



Course Syllabus French-German 4013  
The Global Graphic Novel  
Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Monday & Wednesday 12:30-1:50 p.m., Dillard 338

Contact Information

Professeur: Dr. Lynch

Office: Bea Wood 111

[Eric.lynch@msutexas.edu](mailto:Eric.lynch@msutexas.edu)

Office hours: Mon., Tues., Wed., & Thur.: 11 am – 12:00 pm. Wed.: 2:00-3:00 pm via Zoom.

Professor: Dr. Gagum

[lee.gagum@msutexas.edu](mailto:lee.gagum@msutexas.edu)

Office: Bea Wood 110

Office hours: Mon., Wed. & Thur.: 10 am- 10:50am. Tues.: 2pm-3pm via Zoom

Required Books (available at the bookstore):

A) Simon Schwartz *The Other Side of the Wall* ISBN 978-1467760287

B) If you are taking the class for French credit, select the French version of this work:

Riad Sattouf *L'Arabe du futur 4* (French edition) ISBN- 978-2370731258

If you are not taking the class for French credit, you can use the English translation:

Riad Sattouf *The Arab of the Future 4 (English translation)* ISBN- 978-1250150660

This course has been planned as a fully face-to-face course for Spring 2021. The class will meet in its regularly scheduled room but will utilize social distancing and an assigned seating chart. We will use D2L for posting syllabi, course communication, course schedule, attendance, and gradebook. There will be some online office hours announced through D2L. You should regularly check D2L and your email for important course information. In the event of increased incidence and risk of COVID-19 that results in the university moving back to a shelter-in-place mode, the course instruction will transition to fully online. More instructions will be given at that time.

Course Description

This course will introduce students to theoretical and interpretative approaches to the graphic novel. We will begin our study by examining the work of several key theoreticians of the graphic novel (Eisner, McCloud). Our goal will be to gain familiarity with the interpretative techniques used to analyze graphic novels, as well as the comparative cultural contexts for these works. In addition to reading excerpts from several texts, we will read a full-length graphic novel originally published in German and a second one originally published in French. Throughout the semester, students will improve their critical thinking skills through readings, class discussions, oral presentations, and reaction papers.

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedures, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor and/or required by the University.

1. The following recommendations are taken from the Student Life Subcommittee Report of the MSU Task Force to Return to Campus Report: <https://msutexas.edu/return-to-campus/assets/files/return-to-campus-taskforce-8-4-20.pdf>:

PC Desktops and laptops Minimum Specifications	Mac desktops and laptops Minimum Specifications
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intel Core (i3, i5, i7) processors; 4<sup>th</sup> generation or newer</li><li>• 4 GB of RAM, 8 GB of RAM is highly recommended</li><li>• 256 GB SSD Storage</li><li>• Dual band spectrum (2.4GHz and 5 GHz with 802.11ac or 802.11n</li><li>• Use Windows' Operating System and PC Info to find your hardware information</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intel Core (i3, i5, i7) processors; 4<sup>th</sup> generation or newer</li><li>• 4 GB of RAM, 8 GB of RAM is highly recommended</li><li>• 256 GB SSD Storage</li><li>• Dual band spectrum (2.4GHz and 5 GHz with 802.11ac or 802.11n</li><li>• Use Apple's About this Mac feature to find your hardware information</li></ul>

Chromebooks are not recommended as they will not work with D2L.

#### Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

Approximately one hour of study is suggested on a daily basis for success in this course. You are welcome to come to my office or meet with me via Zoom or Skype when you have questions about topics presented in class. Before you visit for me for tutoring, please make sure you have watched the tutorials/presentations at the [VHL Central Supersite](#). Typically, tutoring is also available for free with our departmental tutor and/or with the MSU Tutoring Center (McCullough Hall). As soon as I have information about these tutoring options, I will share them with you.

#### Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook 2018-2019](#)

#### Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

#### Attendance

**Students and faculty will not attend/hold class if they are experiencing illness or any signs/symptoms of COVID-19.**

Because one cannot accurately anticipate student absences due to illness, I will "livestream" every class meeting. If you are not feeling well, simply attend the "livestream" of class. Do NOT come in person.

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I will be taking attendance using a seating chart and assigned seating as required by the MSU Taskforce to Return to Campus: <https://msutexas.edu/return-to-campus/assets/files/return-to-campus-taskforce-8-4-20.pdf>:

If you decide to drop the course, you must follow university procedure for dropping a course in order to receive a W. If the instructor drops you, you will receive a WF or F.

### Grading

Course Grade: The following components make up the course grade. The number of quizzes and graded homework assignments will vary according to the discretion of the instructor.

Table 1:

Assignments	% of Course Grade
Homework Assignments	15%
Participation	10%
Reaction Papers & Quizzes	20%
Papers	25%
Oral Presentation	10%
Final Assessment	20%

Table 2: Total percentages for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	90 - 100
B	80 – 89
C	70 – 79
D	60 – 69
F	Less than 60

### Participation

Participation is based upon your actively contributing to class discussion. Because of COVID-19 restrictions, we won't be moving around the classroom to have small group or partner discussions, however, you will have ample opportunities to earn participation points toward your grade during class discussion.

The core objectives for the Language, Philosophy and Culture Foundational Component Area are addressed in this course according to the following descriptions. A global assessment rubric will be used for measuring students' mastery of these core objectives in the context of the Personal Reflection Essay.

Critical Thinking Skills: Students will demonstrate creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.

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Communication Skills: Students will demonstrate effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.

Personal Responsibility: Students will demonstrate the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision making.

Social Responsibility: Students will demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.

#### Extra Credit

No extra credit assignments are given to individuals that are not offered to the entire class. All extra credit assignments will be offered at the discretion of the instructor.

#### Late Work

No late work is accepted.

#### Make Up Work/Quizzes/Exams

No make-up work is accepted, and no make-up quizzes will be offered.

If you know you will miss an exam due to an official university function, please make arrangements with your instructor prior to the absence and as soon as possible. If you are absent from an exam, you must present documented proof of illness or university activity to your instructor before an early or make up exam will be scheduled.

#### Important Dates

##### Important Schedule Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: January 11-13

Deadline for May graduates to file for graduation: February 15

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" April 23

Refer to: <https://msutexas.edu/registrar/calendars.php>

Final Exam: Wednesday, April 28, 2021 (3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.)

See course schedule for other important dates.

#### Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage.

#### Instructor Class Policies

Please be polite to your instructor and fellow students. Pay attention to the instructor and to your fellow students when they are speaking.

Please silence your devices during class. Text messaging or the use of non-authorized electronic devices is prohibited. Please speak with your instructor if you have questions.

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No food or drinks, except for water, are allowed in our classrooms.

### Services for Students With Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Student Life Disability](#).

### University Policies

#### Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#).

#### Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

#### Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

### Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

General class calendar: see the D2L page for specific assignments.

#### Unit I – Dr. Gagum. Jan-Feb.

Theoretical vocabulary and interpretive framework. Readings include Eisner, McCloud.

#### Unit II – Dr. Gagum. Feb.- March

*The Other Side of the Wall*

#### Unit III – Dr. Lynch. March

Excerpts from French graphic novels. Readings include

#### Unit IV – Dr. Lynch. April. Sattouf *The Arab of the Future*.

Final Exam – Wednesday, April 28. 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm.

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