

ELEMENTARY FRENCH II

Blended

Course Description & Objectives:

This course is an introduction to French, stressing speaking, pronunciation, comprehension, reading, writing, and cultural understanding.

Course Goals:

- o To promote the study and understanding of languages, literatures, and cultures associated with the French language.
- o To integrate language learning with studies (cultural, linguistic, sociopolitical, scientific, literary, artistic, and institutional) of France and the Francophone world.
- o To develop skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing.
- o To inspire engaged global citizenship.

Course Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, students should be able to the following at a Novice High level of proficiency in French:

- o Speak in French with novice-level fluency and accuracy using simple phrases, simple sentences and basic grammar structures when sharing information, presenting personal information about daily life topics (family, school, activities, likes/dislikes), describing familiar events, and giving information about others in regards to daily activities (e.g. greet people, ask for directions, request meals, give basic information about themselves, talk about their interests, family, and studies).
- o Write about common elements of daily life using lists, short messages, e-mails, and simple notes and rely on learned vocabulary and structures to create simple sentences, fill out forms, etc.
- o Demonstrate the ability to read and comprehend short and simple narratives with elementary fluency and accuracy (e.g. Read menus, travel brochures and similar materials; read short texts with the help of a dictionary);
- o Demonstrate elementary fluency and accuracy in listening comprehension skills (e.g. Understand French speakers when they speak slowly; Understand spoken French well enough to get the main point of a basic conversation); and
- o Recognize some of the main aspects of French & Francophone culture and civilization; Compare and contrast differing cultural perspectives on a wide variety of topics

Course Proficiency Standard:

- o The targeted proficiency level for this course is Novice High (as described in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines: <http://www.actfl.org/publications/guidelines-and-manuals/actfl-proficiency-guidelines-2012>) across the skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing.
- o *Speakers at the Novice High sublevel are able to handle a variety of tasks pertaining to the Intermediate level, but are unable to sustain performance at that level. They are able to manage successfully a number of uncomplicated communicative tasks in straightforward social situations. Conversation is restricted to a few of the predictable topics necessary for survival in the target language culture, such as basic personal information, basic objects, and a limited number of activities, preferences, and immediate needs. Novice High speakers respond to simple, direct questions or requests for information. They are also able to ask a few formulaic questions. Novice High speakers are able to express personal meaning by relying heavily on learned phrases or recombinations of these and what they hear from their interlocutor. Their language consists*

primarily of short and some times incomplete sentences in the present, and may be hesitant or inaccurate. On the other hand, since their language often consists of expansions of learned material and stock phrases, they may sometimes sound surprisingly fluent and accurate. Pronunciation, vocabulary, and syntax may be strongly influenced by the first language. Frequent misunderstandings may arise but, with repetition or rephrasing, Novice High speakers can generally be understood by sympathetic interlocutors used to non-natives. When called on to handle a variety of topics and perform functions pertaining to the Intermediate level, a Novice High speaker can sometimes respond in intelligible sentences, but will not be able to sustain sentence-level discourse.

Required Materials:

- **“Horizons”** 7th edition by J. Manley, S. Smith, J. McMinn-Reyna & M. Prévost
- **“MindTap”** = the online learning platform to accompany **Horizons**

These materials may be bought or rented, individually or as a package through Cengage Unlimited. The text may be hard copy or the e-book. Access to MindTap is **required**. It comes automatically with Cengage Unlimited. If you instead purchase a used copy of the text, you will also need to purchase an access code to MindTap.

Additional Resources: Additional Resources may be required such as:

- Duolingo account (free)
- VoiceThread account (free) (access through Blackboard)

Class Resources and Recommended Web Sites:

- <https://www.cengage.com/mindtap/>
- http://www.lexilogos.com/english/french_dictionary.htm (dictionaries)
- <http://www.tv5monde.com/> (les infos)
- <https://www.1jour1actu.com/> (les infos simplifiées)
- <http://www.laits.utexas.edu/tex/> (Tex’s French grammar, on-line review & practice)
- <https://blackboard.stonybrook.edu/webapps/login/> (Blackboard)

Evaluation Breakdown:

In-class participation (and Attendance)	25%
Online Recitation	20%
Homework	20%
Midterm and Projects	20%
Final Exam	15%

Attendance & Participation:

Active participation is required of all students. You can BEST learn French by ALWAYS coming to class and being involved in classroom activities. You are not expected to speak perfect French, so don’t be afraid to open your mouth and to make mistakes. There is no way to “make up” participation if you are not present. Absences will cause you to fall behind, make it virtually impossible for you to keep up with the material and the progress of your classmates, and consequently will lower your course grade. Chronic late arrivals will be considered as absences.

Our in-person sessions incorporate active learning strategies. With the pace of the course and the limited number of class sessions, you cannot expect to passively acquire the skills needed to hear, speak, read, and write French. Our class sessions will involve activities which will help you practice

your language skills. You are expected to participate in all classroom activities. Refusing to do so will count against your participation grade and will likely cause you to fall behind the material.

You should only enroll in this class if you are able to attend it at all scheduled times. Please understand that your work schedule is NOT an acceptable reason for missing class or making up assignments.

Online Recitation

In lieu of one hour of face-to-face instruction, additional online work must be completed. This may take the form of readings, Blackboard discussions, assignments through Mindtap or other educational platforms. Expect this to be the equivalent of one hour worth of work each week in addition to normal lectures and homework assignments. Please note that this work is **asynchronous**; you can complete the work at your own pace, so long as it is submitted before the deadline.

Blackboard Responses

“Blackboard Response” assignments will often require you to respond to a prompt, reading, or video. This is still a formal writing assignment, but does not follow a typical essay structure. Responses should be original, thoughtful, and well-formed, and you should properly cite your sources. In addition to your own response, **you must reply to 3 different classmates’ posts for each Response assignment.** Therefore, it is crucial that you submit your responses well in advance of the deadline. The lowest grade from this category will be dropped.

Homework

Homework/Lab work will be assigned regularly to be submitted for grading. Doing your homework on time is crucial to your success. Hand-written homework must be legible; electronic homework must be completed by you. No make-ups will be given for quizzes/exams unless an acceptable excuse is given. All assignments **must** be submitted through our online learning platforms unless otherwise specified. No late assignments will be accepted.

Projects and Exams

There will be two projects throughout the semester which directly relate to the vocabulary, culture, and skills practiced in the class. There will be a take-home midterm during the seventh week of instruction, and a take-home, cumulative final exam during finals week. More specific details will become available when the projects and exams are assigned. You may use your textbook, dictionaries, or other similar external resources to help you complete these exams. However, you may not solicit the assistance of your classmates or any other speakers/learners of French. The work you submit should be your own, original work, and it should be composed by you, in French. **Employing translation software to complete your assignments constitutes academic dishonesty.**