

FREN 101 - FRENCH I

Course Objectives and Syllabus



TERM:
Instructor:
Phone:
E-Mail:
Website:
Office Hours:
Office:

Description

French 101, Introductory French, is the first trimester in the first year French sequence offered by Drexel University. French 101 meets four times a week, one hour or two hours at a time. The focus of this class will be on real-life language use, the integration of French and Francophone culture and language, and the acquisition of the four skills: reading, listening, writing, and speaking. During class time, you should expect to engage in group and pair work, and to actively participate in class. Attendance, participation, and individual preparation outside of class are essential for success.

Goals

Students who come prepared to class every day and who actively participate can expect to:

- learn about contemporary French and Francophone institutions and mores
- communicate and interact with other speakers of French in diverse situations and in conversations involving everyday topics
- develop listening skills and understand the gist of a variety of communication modes (TV, video, radio, etc.)
- read a broad range of printed materials for general, specific and practical information
- write notes, letters and compositions on familiar topics with a good command of vocabulary and sentence structure in a cohesive and organized manner

Texts

• *Promenades*. Cherie Mitschke, Cheryl Tano. Vista Higher Learning, 2010. Hardcover. ISBN: 978-1-60007-924-5

Workbook and Lab manual assignments will all be done on-line on *Promenades* Websam, Supersite & Assessment with an access key (passcode card) provided in the textbook.

• <http://promenades.vhlcentral.com/>, a site which follows the structure of the textbook *Promenades* with exercises for Contextes, Roman-Photo, Culture, Structures, and Épreuve.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- **Drop policy:** Drexel University allows students to drop a course through the end of the sixth week of the term. This means that you will not be allowed to drop a course, even if you are failing, after the sixth week of the term. The number of times you have already been absent, the status of your lab hours and, above all, the result of your midterm testing and other evaluations (chapter tests, quizzes, homework) are therefore your best guide to decide whether or not you should drop the course.
- **Attendance policy:** Since learning a foreign language is a participatory endeavor, attendance is mandatory at all class meetings. Students are allowed to miss no more than **FOUR** classes during the term. Students who exceed the maximum number of allowable absences will find that their final grade will be adversely affected.
- **Final exam:** Please note that the scheduling of final exams is done by SRC on a University-wide basis. The final exam date cannot be changed and may not correlate to the class meeting time/days. Final exam week runs Monday through Saturday. If you miss your final exam,

your instructor is under no obligation to provide you an alternate time to make-up the exam.

• **GRADING**

A + : 98-100, A: 93-97, A - : 90-92; B + : 87-89, B: 83-86, B - : 80-82; C + : 77-79, C: 73-76, C - : 70-72; D + : 67-69, D: 63-66, D - : 60-62.

- **Class participation: 20%** In order to participate in class and to fulfill your obligation to others during group and pair activities, attendance is mandatory and roll will be taken every day. This grade will reflect both the quantity and quality of your participation.

- **Oral exams: 10%** Both the midterm and the final exam will have an oral component. Specific dates and times will be arranged. Failure to appear at the appointed time will result in a grade of F.

- **Written final exams: 20%** Exams will be communicative in nature -- writing short paragraphs, responding to a short audio selection or reading a short passage in French. There will also be a cumulative grammar section. **No make-up midterm or final exam will be given. Please note again:** Final exams are scheduled by SRC on a university-wide basis and may be held at any time, Monday through Saturday, during final exam week. Modern Languages must abide by the final exam day and time scheduled by SRC.

- **Homework and quizzes 30% In lieu of a paper workbook, you are required to purchase access to the *Promenades Web-SAM & Supersite* <http://promenades.vhlcentral.com/> as you will be doing your exercises online most of the time. The access code comes with new books.** The *Promenades* program is based on the notion that you will study grammar and vocabulary outside of class in preparation for using it as a tool for communication in class. As a result, you need to get in the habit of preparing for each and every class. Online homework will be assigned on a nightly basis, it will be timed and you need to respect the deadline. **Your instructor will check your exercises online to see if they are done on time and they are correct.** This does not exclude regular assignments given on paper in class or out of class. Late homework will not be accepted. All assignments **MUST** be turned in on the day they are due. If you are absent that day, you must turn in assignments on the day you return to class. It is your responsibility to make sure that you know what the homework assignment is. Quizzes may consist of announced or unannounced in-class exercises or written out-of-class assignments. No make-up quizzes will be given. **Homework will be posted on BbVista Calendar or given to you by your instructor in another form.**

- **Unit Tests: 20%** Unit tests are given during the regular class meeting time. They consist of the following parts: listening comprehension, reading comprehension, writing and culture, as well as discreet grammar questions. No make-up tests will be given.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOME

This course will provide students with a fundamental understanding of the French language in several core competencies. Specifically, the five areas of assessment are: listening, reading, spoken interaction, spoken production, and writing. Below is a table intended to clarify the expected learning outcome for students of this French 101 course, which align with the ACTFL standards for language learners at the "Novice low/Mid" level. For more information, see the [ACTFL standards online](#).

