

FREN 209
Beginners' French I
Spring 2020

L03: MWF 8:00-9:50

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Alfred Mulinda

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

E-MAIL : alfred.mulinda@ucalgary.ca

Course co-ordinator: Dr. Miao Li miao.li@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 *Entre Nous 1* and online activities posted on the *Espace virtuel*. In this course, we will cover units 1, 2, 3 and 4.

PREREQUISITES: None. Please discuss with your instructor if you have prior knowledge of French.

OBJECTIVES

Basic elements of the French language will be covered, including training in comprehension, speaking, reading and writing of French.

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, nationality and profession, introduce your family, friends and a celebrity, describe your city and neighborhood, describe your hobbies.
- 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, blogs, excerpts from magazines and online articles)
- 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 regular *-ER* verbs and some irregular verbs in present tense.

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, food and festivals.

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

Dictations (2 x 5%)	10%
Compositions (2 x 10%)	20%
Tests (2 x 15%)	30%
Online quizzes (4 x 5%)	20%
Oral Presentation (lab)	10%
Active Participation (class and lab) ...	10%

There is no final examination.

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

Entre nous 1 + Online Access Code Package, available at the U of C Bookstore. Students can choose to buy the code online at: <https://espacevirtuel.emdl.fr/>

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Additional learning materials on vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation will be posted regularly on D2L.

COURSE NOTES

- The information on the course outline posted on D2L and on the SLLLC website <https://slllc.ucalgary.ca/courses/p20> is not binding and can change according to the needs of the class.
- Intellectual property:
Generally speaking, course materials created by the instructor (including presentations and posted notes, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The

posting of course materials to third-party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course may be allowed under fair dealing.

- **Lectures delivery:** The lectures will be delivered in live sessions on Zoom and/or pre-recorded and uploaded online. In that case, links will be provided on D2L.
- **Lab delivery:** The lab instructor will upload content and communicate with students on D2L.
- **Announcements:** Instructions concerning assignments, activities, quizzes, tests, and exams will be posted on D2L. The student is responsible for following all such instructions. The student needs to check all the different sections of D2L regularly, including but not limited to, the past and current news items, Course Content, Assessments (including Quizzes and Dropbox) and Communication.
- **Exams:** All exams will be delivered online. No delivery by email, the student needs to follow the instructions regarding the delivery method. Some exams will be given as quizzes and others will be uploaded in a Dropbox folder.
It is recommended to read the Student handbook on the academic integrity that you can find [here](#).
- **Contacting the professor:**
 - Online: during the office hours on Zoom. Students will be admitted to the waiting room in the application and will be spoken to on a first-come-first-served basis.
 - By email: Use the professor's last name, only use the university email to communicate with your professor, clearly state the subject of the message mentioning your course and section numbers and give, at least, 48 hours to receive a response during the week (from Monday to Friday).
- **Classroom Etiquette:**
 - Please refrain from any behavior that might disturb your classmates or hinder the proper delivery of the class.
 - Before joining the Zoom session, make sure your microphone is working and keep it muted when you're not speaking.
 - Sit in a quiet place and take notes just like in a physical classroom.
 - Be prepared with physical and digital documents open. During the lecture, you may be required to follow a text or listen to an audio file on your own in order to participate in the class activities.
 - Use the Chat feature in the app only to communicate with the professor or to answer questions.
 - 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.
- To derive the utmost benefit of instruction, regular attendance is essential. Attending class is extremely beneficial to understand the textbook content written purely in French, 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.
- Attendance: All graded assignments and tests will be available online to be completed within a certain period that is not less than 24 hours. The Dropbox folders to receive compositions will be open from **Monday to Friday, which is the due day**. 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.
- There is no mid-term examination and no final examination, but all tests are cumulative.
- Labs will start the week of **May 6, 2020**. 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 D2L. Please bring your textbook to the lab. Written, oral and comprehension exercises will be done in the lab on a regular basis.
- Students are expected to check the D2L page on a regular basis for announcements, homework, assignments, marks and complementary learning materials.
- Students are advised to read the excerpt on PLAGIARISM.
- Grading Rubrics (dates of dictations, compositions and tests are posted in the tentative schedule)

1) Dictations

Dictations are spelling tests. Your instructor prepares a paragraph and reads it to you slowly so you can write every word and punctuation. There is no memorization necessary and there are no questions to answer at the end of the test. Dictations are designed to verify your understanding of

sounds, words, phrases, grammar and syntax. When grading dictations, one mark is taken away for each of the following: spelling, verb agreement, adjective agreement, noun agreement, capital letters and all omissions. (Half a mark for accents, hyphens, capital letters and punctuation). Dictations are approximately 100 words long. To prepare for dictations, follow your instructor's advice on the pages to review in the textbook, 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. Each dictation is worth 5%.

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 100 points: 50 points are for content (respect of the given topic, appropriate length, creativity, avoidance of repetition, use of vocabulary seen in class) and 50 points are for proper language use (varied vocabulary, conjugations, punctuation, agreements, sentence structure, spelling, prepositions and avoidance of Anglicisms). Each composition is worth 10%.

3) Oral presentation (in Lab)

Oral presentations are designed to give you a chance to practice French orally. Topics are 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 of -25% 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. The oral presentation is worth 10%. Please choose a date and a topic for your oral presentation **the second week of classes during your lab**.

4) 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 and the weight. A few days before each test, your instructor will announce the format of the test in class. Each test is worth 15% of the final mark.

5) Active participation

The following will be taken into consideration when calculating the active participation grade:

- Attendance: Please make sure to enter the Zoom session with your last name and first name as indicated on the course list.
- Submitting the online quizzes on time.
- Active participation in class: engaging in discussions and activities and being courteous to students and the professor.
- Active participation in the lab: Preparing lab homework before the lab time and engaging in lab activities.

6) Online Quizzes

There are four (4) online quizzes posted on D2L and available immediately and until June **17th, 2020, 11:30 PM**. Each quiz corresponds to one of the 4 units covered during the semester (*Entre Nous 1* Units 1, 2, 3, and 4) and consists of 80 self-correcting questions. