



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS

DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH, ITALIAN AND SPANISH

BEGINNER'S FRENCH I, FRENCH 209 Lecture 1
SPRING 2016

CRAIGIE HALL CHE 102, M, W, F 8:00 – 9:50
Lab CHE 102 M, W 10:00 – 10:50

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME and E-MAIL: Alfred Mulinda alfredmulinda@gmail.com

OFFICE LOCATION and HOURS : CHE 210, Friday 10.00-12.00

TELEPHONE NUMBER : 403 – 220 4005

WEBSITE : d21.ucalgary.ca

COORDINATOR'S NAME and E-MAIL : Anne-Marie Hallworth-Duez (amhallwo@ucalgary.ca)

DESCRIPTION

Welcome to French 209! This is a 3-credit semester course for students who are beginners in French. Particular attention is given to 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* (2nd edition) accompanied by a workbook and computerized activities posted on the *Supersite*. In this course, we will cover units 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Prerequisites : none

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 (5% + 7%)12%

Compositions (2 x 6%) 12%

Tests (2 x 20%) 40%

Oral Presentation (lab) 6%

Active Participation (class and lab) 10%

Final oral exam 20%

GRADING SCALE

A+ = 100%-96% B+ =85%-81% C+ =70%-67% D+ = 57%-54%

A = 95%-91% B =80%-76% C = 66%-62% D = 53%-50%

A- = 90%-86% B- =75%-71% C- = 61%-58% 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 2nd edition package available at the U of C Bookstore

COURSE NOTES

1. The information on the course outline posted on D2L 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. Please mute your cell phone during class. Be on time for classes: Tests, dictations and compositions will not be repeated for latecomers.
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. 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 is no mid-term examination but all tests are cumulative.
6. Labs will start the first week of class on **May 9, 2016**. The labs **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 D2L. **Please bring your lab manual to the lab**. Written and comprehension exercises will be done in the lab on a regular basis.
7. **Students are expected to check the D2L page on a regular basis for announcements, homework, assignments, marks and the tentative schedule.**
8. Students are advised to read the excerpt on PLAGIARISM.
9. Grading Rubrics :

A.Dictations

Dictations are spelling tests. They are designed to verify your understanding of sounds, words, phrases, grammar and syntax. When grading dictations, one half point is taken away for each of the following: spelling, verb agreement, adjective agreement, noun agreement, capital letters and all omissions. (A quarter of a point for accents and hyphens).Dictations are approximately 100 words 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.

B. Compositions

Compositions are paragraphs 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 for content (respect of the given topic, appropriate length, creativity, avoidance of repetition, use of vocabulary seen in class) and 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 6%. Dates are posted on the tentative schedule.

C. Oral presentation (in Lab)

Oral presentations are designed to give you a chance to practice French orally. A topic is already posted on D2L 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 will apply to all oral presentations read to the audience. *Please print the rubrics posted on D2L and give them to your lab Instructor 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.

D. Tests

Tests are based on unit material 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. In French 209, each test is worth 20% of the final mark, and dates are posted on the tentative schedule.

E. Participation Active participation in lab and class is worth 10% of your final mark. Attendance is crucial. You need to come prepared for class and do the required homework. In lab, exercises listed on the tentative schedule must be done prior to the lab session.

D. Final oral exam

The final oral examination is an individual examination done in your instructor's office during the last week of class. It will include a short reading excerpt that you can prepare at home, a presentation of your family (with pictures), and a few questions regarding the various topics covered in class (your studies, your friends, food, and work). Questions will focus on vocabulary as well as grammar, and the ability to interact. Full sentences answers will be required.

How to enhance your French class experience ?

- Use the *Supersite* regularly to review vocabulary, and do online exercises.
- Do the exercises that are posted on D2L and use to following website for extra online exercises : <http://ucalgary.ca/repsit/exercices-de-langue/>

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.