

82-103 Elementary French I Online

Remote synchronous

General Course Description

The French courses are introductory, interactive video-based courses intended for use by university students and independent learners on the Internet. Each course is divided into five thematic modules, with three lessons within each module. Each lesson is designed to take approximately one week to complete so working through an entire course will take the average learner approximately fifteen weeks. Completing both courses will require two semesters or approximately thirty weeks.

Each lesson opens with a video dramatization that sets the context for the lesson. Parts of the video are then replayed in a variety of interactive activities and tutors. Each video in the course was written specifically to serve as the foundation for the lesson in which it is used. These videos were produced on location in France and Francophone countries with young professional actors so the speech and movements and contexts are authentic. The beginning of each lesson is always a set sequence, from simple recognition of language in a video dialogue, through explicit learning of grammar and pronunciation, to written and spoken production of variations on that language. After this ordered beginning, a number of activities are offered to the student in which the language learned is used in understanding new texts, sounds or videos or in creative production (conversation or writing).

Access to the online materials for class participants requires the payment of a \$25 course materials fee using a credit card. Read the introductory materials carefully before beginning coursework. If you are uncertain about your ability to learn a language in this way, these materials are available in the Open and Free version of French Online at www.cmu.edu/oli.

Learning outcomes:

After successful completion of the course you will have communicative competence in the following domains: My Family, My Neighborhood, My Future, The Body, My Regime, Young People and Stress, Vacations, Modes of Transport, A Virtual Trip, Political Opinions, Change, Ecology, Where to Live, Questions of Identity and you will be able to read passages on topics such as French and francophone culture.

Grading Guide:

<i>Category</i>	<i>%</i>
Learning activities	30
Meetings	15
Class Attendance and Participation	10

Lesson tests	25
Oral final exam	10
Written final exam	10
<i>Total</i>	100

- **Learning Activities** include most assignments from the *Activités de synthèse* section of the course. Learning Activities include:
 - o A variety of short writings, including discussion board postings and responses. Usually full credit for completion.
 - o Chat assignments; at least once per lesson with a new partner assigned each 3 lessons. Usually full credit for completion of 20 minutes chat using lesson material and free chat in French. Chats need to be emailed to professor including timestamps after completion.
 - o Compositions of up to one page in length. Corrected and returned.
- **Lesson tests** occur weekly. All tests are graded and posted in the OLI course and on Canvas.
- **The Oral final exam** will be taken individually or with a partner with the instructor near the semester's end during week 14 of classes.
- **The Written final Exam** will be taken during the registrar-assigned exam period, and will include a variety of components covering all the work of the class.
- **Class attendance and punctual arrival is required.**
- There are weekly **meetings** to practice conversation one-on-one. These alternate between the professor and the speaking assistants. Preparatory materials can be found in the *Activités de synthèse* portion of the on-line courseware under the heading "Conversation". Your regular work with the assistant will be important for asking questions outside of class, listening practice, and oral practice. The meetings will remain at the same time throughout the semester; if you need to reschedule, you must give the assistant 24 hours-notice or you will be penalized with a '0' for that week. If you missed a meeting and didn't notify the assistant, you will be able to reschedule once only. The schedule will be posted in our Canvas course site. Key elements for oral conversation will be provided through the online materials and via information from me; you must bring any necessary materials to the meeting with you. Sometimes you need to print out a form from the "Conversation" section of the lesson to bring to your appointment. Listening practice can also be done with me or Riley, for example if you don't understand the language online. We can help you parse the language that you hear.