



DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES
FREN 0500 YA : French for Beginners
Fall 2016/Winter 2017

Course: Monday and Wednesday - 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Location: Room RB 3026
Conversation Labs: Monday and Wednesday Y1 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. RB 3023
Monday and Wednesday Y2 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. RB 3047

Professor: Dr. Julie Tennier
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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 2:00-3:00 pm *or by appointment*

DESCRIPTION

Introduction to written and spoken French. Exercises in pronunciation, aural comprehension, oral skills, elementary composition and translation. Study of selected texts.

Prerequisite: None, but note that this course is open only to students at the beginner's level.

OBJECTIVES

▪ **General**

The course and the lab objectives are based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. By the end of the course, students must ideally reach the A1 Level. The course focusses on the acquisition of basic French language through the study of vocabulary, grammatical structures, aural and written comprehension and oral and written production.

▪ **Specific**

By the end of the course the students must be able to:

- Understand and use familiar vocabulary and expressions to describe themselves, their family and their close surroundings;
 - Ask and understand simple questions for basic information and for their immediate needs;
 - Write and read short messages, texts, fill in forms and take short notes.
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METHODOLOGY

Classes: Grammar lessons, reading exercises, compositions

Labs: Exercises in pronunciation, aural comprehension, oral production

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

- Amon, Evelyn et al., *Vis-à-vis : Beginning French*, Second Canadian Edition, McGraw-Hill Ryerson (2015), Print Text, Workbook and Connect **(Required)**
 - Bilingual dictionary, pocket or medium size (Collins-Robert), book or electronic **(Recommended)**
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CEFR/CECR

(Common European Framework of Reference for Languages)

To achieve an A1 level of proficiency in French, students must demonstrate the following skills:

A1 Level Skills*	Descriptions
Oral production	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can produce simple, mainly isolated phrases about people and places.• Can describe themselves, what they do and where they live.• Can read a very short, rehearsed statement.
Written production	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can write simple, isolated phrases and sentences.• Can write simple phrases and sentences about themselves, where they live and what they do.
Aural comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can follow speech which is very slow and carefully articulated, with long pauses for them to assimilate meaning.• Can understand instructions addressed carefully and slowly to them and follow short, simple directions.
Reading comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can understand very short, simple texts, a single phrase at a time, picking up familiar names, words and basic phrases and rereading as required.• Can recognize familiar names, words and very basic phrases on simple notices in the most common everyday situations.• Can get an idea of content of simpler informational material and short simple descriptions, especially if there is visual support.• Can follow short, simple written directions.

*Source: The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, Cambridge University Press, pages 58-71. (www.coe.int/lang-CEFR)

EVALUATIONS & IMPORTANT DATES

- Quizzes (6): 30%
Wednesday, September 21, 2016
Wednesday, October 19, 2016
Wednesday, November 9, 2016
Wednesday, January 25, 2017
Wednesday, February 15, 2017
Wednesday, March 15, 2017
 - Mid-term Exam: 15%
December Exam Period (TBA)
 - **Last day to withdraw** **Friday, February 3, 2017**
 - Attendance and participation: 5% Cumulative
(incl. Learnsmart Homework)
 - Lab evaluations: 20%
In Lab (weeks 10, 11, 22, 23)
(incl. 6% participation, 14%
comprehension and oral evaluations)
 - Final exam: 30%
April Exam Period (TBA)
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RULES

- Attendance in class and labs is mandatory. Absences on the day of a test or an assignment submission must be justified by a medical certificate.
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: Please read the university regulations carefully (<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/rights-and-responsibilities>)
- Email is used for the sole purpose of scheduling an appointment with your Instructor. Please indicate « Request for an appointment FREN 0500 » in the subject line.
- It is the student's responsibility to consult the "MyCourseLink" regularly, to obtain posted information, documents and exercises, to study regularly and complete the workbook exercises that correspond to the lessons given in class.
- No extra work to compensate or increase marks will be allowed.
- In case of late submissions of assignments, 5% will be deducted off your mark and in addition, a deduction of 10% per day up to a period of one week (no marking after this time limit).
- Cell phone use in class is prohibited.
- The use of laptops in class is solely for pedagogical purposes.
- Code of conduct: Disrespectful comments during classroom exchanges between students or between students and the professor, as well as comments of a sexist, racist or homophobic nature or against all handicaps will not be tolerated.

CALENDAR
(subject to change)

Week	Chapter	Grammar	Vocabulary	Evaluation
1	1	- French alphabet, accents - sentence structure	- greetings	
2		- indefinite articles and the gender of nouns	- numbers (1-60), days of the week, dates	
3		- present tense - ER verbs, AVOIR	- classroom description	Quiz 1
4	2	- definite articles	- university locations, subjects	
5		- ÊTRE	- countries, nationalities - interests	
6		- adjectives - negation	- personality - clothing and colors	Quiz 2
7	3	- prepositions - indefinite articles with negation	- locations - home description	
8		- questions, interrogative words		
9		- IR verbs - adjective placement		Quiz 3
10	4	- FAIRE, ALLER	- family	Lab Evaluation
11		- RE verbs - imperative tense - possessive determiners	- seasons and weather	Lab Evaluation
12		Mid-term review	- numbers (60 +) - time	
13	5	- PRÉFÉRER, ACHETER - passé composé tense, with AVOIR	- meals, food - shopping and preferences	
14		- impersonal expression IL FAUT - partitive articles	- expressing obligation	
15		- PRENDRE, BOIRE - QUEL - demonstrative determiners	- expressions of quantity	Quiz 4
16	6	- passé composé tense, with ÊTRE	- vacation	
17		- other IR verbs - prepositions with locations	- pastimes - dates	
18		- VOULOIR, POUVOIR, DEVOIR		Quiz 5

19	8	- verbs of communication	- media and communication	
20	10	- adverbs	- city life	
21	11	- reflexive verbs	- relationships - parts of the body	Quiz 6
22			- everyday activities	Lab Evaluation
23		- relative pronouns		Lab Evaluation
24		Review		