Listening	Reading	Spoken Interaction	Spoken Production	Writing
The student can recognize familiar words and very basic phrases concerning themselves, their family and immediate concrete surroundings when people speak slowly and clearly.	The student can understand familiar names, words and very simple sentences, for example on notices or posters or in catalogues.	The 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 the student to formulate the intended thought. The student can ask and answer simple questions in areas of immediate need or on very familiar topics.	The student can use simple phrases and sentences to describe where he or she lives and people such as friends or family.	The student can write a short, simple postcard, for example sending holiday greetings. The student can fill in forms with personal details, for example entering name, nationality, and address on a hotel registration form.

As well as gaining a fundamental understanding of the French language, this course will provide you with tools to understand cultural differences and the basics of intercultural communication with a focus on the French/Francophone culture. We will focus on the three essential areas of competence: openness, knowledge, and adaptability. Below you will find a table explaining the basic level of intercultural communication skills that you are expected to obtain in French 101.

Level 1 - Basic Intercultural Communication Skills	
Overview Of Competence	I am willing to interact with people of other cultures. I can easily pick up cultural nuances through learning languages but I still don't have the experience to deal with intercultural situations in general. I tend to respond to events rather than plan for them. At this stage, I am reasonably tolerant of the values, customs, and practices of other cultures, although I may find them odd, surprising, or I may disapprove of them.
Openness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When uncertainty arises due to cultural differences, I try to keep a positive attitude as long as the issue is not sensitive to me.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I sometimes jump to conclusions about different behaviors that I later realize were not entirely correct.
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have some knowledge about the cultures of those to which I am introduced. This knowledge may consist of facts that have been misconstrued and are not always truly characteristic of that culture. I learn from intercultural experiences and build on my previous knowledge. Although I tend to find cultural behaviors different from my own curious, I try to be tolerant.
Adaptability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I continue to learn the best ways of behaving, but I still do not have a firm grasp on the underlying principles and I do not have a plan for reacting to events. When an intercultural situation becomes confusing, I tend to take a passive role. I take events as they come, doing what seems right at the time. When people try to communicate with me in a way that I am unfamiliar with, I try to take part but I hope that they will eventually adapt to my communication style. I understand that others may communicate in ways that I am unfamiliar with.

Emploi du temps Français 101

Promenades Units 1-4, Lessons 1-8

- **Semaine I** - Introduction to the course and Unit 1, Lesson 1
- **Semaine II** - Unit 1, Lesson 2
- **Semaine III** - Unit 2, Lesson 3
- **Semaine IV** - Unit 2, Lesson 4 **Midterm orals start** (outside of class).
- **Semaine V** - Unit 3, Lesson 5
- **Semaine VI** - Unit 3, Lesson 6 * **last week to drop a course**
- **Semaine VII** - Unit 4, Lesson 7
- **Semaine VIII** - Unit 4, Lesson 8
- **Semaine IX** - Unit 4, Lesson 8
- **Semaine X** - Review. **Oral portion of final exam** held outside of class.

BbVista can be accessed through [BbVista at Drexel](#) or on [DrexelOne](#) by clicking on "My Courses".

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Academic Integrity, Plagiarism & Cheating Policy: See [Academic Dishonesty](#) and [Academic Honesty Policy](#).
Students with [Disability Statement](#)
[Course Drop Policy](#)

Resources

The Conversation Network

Through [the English Language Center](#), located on the first floor of the Language and Communication Center, French language students may sign up for a conversation partner. [The Conversation Network](#) is designed to give Drexel students an opportunity to meet and converse with a foreign student who has come to Drexel to learn English. This program is not designed to replace daily preparation for class, but rather can provide a forum for informal student interaction. Students may sign up for the Conversation Network by stopping by the English Language Center, or sending an e-mail to: Conversation.Network@drexel.edu, or by phoning them at (215) 895-2022.

Drexel University encourages all students to study and/or work abroad as part of their academic program.

Available options include:

1. Intensive Language Study Abroad

Drexel University offers many opportunities to study abroad. For students new to Drexel or to study abroad, [go to this Study Abroad page](#) to get information about financial matters and academic issues, the type of programs and locations available around the globe.

2. Co-op and Internships Abroad

[Drexel Abroad programs](#) in languages and the liberal arts are administered by the director of International Area Studies and include study-internship programs in [France](#), Europe and other continents. They require junior status, with a 3.0 average (3.5 for pre-juniors), completion of level 203 of the target language (except in London), and at least two upper-division courses in history, politics and sociology. Internships in [Belgium](#) are with the European Parliament, and in other countries with multinational corporations or with organizations and agencies in a variety of disciplines. For Co-op abroad, consult the [Steinbright Career Development Center](#).

3. International Programs

[The Office of International Programs](#) offers a number of discipline-specific programs abroad (most of which do not require substantive language skills). Information is available on the [Study Abroad website](#), by emailing the Study Abroad office at: studyabroad@drexel.edu or by contacting Daniela Ascarelli, Study Abroad Director at (215) 895-1704.

