Course Description

This course is designed for students who:

Have little or no previous knowledge of the French language.

Are NOT interested in continuing their study of French into the future, and only wish to learn basic skills in communicating during their study program in Paris.

Desire a simplified introduction to the fundamentals of French grammar, syntax, and vocabulary.

Practice using language in everyday situations through role-playing, excursions, etc.

This language course provides the linguistic tools necessary for students to make themselves understood and to gain a better understanding of the way of life in Paris. Successful communication is the main goal. Lessons will be sequenced, from presentation activities to guided practice activities to communicative activities. Because language practice should be meaningful, the course will be communicative in nature and based on situations with an emphasis on 'real-life' language.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Develop students’ practical knowledge of the French language.
- Allow students to manage “everyday situations” (i.e. restaurants, shops, ticket inspections, dorm, etc.) so as to allow greater integration within French culture and society.
- Promote greater confidence in speaking French.
- Provide the most basic foundation necessary for gaining conversational ability, limiting the amount of formal grammar study to the minimum, and focusing instead on situations, pronunciation, and understanding basic phrases.

Upon the completion of this course, the students reach the following levels:

- Listening: Student can understand familiar words and very basic phrases, concerning him / herself; his / her family and immediate surroundings when people speak slowly and clearly.
- Reading: Student can understand familiar names, words and very simple sentences, for example on notices and posters or in catalogues.
- Spoken Interaction: Student can interact in a simple way provided the other person is prepared to repeat or rephrase things at a slower rate of speech and help him / her formulate what he / she is trying to say. He / she can ask and answer simple questions in areas of immediate need or on very familiar topics.
- Spoken Production: Student can use simple phrases and sentences to describe where he / she lives and people he / she knows.
- Writing: Student can fill in forms with personal details; for example entering his / her name, nationality and address at a hotel registration.

Course Prerequisites

None
Methods of Instruction

This course centers on participation and active practice of grammatical and lexical points in personal expression. Assessment is regular and is designed to reinforce learning by providing students with feedback on how well they are doing.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Take-home assignments 20%
2. Oral practice 40%
3. Class Participation 40%
TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

Take-home assignments

The take-home assignments consist of brief written exercises that lead students to work on their reading comprehension skills and, occasionally, their written communication skills.

Oral practice

The oral practice serves as a final evaluation and involves cross-examination on the part of the students.

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.

Attendance

To encourage engaged learning, regular class attendance is required throughout the program. This includes any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as internship, service-learning, or other required field placement.

An excused absence in a CIEE course will only be considered if approved by a CIEE Center Director/Academic Director (not the Instructor), and:

- it is a self-certified absence for illness (only once per course, requires formal request before or within 24 hours, cannot miss assessment worth more than 5% of final course grade)
- a doctor's note from a local medical professional is provided
- evidence of a family emergency is provided
- it is a pre-approved observance of religious holiday

Unexcused absences include personal travel and/or travel delays, as well as missing more than 25% of a single class period (including tardiness and early departure). Assessments missed due to unexcused absences will be marked as zero. Students with over 10% unexcused absences will be contacted by CIEE staff. Students with over 20% unexcused absences will be contacted by CIEE staff, receive a formal warning letter (shared with their home institution) and lose 10% of the final course point total (e.g., a final A grade of 93% will be lowered to a B grade of 83%).

For more detail, please consult your CIEE Academic Manual.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to a positive and inclusive teaching and learning environment. All students are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness, respect, and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own can result in grade penalties or disciplinary action. See the CIEE Student Academic Manual for further information on academic integrity.
N.B. Course schedule and co-curriculars are subject to change. The final duration and distribution of content and assignments will be determined and presented to students at the onset of the course.

**Weekly Schedule**

**Week 1**
Class: No Class

**Week 2**
Class: session 1
- Greetings and politeness // Saluer et utiliser les formules de politesse
- Introducing oneself // Se présenter
- Numbers from 1 to 25
- 'Avoir' and 'Être'
- 'Tu' or 'Vous'

**Week 3**
Class: session 2
- I like - I don't like // J'aime - je n'aime pas
- Hobbies // les loisirs
- Fruits and Vegetables // Fruits et Légumes
- Outing: The farmers' market // Le marché

**Week 4**
Class: session 3
- How to order at the Café // Commander au café
- Money Food Drinks // L'argent – la nourriture – les boissons
- Customer service // Le service clients
- Outing: At the café // Au Café

**Week 5**
Class: session 4
- How to ask directions // Demander son chemin
- Parisian districts / Paris: les arrondissements
- Outing: Scavenger Hunt

**Week 6**
Class: session 5
- Final review and oral presentations.

**Course Materials**

**Readings**
Course materials will be handed out by the lecturers based on the progress of the group and the students’ individual interests.