CIEE Paris, France

Course title: French Language - Advanced I
Course code: FREN 3001 PAFR
Programs offering course: Paris Open Campus Block, Paris OC Modified
University of Wisconsin Madison
Open Campus Track: Language, Literature, and Culture
Language of instruction: French
U.S. semester credits: 3
Contact hours: 60
Term: Spring Block II 2020

Course Description

This course is designed for students with four or five semesters of college-level French, or the equivalent as determined by a placement test. Students read articles, essays, and literary texts, and carry out regular in-class and at-home writing exercises and essays, which are reviewed in class. The course covers the following grammatical points – tenses, including the conditional, subjunctive, and passé simple; pronouns – and also teaches students to expand their argumentative skills. By the end of the semester, students should be able to argue a point of view on abstract subjects in an oral presentation and write a well-constructed and coherent essay on a subject of general interest. They should be able to understand and use appropriately varied kinds of discourse, including formal and informal, slang, and academic language, as well as begin to master the different registers of language.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Express themselves in spoken and written French, with a nuanced and rich vocabulary
- Properly use syntax and structure
- Be able to conform to the academic rules of French universities

Course Prerequisites
This course is for advanced French language students looking to deepen their understanding of the language.

Methods of Instruction

In order to achieve the course objectives, students will undertake numerous written exercises, such as model-based phrase constructions, written assignments on diverse topics (stories or descriptions), small written summaries of texts or articles, brief essays based on precise themes or quotations, etc. Some of these exercises will be completed in class, but students will also have to turn in assignments completed at home.

In addition to the grammatical topics dealt with in class, we will devote time to a review of the most frequent grammatical mistakes after each written assignment. This may lead to the review or development of other grammatical points, both simple and complex, as well as a recap of common expressions essential to any kind of discourse. Parallel to the grammatical reviews, the professor will propose a systematic research assignment to the students, allowing them to improve their syntax and enrich their vocabulary through the acquisition of idiomatic phrases and the progressive elimination of their Anglicisms.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Grammar & Language Tests 30%
2. Written Compositions 25%
3. Final Exam 25%
4. Class Participation 20%
   TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

Grammar & Language Tests

Including 2 vocabulary tests, 2 grammar tests and 1 test on idiomatic French.

Students will be asked to fill in blanks, transform or translate phrases, write paragraphs using some grammar points and idioms studied in class.

Written Compositions
Students will have to write short essays on different subjects given by the professor or chosen by them. In each assignment, they will have to use a list of idiomatic expressions as well as grammar points seen and practiced in class.

Final Exam

The final exam will involve two parts. The first part will cover all the grammar points studied during the block as well as idiomatic expressions. In the second part, students will be asked to write a short essay using some points practiced in class.

Class Participation

Participation is valued as meaningful contribution in the digital and tangible classroom, utilizing the resources and materials presented to students as part of the course. Meaningful contribution requires students to be prepared in advance of each class session and to have regular attendance. Students must clearly demonstrate they have engaged with the materials as directed, for example, through classroom discussions, online discussion boards, peer-to-peer feedback (after presentations), interaction with guest speakers, and attentiveness on co-curricular and outside-of-classroom activities.

Important: all course assignments must be turned in on time. While students will not be penalised for submissions up to and including 1 hour late,

- Students submitting work from 1 hour and 1 minute late up to and including 24 hours late will be penalised 15% from the assignment;
- Student work submitted from 24 hours and 1 minute late onwards will receive a zero (0%) grade.

Attendance

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program, and all absences will result in a lower participation grade for any affected CIEE course. Due to the intensive schedules for Open Campus and Short Term programs, absences that constitute more than 10% of the total course will result in a written warning.
Students who transfer from one CIEE class to another during the add/drop period will not be considered absent from the first session(s) of their new class, provided they were marked present for the first session(s) of their original class. Otherwise, the absence(s) from the original class carry over to the new class and count against the grade in that class.

For CIEE classes, excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students must be marked absent.

Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as to any required field placement. Students may not miss placement/work hours at an internship or service learning site unless approved in advance by the Academic Director and placement supervisor. All students must complete all of the requisite 100 minimum work hours on site at the internship or service learning placement to be eligible for academic credit.

Students who miss class for personal travel, including unforeseen delays that arise as a result of personal travel, will be marked as absent. No make-up or re-sit opportunity will be provided.

Attendance policies also apply to any required class excursion, with the exception that some class excursions cannot accommodate any tardiness, and students risk being marked as absent if they fail to be present at the appointed time.

Absences for classes will lead to the following penalties:
N.B. Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, or local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

### Weekly Schedule

**Week 1**

**Class 1.1**

Presentation of the scope of the course and methods of instruction.

Grammar review: personal pronouns; difference between personal pronouns (me-te-lui) and “à” + tonic pronouns (moi-toi-lui). Use of “de” + tonic pronouns.

**Week 2**

**Class 2.1**

Directed conversation around the use of pronouns, with questions and answers.

Double pronouns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Total Course Hours Missed</th>
<th>Minimum Penalty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 10%</td>
<td>Participation graded as per class requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 – 20%</td>
<td>Participation graded as per class requirements; 3% grade penalty &amp; <strong>written warning</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 20%</td>
<td><strong>Automatic course failure</strong>, and possible expulsion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Review of important idiomatic structures.

Class 2.2

Complex forms of comparatives.

Oral and written practice of different types of comparatives. Special focus on the comparative of equality, as well as the translation of "better, much better, so much better."

Study of idiomatic expressions and structures.

Vocabulary test.

Class 2.3

Expression of cause, consequence and goal.

Written structural exercises to be completed at home.

Study of idiomatic expressions and structures.

Class 2.4

Co-curricular activity

Week 3

Class 3.1

Complex agreement of past participle

Study of idiomatic expressions and structures.

Composition exercise on a specific subject. To be completed in class with the help of a dictionary.

Class 3.2
Movement verbs and auxiliaries.

Study of idiomatic expressions and structures.

Class 3.3

Past tenses (imparfait and passé composé). Particular use of the passé composé with some verbs.

Past tense (plus-que-parfait).

Discussion and correction of most common student mistakes made when using the past tenses. Study of an excerpt from The Stranger, by Albert Camus.

Study of idiomatic expressions and structures.

Week 4

Class 4.1

Review of the basic use of the subjunctive in the present and past tenses.

Homework exercises on the choice between indicative and subjunctive.

Study of idiomatic expressions and structures.

Written grammar test.

Class 4.2

Complex uses of the subjunctive in the present and past tenses (part 1).

Homework exercises on the choice between indicative and subjunctive.

Study of idiomatic expressions and structures.

Class 4.3
Complex uses of the subjunctive in the present and past tenses (part 2).

Homework exercises on the choice between indicative and subjunctive.

Study of idiomatic expressions and structures.

**Vocabulary test.**

Class 4.4

Co-curricular activity

Week 5

Class 5.1

Simple relative pronouns in special structures and special focus on the difference between “dont” and “duquel”.

**Written test on idiomatic phrases.**

Class 5.2

Composed relative pronouns. Structure and uses.

Study of idiomatic expressions and structures.

Class 5.3

Hypothetical phrases with present conditional.

Exercises on present conditional forms.

Special focus on the verbs “pouvoir” and “devoir”.

Idiomatic structures with the conditional.

**Written grammar test.**
Class 5.4.

Co-curricular activity

Week 6

Class 6.1.

Hypothetical phrases with past conditional.

Exercises on past conditional forms.

Special focus on the verbs “pouvoir” and “devoir” in the past conditional.

Idiomatic structures with the conditional.

**Composition exercise on a specific subject to be completed in class with the help of a dictionary.**

Class 6.2.

The passive voice.

Written and oral practice.

Class 6.3.

Follow-up in-class review of written work.

Written in-class exercises to prepare for the final exam.

Class 6.4.

**Final exam on grammar and composition.**

Course Materials

Readings


For dictionaries, either one of the following is recommended: Larousse, Dictionnaire poche 2020 or Dictionnaire Le Robert Poche, new edition 2020.