



**FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH, ITALIAN AND SPANISH**

**BEGINNER'S FRENCH I, FRENCH 209.04  
Fall 2010  
CRAIGIE HALL CHE 118 (Saturday 08h00 – 11h50)**

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME and E-MAIL:** Peter BENEZRA (pbenezra@shaw.ca)

**OFFICE LOCATION and HOURS :** CHC 320 – By appointment only

**TELEPHONE NUMBER :** 403-220-8688

**WEBSITE :** <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca>

**COORDINATOR'S NAME and E-MAIL :** Odile ROLLIN [rollin@ucalgary.ca](mailto:rollin@ucalgary.ca)

**DESCRIPTION**

This course will provide students with a solid introduction to French through extensive practice in listening, speaking, reading and writing. Emphasis will be on developing the students' communicative competence in preparation for further study. The course is based on the text *Promenades*.

**Prerequisites :** none. Not open to students with credit in French 20, French 30, French 31 (or equivalent).

**OUTCOMES:**

Outcomes in language courses are usually measured in terms of five basic skills:

**Listening:** You will understand, at least partially, audio and video material which accompanies the textbook. However, in a simple face-to-face conversation, misunderstanding of both the main ideas and details can still arise on a fairly regular basis.

**Speaking:** You will be able to ask and answer simple questions using a very limited vocabulary concerning immediate surroundings. You will be able to introduce yourself, talk about likes and dislikes, state your age, introduce your family, express your feelings, describe your city and its buildings, talk about your studies and everyday activities. However, you will not be able to engage effectively in prolonged interactions with native speakers.

**Reading:** You will be able to understand the main ideas in simple authentic material (brochures, advertisement, schedules) and to extract information from them by applying some reading strategies (identifying cognates, scanning, dealing with unfamiliar words, predicting, activating background knowledge).

**Writing:** You will be able to write simple texts, such as e-mails, to give information about yourself, your relatives and your friends, and to narrate events grounded in personal experience.

**Culture:** You will be able to understand some of the significant differences between Francophone cultures and your own culture, in terms of behaviour, attitudes and values. You will have an awareness of language as an essential element of culture.

**DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES**

**Written work (dictations, compositions and tests) ..... 45%**

**Présentation orale (laboratoire) ..... 5%**

**Participation active ..... 10%**

**Examen final oral ..... 15%**

**Examen final écrit ..... 25%**

**The final examination will take place on December 4, time & place to be announced.**

**GRADING SCALE**

A+ = 100-96; A=95-91 ; A-=90-86 ; B+=85-81 ; B=80-76 ; B-=75-71 ; C+=70-67 ; C=66-62 ; C-=61-58 ; D+=57-54 ; D=53-50 ; F=0-49. The official grading system (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1) will be applied for the calculation of the final mark.

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

*Promenades* package available at the U of C Bookstore

**RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND MATERIALS**

Robert & Collins, *Dictionnaire anglais/français - français/anglais*

*Le nouveau Bescherelle : l'art de conjuguer*

Morton, Jacqueline *English Grammar for Students of French*, 6th Ed. 2009

**COURSE NOTES**

1. The information on the course outline posted on Blackboard and on the FIS website is not binding and can change according to the needs of the class.

2. To derive the utmost benefit of instruction, daily attendance is essential. Lack of attendance may adversely affect your overall performance and may have a negative impact on your final grade. Besides, failure to attend class always results in missed opportunities to hear and speak French. The instructor should be informed of any reason for prolonged absence.
1. Attendance: A student who is absent from a test for legitimate reasons must discuss an alternative course of action with the instructor. The instructor at his or her own discretion may transfer the percentage weight for a test to the final examination or another test. An instructor will either make this decision on the basis of verbal information provided by the student or on will request a Physician/ Counsellor statement form to confirm an absence for health reasons. Missed tests, assignments and examinations with no legitimate reason will be given a grade of F. The instructor will not prepare make-up tests or assignments.
2. Written work consists of:
  - 2 dictations (5% each): a dictation is a scholarly exercise consisting of a text read by your Instructor and written down by you as correctly as possible.
  - 2 compositions (5% each), to be written at home, each on a topic assigned by your Instructor.
  - 2 tests (the first worth 10% and the second 15%): a test will be given at the end of units 1 & 2 and another at the end of units 3 & 4. The format will be given to you in advance.
3. There will be no mid-term examination. All tests are cumulative.
4. Be on time for classes: Tests and dictations will take place at the beginning of class and will not be repeated for latecomers.
5. Labs will start immediately, on September 18. The labs are an integral part of this course. They are mandatory and attendance will be taken. Oral participation in the labs will be assessed for consideration of the final grade. An oral presentation will be required as an element of the laboratory work. The topic and the rubrics of the oral presentation are posted on Blackboard. Please bring your workbook to the lab. Written and comprehension exercises will be done in the lab on a regular basis.
6. The final oral exam will be scheduled individually with the Instructor towards the end of the course.
7. Students are expected to check the Blackboard page on a regular basis for announcements, homework, assignments, marks, and the tentative schedule.
8. Please mute your cell phone during class.
9. Students are advised to read the excerpt on PLAGIARISM.

### **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

### **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. The University Calendar states that "plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.