2015

FREN 103-01 Accelerated Elementary French

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French 103: Accelerated Elementary French

Fall 2015        *        Section 01

Professor: Dr. Nicholas Shangler
Email: shanglern@xavier.edu
Class meetings: MWF 12:00 to 12:50

Office: Schott 903 / (513) 745-1931
Office hours: M 3 & by appt.
Room: Alter 101

Course Description: This is an accelerated beginning French course for students who have had some prior study of the language or 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:
2) One TalkAbroad conversation credit ($15); details and instructions will be given in class.

Responsibilities of Students:
* Attend and participate in classes regularly.
* Complete all assigned activities in the lab workbook [*online*].
* Do the assigned exercises in the workbook and textbook [*online*].
* 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.

![PEARLS BEFORE SWINE](image)

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

- Contrôles .......................................................... 30%
- Midterm Exam................................................... 10%
- Final Exam......................................................... 10%
- Class Participation & Attendance.................. 25%
- Compositions..................................................... 10%
- Homework......................................................... 10%
- TalkAbroad....................................................... 05%

**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 an excused absence make. 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: Each week you will have new vocabulary words to memorize. For every lesson, there will be a short quiz on the new words.

Testing: There will be periodic unit quizzes (contrôles), a midterm, and a comprehensive final exam. Dates for the tests are listed on the syllabus, but are subject to change as the demands of the course dictate. 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 calendar. 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.

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 2010-2011 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

August
M 24: Introductions; Pourquoi étudier le français ? ; Contacts 1.1
W 26: Contacts 1.2
F 28: Contacts 1.3

M 31: Contrôle 1; Contacts 2.4

September
W 02: Contacts 2.5
F 04: Contacts 2.6

M 07: Contrôle 2; Contacts 3.7
W 09: Contacts 3.8
F 11: Contacts 3.9

M 14: Révision Unité 3; Contacts 4.10
W 16: Contrôle 3; Contacts 4.10
F 18: Contacts 4.11

M 21: Contacts 4.12
W 23: Contacts 4.12; Révision Unité 4
F 25: Contrôle 4; Contacts 5.13

M 28: Contacts 5.14
W 30: Contacts 5.15

October
F 02: Contacts 5.15

M 05: Révision Unités 1 à 5
W 07: Examen de mi-semestre
F 09: NO CLASS – Fall break

M 12: Contacts 6.16
W 14: Contacts 6.17
F 16: Contacts 6.18

M 19: Révision Unité 6; Contacts 7.19
W 21: Contrôle 6; Contacts 7.20
F 23: Contacts 7.21

M 26: Révision Unité 7
W 28: Contrôle 7; Contacts 8.22
F 30: Contacts 8.23

**November**
M 02: Contacts 8.24
W 04: Contacts 8.24; Révision Unité 8
F 06: Contrôle 8

M 09: Contacts 9.25
W 11: Contacts 9.26
F 13: Contacts 9.27

M 16: Révision Unité 9
W 18: Contrôle 9
F 20: Contacts 10.28

M 23: Contacts 10.29
W 25: NO CLASS – Thanksgiving
F 27: NO CLASS – Thanksgiving

M 30: Contacts 10.30

**December**
W 02: Révision Unité 10
F 04: Contrôle 10; Contacts 11.31

M 07: Contacts 11.32
W 09: Contacts 11.33
F 11: Révisions et conclusions

M 14: Study day; OPTIONAL: Review session, time/place TBD

Wednesday, 16 = Final exam, 12:00 – 12:50

*Note: this calendar is subject to modification depending upon our progress and any unforeseen interruptions, such as by severe weather.*