and Confucius.

This course takes place at the *Centre Pénitentiaire Paris La Santé*, a newly renovated prison in the 14th arrondissement. This class is a cross-cultural exchange between French-speaking and English-speaking students. Incarcerated students, who primarily speak French, will learn alongside college students from the American University of Paris, who primarily speak English. Classes will occur primarily in French but also in English, and texts will include both French and English texts. The teachers will make every effort to ensure that all students feel comfortable and understand one another. Students will have the opportunity to improve their language skills in French or English. Incarcerated students with any level of English, including beginning, are welcome.

The final project involves collaborative work between AUP and incarcerated students. Students will each write a letter, poem or other short text that may be based in life, fiction, or some combination. At the end of the semester, we will have a celebratory event in which all students share their final project and other writings with an audience made up of people invited from the AUP community and from Centre Pénitentiaire La Santé.

Other notes. This program partners with Walls to Bridges, an established program that has a

track record of success in creating learning communities within correctional settings in Canada. This program was inspired by the U.S. InsideOut Prison Exchange Program, where courses are university or college-based classes taught in jails and prisons. Over 130 courses are offered world-wide, with over 100 in the United States, including at Yale University and University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, 24 in Canada, including at York University and Wilfrid Laurier, and five in Europe, in the Netherlands, Denmark, and the UK.

Course Learning Outcomes

General Education

Course Outline

Course Policies

All students must sign a class ethics agreement concerning in-class listening, respect, discretion, adherence to rules and practices of the institution, and other ethical questions particular to the situation (see below).

Students from AUP must meet outside La Santé at 1:30 PM.

Schedule

4 September – Preparatory Class with AUP students at La Santé.

-This class is led by AUP professors and Chloe Brulis of Cultural Programs at La Santé.

11 September – First Class with AUP students at La Santé. Meet outside at 1:30 PM.

-Orientation and introduction to class material

-This class is led by AUP professors and Chloe Brulis of Cultural Programs at La Santé.

Theme 1: Récit

18 September - Ceremony/Ritual

Text 1: I, Rigoberta Menchu

25 September – Work

Text 1: Azouz Begag, Shantytown

Text 2: I, Rigoberta Menchu

26 September – Formacion optim. Prison orientation in the morning.

2 October – Education

Text 1: Confucius, The Analects (excerpts)

Text 2: Malcolm X, selection from his autobiography

Theme 2: Poetry

9 October – Country

Text 1: Walt Whitman, “I Saw in Louisiana A Live-Oak Growing”

16 October – Seasons

Text 1: Haiku; Japanese approaches

23 October - Dreaming

Text 1: Verlaine, Mon rêve familier

Theme 3: Letters

6 November – Amazement, Astonishment

Text 1: Marilynne Robinson, Gilead

13 November - Family

Text 1: James Baldwin, “A Letter to My Nephew on the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Emancipation”

20 November – Reunion

Text 1: Mariama Ba, selection from Une Si Longue Lettre

27 November – Celebration event; sharing of writing

4 December – Wrap-up.

Textbooks

This course doesn't have any textbook.

Attendance Policy

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

Grading Policy

Other
