

2016

FREN 201-01 Intermediate French I

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Recommended Citation

Stevens, Meghan, "FREN 201-01 Intermediate French I" (2016). *Modern Languages Syllabi Fall 2016*. 17.
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French 201: Intermediate French I
Fall 2016 * Section

Professor: Meghan Stevens

Office: Schott

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Office hours: Wednesday, 12:30-2:30

Class meetings: M,W, F 11:00-11:50

Room: Alter 307

Course Description: This is the first semester Intermediate French course for students who have had the Elementary French sequence or who have placed into the course by examination. Please consult with the instructor if you have questions regarding placement. The principal goals of language study are to practice the four language skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing) in order to learn to communicate in French (talk with others, express ideas in writing, read and understand what others have written) and learn about the francophone world.

The study of a language other than your own is invaluable in today's globalized world. Study of a foreign language also helps you to better understand your own language as you draw comparisons about grammatical structures and etymology. In reaching at least high beginning proficiency, you will find yourself able to communicate basic information in uncomplicated situations, and/or to read uncomplicated texts in another language. Though you may not realize it until later, you will also achieve greater facility with your own language, and your empathy for others from different linguistic backgrounds will grow.

Course Objectives: You can expect to have obtained the following skills in increasing depth upon successful completion of each level of the course:

- * You should be able to understand most French spoken slower than normal pace, understand some French spoken at normal pace, and develop skills and coping strategies for filling in the gaps of imperfect comprehension.
- * You should be able to ask and answer questions on a variety of everyday topics, describe people and places, narrate recurring (present) events.
- * You should be able to perform many daily routines, such as greeting and leave taking, and so on.
- * You should be able to read almost any simple material related to francophone culture.
- * You should be able to write about everyday activities, and descriptions of people and places.

This course is part of the Xavier Core Curriculum, which aims to develop people of learning and reflection, integrity and achievement, in solidarity for and with others. It addresses the following core learning objective(s) at the introductory level:

2a: Students find, evaluate, and logically convey information and ideas in written and oral presentations.

5a: Students examine the diverse, complex and interdependent nature of people in the world.

Required Materials:

- *Access to a printer [printing services offered free on campus to students] for completing and turning in homework and compositions
- *Paper notebooks and pens/pencils for in-class note taking, since I do not permit the use of electronics for that purpose.
- *The textbook and Student Activities Manual for *Imaginez*, by Chempeny. 3rd Edition.
- *This class requires technology access. Without it, you won't be able to complete your online assignments that are necessary for the course. **You will spend more if you buy your textbook and [Supersite](#) code separately.** Used and rented books **do not** include the code you need. To purchase the correct package for your course, search for ISBN: [insert your package ISBN here] on the Vista Higher Learning store or buy complete packages at the school bookstore.

Responsibilities of Students:

- * Attend and participate in classes regularly.
- * Complete all assigned activities.
- * Prepare the assignments before class. I may or may not collect homework exercises; in either case, you are responsible for preparing them as assigned and being ready to turn them in on the due date.
- * Take all quizzes and exams at scheduled times. Students are responsible for all material covered in class, in the text, and in the workbook/lab manual **including schedule changes announced in class or via Canvas.**
- * Show respect for me and for your classmates by observing appropriate behavior, i.e. not interrupting or speaking when someone else is answering or explaining.



Evaluation: The exact measure of your hard work will be...

Tests & Quizzes	30%
Final Exam.....	15%
Class Participation & Attendance.....	30%
Compositions.....	15%
Homework.....	10%

Absences & Participation: You are expected to attend each class meeting, mostly because we miss you when you're absent, but also because it affects your grade. I understand that things happen, so you have **two** free unexcused absences. Note: emailing me with an "excuse" does not excuse the absence. Absences are considered excused only in the case of a documented serious illness, a death in the immediate family, religious observance, or participation in a university-sponsored event (sports, field trip, etc.). Each absence beyond the first two will result in a deduction of 2 points **from the final grade**.

Participation is key! You cannot expect to improve if you do not engage with your fellow students or with me. Come to class each day with interesting things to say – and then say them! When your classmates say something, respond! As an added way of urging you to join the conversation, you will receive a daily grade for having participated and having spoken French.

Vocabulary: For every lesson, you will have new vocabulary words to memorize. There will periodically be a short quiz on the new words.

Testing: There will be periodic unit tests (*contrôles*) and a comprehensive final exam. Dates for the tests will be announced in class and posted to the Canvas Announcements. Format will vary. Each of the tests will consist of aural and written parts. *Remember that each test presumes knowledge of previous material.*

Exams: You will have a cumulative final. The date is listed on the Xavier Academic Calendar website, and will be announced in class toward the end of the semester. You may not reschedule the final except in the gravest of situations. Please talk to me as early as possible if you feel that you have such a situation. Travel plans, even those made for you by your family, are NOT cause to reschedule a final – speak to your family early in the semester about final exam dates if they will be arranging your travel.

Make-up policy: There are **no** make-ups for quizzes, exams, or presentations, except in the case of excused absences [see above].

Phones & Electronics:



Unless instructed to bring and use a device for an in-class activity, these need to be shut off/silenced (vibrate doesn't count – we can all hear it) and put away. You will be marked absent if I observe you using one. Take notes the old-fashioned, and better, way: on paper with a pen or pencil.

Academic Honesty: You should be aware of the University policy on Academic Honesty, excerpted here from the University Catalog. This policy applies to all courses in the Department of Modern Languages.

“All work submitted for academic evaluation must be the student’s own. Certainly, the activities of other scholars will influence all students. However, the direct and unattributed use of another’s efforts is prohibited as is the use of any work untruthfully submitted as one’s own. Penalties for violations of this policy may include one or more of the following: a zero for that assignment or test, an “F” in the course, and expulsion from the University.”

Use of translation programs and websites is considered a violation of academic honesty.

Course Calendar

Date / Leçon	Communication Objectives	Cultural Objectives	Grammar Objectives
Week of August 22 3 class sessions Leçon 1	Discussing personal relations	French influence in the US	Spelling change verbs Irregular verbs: être, avoir, faire, and aller Forming questions
Week of August 29 3 class sessions Leçon 1	Discussing personalities and feelings		Present tense review of -er, -ir, -re verbs
Week of September 5 2 class sessions Leçon 1 Assessment		Literature selection: Le Pont Mirabeau	Imperative tense
Week of September 12 3 class sessions Leçon 2	Activities and people in town	Compare and contrast music festivals in France and the US	Reflexive and reciprocal verbs Adjective agreement
Week of September 19 3 class sessions Leçon 2	Directions and places in town	France in Haiti: Tout bouge autour de Moi	Adverbs Il est / c'est Nouns and articles
Week of September 26 3 class sessions Assessment Leçon 2 Begin Leçon 3	Movies and television		The passé composé with avoir and être
Week of October 3 2 class sessions Leçon 3		Compare and contrast French and American music styles	The uses and formation of the imperfect

Week of October 10 3 class sessions Leçon 3	Other media and newspapers	Literature selection: 99 francs	The p.c. vs. the imperfect
Week of October 17 3 class sessions Assessment Leçon 3 Begin Leçon 4	People who work in politics and law		Possessive adjectives
Week of October 24 3 class sessions Leçon 4	Laws and rights	Compare and contrast laws and rights in France and the US	The plus perfect Negations
Week of October 31 3 class sessions Leçon 4	Politics Safety and danger		Indefinite adjectives and pronouns Irregular -ir verbs
Week of November 7 3 class sessions Assessment Leçon 4 Begin Leçon 5		Literature selection: Haïti, soif de liberté	Partitives in affirmative and negative statements
Week of November 14 3 class sessions Leçon 5		French in western Africa	Pronouns y and en Double object pronouns
Week of November 21 1 class session Leçon 5	Immigration	Societal evolution and immigration	Past participles agreement
Week of November 28 3 class sessions Leçon 5	Societal problems and solutions	Compare and contrast French / African / US approaches to helping its citizens	
Week of December 5 3 class sessions Assessment Leçon 5	Review topics	Review topics	Review topics

This course calendar is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.