Course title: French Language - Intermediate I

Course code: FREN 2001 PAFR

Programs offering course: Paris Open Campus Block

Open Campus Track: Language, Literature, and Culture

Language of instruction: French

U.S. semester credits: 3.00

Contact hours: 60.00

Term: Spring Block III 2021

Course Description

In this course, intermediate French language students will gain a broader lexical and grammatical foundation for their language studies. Students will improve their written and oral expression, aided by an in-depth study of grammar (tenses, reported speech, an introduction to conditional and subjunctive), as well as syntax and vocabulary. They will learn idiomatic expressions and learn to identify and eliminate anglicisms in their speech. This theoretical study is complemented by reading and analysis of simple texts to illustrate the grammatical points raised in class. By the end of the class, students will be able to write a descriptive or narrative text in a clear and organized fashion about subjects with which they are familiar. They will be able to understand the concept of registers of speech and have a face-to-face conversation about a range of issues.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Writing short, clear, and well-structured descriptive or narrative texts, on subjects familiar to students.
- Holding an argumentative conversation based on simple themes.

Course Prerequisites

This course is designed for students with two to three semesters of college-level French, or the equivalent as determined by a placement test.

Methods of Instruction

In-class teaching is complemented by group exercises and written homework.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. 4 take-home essays 40%
2. 2 Exams (mid-term and final) 20%
3. Oral presentation 15%
4. Participation 25%
TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

4 take-home essays

(200 to 300 words each)

- Essay 1: autobiography
- Essay 2: a fairytale
- Essay 3: “Everything is planned” / making plans
- Essay 4: A journalist’s article about Parisian culture / Parisian life / study abroad

2 Exams (mid-term and final)

In the midterm examination, students are assessed on all four skills: oral comprehension (listening), oral expression (speaking), written comprehension (reading), oral expression (speaking). Their grasp of the grammar
covered in class is also evaluated.

The final exam uses the same type of assessment as the midterm examination: all four skills and grammar are evaluated.

**Oral presentation**

Duration: 5-8 mn about a French theme submitted to the teacher (a Paris district, a museum, a region, street art, a French artist, a French writer...). For the oral presentation, a powerpoint slideshow and a printed handout (with an outline, new vocabulary, a bibliography at the very least) will be provided by the student presenting.

**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.

Good preparation and active participation in class are essential for this course.

**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 Social Relations / Introduce Yourself / How to Ask Questions (Review)

Introduce yourself to the new group (new students and new teacher): Identity, home, university and studies, self-description, hobby, what you like and what you don't like.

Review: verbs in the present tense, negation, masculine and feminine adjectives, the expression of time (depuis, pendant, dans, en, pour).

Vocabulary: studies, family, countries.

**Week 2**

Class: 2.1 Social Relations / Introduce Yourself / How to Ask Questions (Continued)

Expression of time (continued): correction of exercises.

How to ask questions: elaboration of a questionnaire.

Vocabulary: art, sports, music, hobbies.

Past tense: Reading/memorizing a poem / pronunciation (Prévert, “Déjeuner du matin”).

Class: 2.2 Co-curricular outing.

Class: 2.3

Theme: How to tell a story in the past.

Past tense (review) with “être” and “avoir” / agreement with “être”.

Poem “Déjeuner du matin”: reading and reciting.

Group activity: elaboration of a biography (peer to peer).

Object pronouns: le / la / l’ / les (review).

Lexical context: localization in the past/ seasons, months, words for expressing time (time markers).
Past tense (review) with reflective verbs.

Group activity: elaboration of a biography (final).

**Essay 1 due at class time. Autobiography or biography of someone you find inspiring (200 words +/- 10%, double space).**

**Week 3**

Class: 3.1 Events in the Past / Review

**Oral presentation 1+ lexical context depending on the subject chosen by the student.**

Class activity: Written production with the elaboration of a fairy tale: beginning (the tale’s events).


Class: 3.2

**Oral presentation 2 + Lexical context depending on the subject chosen by the student.**

Class activity: Written production with the elaboration of a fairy tale (continued).

The past tense of the “imparfait”: description.


Class: 3.3

**Oral presentation 3 + lexical context depending on the subject chosen by the student.**

The past tense of the “imparfait”: habits in the past (“When I was young, I used to...”)

Elaboration of a fairy tale: all descriptions.

Preparation of the midterm exam.

Reminder: Essay 2 is due at class time for Session 10. A fairy tale (500 words +/- 10%, double space).

**Week 4**

Class: 4.1 Making Plans

**Midterm exam (1h).**

Song introducing future tense

Excerpt from a French movie / oral comprehension + discussion.

Class: 4.2

**Oral presentation 4 + lexical context depending on the subject chosen by the student.**

Grammar: future tenses (near future: review)

Theme: Travelling (communication).

Activity: Written understanding and production.

Relatives pronouns: qui / que / dont / où.

Essay 2 due at class time. A fairy tale (300 words +/- 10%, double space).

Class: 4.3

Co-curricular outing.
**Week 5**

Class: 5.1  Future Tenses (end) / Advice & Regrets

**Oral presentation 6 + lexical context depending on the subject chosen by the student.**

Grammar: Future tenses (simple future) / exercises.

Class activity: Organizing a trip in Europe, using the future.

Theme: Travelling (vocabulary).

Relatives pronouns: practice.

Reminder: Essay 3 is due at class time for Session 16. Around a project in the future (500 words +/- 10%, double space).

Class: 5.2

**Oral presentation 7 + lexical context depending on the subject chosen by the student.**

Grammar: conditional present / how to give advices

Oral comprehension

Class: 5.3

**Oral presentation 8 + lexical context depending on the subject chosen by the student.**

Grammar: Conditional present / simulation in everyday situations

Written comprehension

Class: 5.4

**Oral presentation 9 (if necessary) + lexical context depending on the subject chosen by the student.**

Conditional in the past (beginning).

Group activity: brainstorming on problematic situations / practice.

A song ("J'aurais voulu être un artiste").

**Essay 3 due at class time. Around a project in the future (300 words +/- 10%, double space).**

**Week 6**

Class: 6.1  Reporting Speech/ How to Express Your Opinion

Theme: the press (debates and conversation).

Activity: Oral understanding and oral production.

Reported speech.

Activity: Oral understanding.

*Reminder:* Essay 4 is due at class time for Session 18: A journalist’s article about Parisian culture / Parisian life / Studying in Paris (500 words +/- 10%, double space).
Reported speech: practise (continued).
Grammar / vocabulary for a debate (according to me / I don't consider...).
Preparation of the final exam.

**Essay 4 due at class time: A journalist’s article about Parisian culture / Parisian life / Studying in Paris (300 words +/- 10%, double space).**

Class: 6.3

**Final exam (1h).**
Theme: Christmas in France / Yuletide: food, songs, celebration.

Class: 6.4

Comments on the final exam.
Prospects for the future.
Sharing work and a goodbye celebration (songs, poems...).

**Course Materials**

**Readings**