



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

**BEGINNER'S FRENCH I, FRENCH 209 L03  
Fall 2011  
CRAIGIE HALL CHE 106 MTWR 12:00 – 12:50**

**INSTRUCTOR 'S NAME and E-MAIL:** Allison MacKinnon, [aemackin@ucalgary.ca](mailto:aemackin@ucalgary.ca)

**OFFICE LOCATION and HOURS :** CHE 210, TBA

**TELEPHONE NUMBER :** 403-220-4005

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

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

**DESCRIPTION**

Welcome to French 209! This is a 3-credit semester course for students who are beginners in French. Particular emphasis is placed on oral/aural communication, writing skills and strategies to read efficiently in French. In addition, students are introduced to French and francophone cultures through readings and exercises integrated with the materials used for language acquisition. Emphasis is on developing students' communicative competence in preparation for further study. The course is based on the textbook *Promenades* accompanied by a workbook and computerized activities posted on the *Supersite*.

**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 be able to ...**

- understand audio and video material which accompanies the textbook as well as simple conversations.
- understand a variety of communicative situations presented in elementary but authentic French.

**Speaking: you will be able to ...**

- ask and answer simple questions using basic vocabulary concerning immediate surroundings.
- introduce yourself, talk about likes and dislikes, state your age, introduce your family, express your feelings, describe your city, talk about your studies and everyday activities.
- pronounce sounds of French correctly, as well as recognize and imitate essential intonation and rhythmic patterns of the language.

**Reading: you will be able to ...**

- read authentic French texts (up to 300 words in length) containing vocabulary studied in class as well as a number of cognates
- understand the main ideas in simple authentic material (brochures, advertisement)
- apply some reading strategies (identifying cognates, scanning, dealing with unfamiliar words, predicting, activating background knowledge).

**Writing: you will be able to ...**

- write simple texts (up to 200 words in length) and give information about yourself, your relatives and your friends, and to narrate events grounded in personal experience.
- Write short compositions accurately using vocabulary, grammatical forms and structures introduced in the course, using the present tense and the *future proche*.

**Culture: you will be able to ...**

- differentiate between some sociolinguistic and pragmatic aspects of the language in particular the use of polite/familiar forms and basic formal/informal spoken and written speech patterns
- appreciate the similarities and the differences between Francophone cultures and your own culture, in terms of behaviour, attitudes and values in contexts such as the family, university studies, work, leisure and food.

**DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES**

Dictations (2 x 5%) .....	10%
Compositions (2 x 7%) .....	14%
Tests (4 x 10%) .....	40%
Oral Presentation (lab) .....	6%
Active Participation .....	5%
Passeport d'activités .....	10%
Final Aural Assessment.....	15%

**There is no final examination.**

**GRADING SCALE**

<b>A+</b> = 100%-96%	<b>B+</b> =85%-81%	<b>C+</b> =70%-67%	<b>D+</b> = 57%-54%
<b>A</b> = 95%-91%	<b>B</b> =80%-76%	<b>C</b> = 66%-62%	<b>D</b> = 53%-50%
<b>A-</b> = 90%-86%	<b>B-</b> =75%-71%	<b>C-</b> = 61%-58%	<b>F</b> = 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. Classroom Etiquette: practicing a foreign language entails taking risks and allowing yourself to be vulnerable in front of other people. You are used to being able to speak at a much more sophisticated level in your native language, so working in French is not always easy! For this reason, it is essential to establish an atmosphere of mutual respect in the classroom. Please be attentive and listen not only to your instructor but also to your classmates when they speak.
3. To derive the utmost benefit of instruction, daily attendance is essential. Attending class is extremely beneficial to hear and speak French, to interact with others and to receive instant feedback from your instructor and your peers. The instructor should be informed of any reason for prolonged absence.
4. 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 another test. An instructor will either make this decision on the basis of verbal information provided by the student or 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.
5. There will be no mid-term examination. All tests are cumulative.
6. The "Passeport d'activités" consists of 5 communicative activities performed in the French Centre (Craigie Hall C 301, open Monday to Friday, 10-12 and 1-3, or Wednesday 1-7 PM, Phone 220-6706). You may go at any time, on any convenient day. Each activity is approximately 5 minutes long and worth 2% of your final mark. You may do these activities in any order. One activity per visit. Please pick-up your "Passport" at the French Centre.

