TEXTS: These texts represent a selection of French neo-classical literature. They were chosen for their appropriateness to the level of this course and their significance to seventeenth-century France.

La Princesse de Clèves  
Le Cid  
Maximes  
Les Pensées  
Le Tartuffe  
Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme  
Phèdre

RATIONALE: This course is an introduction to the neo-classical literature of seventeenth-century France. We will read from different authors and different genres to project a more accurate picture of the period. The course will raise such questions as:

1. How does society influence literature?  
2. How does literature influence society?  
3. How do authors work within generic literary boundaries?

OBJECTIVES:  
1. To read, enjoy, and understand representative works from the “Classical Age” of French literature.  
2. To explore the social, historical, artistic, and literary influences of the period and their manifestation in each work.  
3. To examine the role of society and the human condition during the reign of Louis XIV.  
4. To improve discussion skills.  
5. To improve writing skills.

TEACHER EXPECTATION:  
1. Attendance: Attendance at every class is important. A total of three unexcused absences during a semester will lower the final grade by one letter: e.g., a grade average of 92% will become an 82%. The grade will lower another letter for every additional absence.  
2. Honesty is an essential aspect of academic integrity. Individual students are responsible for doing their own work and for not taking credit for the effort or the ideas of others.
This obligation is based on mutual trust. Cheating of any type on exams, quizzes, or other graded work will not be tolerated. See the College Catalog for further information on academic integrity.

3. Classroom participation is essential. This is not a straight lecture class – while I will lecture occasionally, I prefer a more interactive teaching style. This includes teacher-student dialogue, group work, etc. It is, therefore, imperative that students prepare the readings carefully in advance in order to contribute effectively in class.

Students will also be giving oral presentations throughout the term. Common courtesy is expected and you are responsible for the information contained in these reports.

**GRADING:**

1. The final grade will be determined according to the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Presentations</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Themes, Paper</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Grades will be assigned according to the following numerical equivalents:

   - 93 – 100  A
   - 90 – 92   A-
   - 87 – 89   B+
   - 83 – 86   B
   - 80 – 82   B-, etc.
   - below 59  F

C