

Advanced English: Navigating Narratives from the Page to the Stage

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This theme-based 12-week language course develops written as well as oral skills for C1 and C2 level students through the study of cross-genre narratives.

Background

From ancient myths to contemporary streaming series, students focus on developing memorable professional writing and improvisational storytelling. In class, students study influential writers/artists to activate automatic writing, argumentative analysis, and investigative research. By learning to produce memorable multi-genre writing and artbooks, students develop performances (as well as an optional literary arts journal) to highlight multiple perspectives of the SciencesPo Advanced English community.

Course objectives

This course improves narrative comprehension and public speaking while expanding the utilisation of cross-genre communication on a variety of topics with unpredictable persuasive storytelling/performance techniques. By studying cross-genre works, students strengthen their fluency, artistic sensibility, develop memorable professional writing and launch/produce a public reading for their collaborative literary arts journal in conjunction with one other Advanced English course.

Course description

Each class begins with brief automatic writing assignments in reaction to music and current events. Students present their work then practise strategies for overcoming difficult aspects of writing as well as brainstorming public speaking solutions through improvisational presentations. By discussing and writing detail-oriented short stories, blurbs, poetry, reviews, articles and posts about works of art, music, politics, ancient history, memoir or sci-fi students learn to best deliver the most persuasive impactful multi-perspective narratives.

Organization

For evaluations, students compile their cross-genre assignments and develop a professional portfolio/artbook while also developing content for their final reading and optional literary arts journal. Work evaluations are based on in-class participation, linguistic competence in listening, speaking, writing, creative improvisation and collaborative work.