REQUIRED READING:
Voltaire, Candide (Penguin Classics)
Forsdick & Murphy, Francophone Postcolonial Studies (Oxford U. Press)
John DuLong, French Canadians of Michigan (Michigan State Univ. Press)
Additional short required texts will be made available throughout the semester.

RECOMMENDED READING (on reserve in the library):
Roger Price, A Concise History of France (Cambridge Univ. Press)
Jeremy Popkin, A History of Modern France, 2nd ed. (Prentice Hall)
Ross Steele, The French Way (Passport Books)

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:
This course is an introduction to Francophone cultures, with particular emphasis on Africa and
the Americas. We will study and discuss historical developments, colonialism, literary texts, art,
cinema, music, and popular culture. The course will address cultural issues of particular
importance today, including national identity, language, immigration, post-colonialism and
globalization. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
• Demonstrate a basic understanding of the geography and history of France and former
  French colonies throughout the world, and relate historical events to attitudes and
  conditions today
• Describe a variety of literary and artistic achievements in the French and Francophone
  worlds, and place them within a larger cultural context
• Identify and discuss a number of important contemporary issues in French and/or
  Francophone societies, such as globalization, immigration, and social inequalities
• Discuss the basic components of the following cultural aspects of French and certain
  Francophone societies: education, family, food, health care, holidays, political parties,
  public spaces, urban organization

COURSE SCHEDULE OVERVIEW
Unit I (wks 1-3): France and French Colonialism; Exam Tues. 9/26
Unit II (wks 4-7): Algeria and the Maghreb, Senegal and West Africa
Unit III (wks 8-10): the Caribbean and Louisiana
Unit IV (wks 11-13): Quebec and Michigan
Week 14: Project presentations
Final project paper due: Friday, December 15th

EXAMS:
Exams will cover readings, lectures, class discussions, and other class activities such as videos
and presentations.
CRITICAL RESPONSES:
Critical responses will be assigned as homework. They will each be based on a reading assignment or other class activity. They should be at least one double-spaced typed page (one-inch margins) in length. The aim of the Critical Response is dual: first, summarize the main points the author is making. Then, evaluate and respond to what you read. What interested you? What did you find difficult to understand? What more would you like to know about this topic? Be as specific as possible. Critical Responses are due at the beginning of class. NO Critical Responses will be accepted late. The lowest critical response grade will be dropped.

ATTENDANCE and PARTICIPATION:
Attendance: Success in this course is based on the interaction between class participants. Two (2) unexcused absences are allowed, after which your Participation Grade will be lowered by 5% for each unexcused absence. A grade of zero will be given for any such missed work. Excused absences (such as those resulting from an official MTU activity) must be documented in advance, and work, including exams, must be completed before the anticipated absence. In the event of an unforeseen emergency or serious illness, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor promptly and to supply adequate documentation.
Participation: Participation includes attendance and promptness, preparation, and active involvement in class activities.

FINAL PROJECT:
Each student will complete a final project on some aspect of Francophone culture of particular interest to that student. The project will comprise both a written 8-10 page research paper and a class presentation. Students will submit a topic, then an outline, followed by a draft. Feedback will be provided on each of these stages of the project. Turning in these materials on time will determine a portion of the final project grade, as will students' presence and feedback during all final project presentations in class. Details about the final project will be provided in class.

GRADING CRITERIA
Exams 30% Attendance and participation 20%
Critical responses 20% Final Project 30%

The final grade will be calculated according to the following scale:
A = 93-100% AB = 88-92% B = 83-87% BC = 78-82% C = 73-77% CD = 68-72% D = 60-67% F = 0-59%

NOTE: MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Dean of Student Affairs, 487-2212.

*This syllabus is subject to modification at the discretion of the instructor, in response to student needs and abilities.
HU 3262 Topics in Francophone Cultures
Fall 2006
Assignments for Unit I: France and French Colonialism
**Readings must be prepared BEFORE our meeting time on the indicated day.

Tuesday, September 5
Introduction to the course and to class members

Thursday, September 7
Voltaire Candide Introduction and chapters I-X
N.B.: The complete original French-language text is available online at
http://etext.lib.virginia.edu (From the menu, select “Browse collections by language,” then “French, then scroll down the page to “Miscellaneous French texts”)

Tuesday, September 12
Voltaire Candide chapters XI-XXI: Critical Response Due

Thursday, September 14
Voltaire Candide chapters XXII-XXX

Tuesday, September 19
Francophone Postcolonial Studies (FPS), Introduction (pp.1–16)
Critical Response Due

Thursday, September 21
FPS, “Seeds of Postcolonialism” (pp. 17–26)
Critical Response Due
Recap and discussion in preparation for Unit I Exam

Tuesday, September 26
Unit I EXAM