Activities:

- Reading: Prepare a 2 minute reading (from the book or any other text) and read it to a monitor.
- Editing: Take one of your compositions that has been graded by your Instructor, make all the necessary changes and bring it to be checked by a monitor.
- Communication: Choose 4 questions in the "Communication" binder in the French Centre, prepare the answers and present them to a monitor.
- Writing: Write an "acrostiche" in French, based on your first name and last name, using adjectives, verbs and nouns learned in class. Present it to a monitor.
- Oral presentation: Practice your oral presentation (for the Lab Instructor) in front a monitor.

Please give your "Passport" to your Instructor a week before the end of classes

(Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011)

7. Be on time for classes: Tests, dictations and compositions will start at the beginning of class and will not be repeated for latecomers.
8. Labs will start the week of September 19. 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 lab manual to the lab. Written and comprehension exercises will be done in the lab on a regular basis.
9. There is no final examination
10. The final aural examination is scheduled the last week of class.
11. Students are expected to check the Blackboard page on a regular basis for announcements, homework, assignments, marks and the tentative schedule.
12. Please mute your cell phone during class.
13. Students are advised to read the excerpt on PLAGIARISM.

## 14. Grading Rubrics

### 1. Dictations

Dictations are spelling tests. They are designed to verify your understanding of sounds, words, phrases, grammar and syntax. When grading dictations, half a mark is taken away for each of the following: spelling (including accents and hyphens), verb agreement, adjective agreement, noun agreement, capital letters and all omissions including punctuation. Dictations are approximately 100-word long. To prepare for dictations, listen to the chapter vocabulary on the *Promenades* Supersite, read chapter vocabulary aloud paying attention to accents and liaisons, spell each new noun with its article, and write down each verb with its conjugation. In French 209, each dictation is worth 5%, and dates are posted on the tentative schedule.

### 2. Compositions

Compositions are paragraph written on a specific topic given by your Instructor. They can vary in length: 100 words to 200 words in French 209. Compositions are marked out of 20 points: 10 points are for content (respect of the given topic, appropriate length, creativity, avoidance of repetition, use of vocabulary seen in class) and 10 points are for proper language use (varied vocabulary, tenses, conjugations, punctuation, agreements, sentence structure, spelling, prepositions and avoidance of anglicisms). In French 209, each composition is worth 7%, and dates are posted on the tentative schedule.

### 3. Oral presentation

Oral presentations are designed to give you a chance to practice French orally. A topic is given to you by your Instructor at the beginning of the semester. It is posted on Blackboard with the marking rubrics (content, grammar, syntax, varied vocabulary, pronunciation (including prosody, accentuation, rhythm and liaisons), speech delivery, props, creativity and effort). Your oral presentation will take place in the lab. You will do your oral presentation with a partner, but individual marks will be granted. No reading is allowed. Only index cards with key words may be used. A penalty of -25% will apply to all oral presentations read to the audience. Please print the rubrics posted on Blackboard and give them to your Teaching Assistant on the day of your presentation. In French 209, the oral presentation is worth 6%. Please choose a date for your oral presentation the second week of classes during your lab.

### 4. Tests

All tests are based on chapter materials and are divided into several sections. They may include listening comprehension, reading comprehension, composition, grammar questions, vocabulary questions, transformations... Each section is presented with detailed instructions as well as the mark value and the weight. A few days before each test, your Instructor will post the format of the test on Blackboard or send it through email to all students. In French 209, each test is worth 10% of the final mark, and dates are posted on the tentative schedule.

### 5. Laboratory

Active participation in lab is worth 5% of your final mark. Attendance is crucial. You need to come prepared for class and exercises must be done in advance.

### 6. Final aural assessment

The final aural assessment is an oral comprehension examination done in class the last week of class. It will include questions based on a "roman-photo", questions based on knowledge focussing on vocabulary as well as grammar, and competence questions requiring full sentences answers.

## ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. **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. 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.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials

outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

### **DISABILITIES AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

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

### **EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINTS**

Craigie Hall: Professional Faculties food court (alternate: Education Block food court)

Education Block and Tower: Scurfield Hall atrium (alternate: Professional Faculties food court)

Kinesiology: north courtyard, MacEwan Student Centre (alternate: University Theatres lobby)

For the complete list of assembly points please consult <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

### **FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

[arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding.

Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it.

Please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

### **INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

### **SAFEWALK**

To request a Safewalk escort anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, please call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help Phones.

Web: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

### **STUDENT UNION INFORMATION**

Representatives and contact details: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

### **WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM**

Writing skills should cross all disciplines. Students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their

courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office (<http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca/>) can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.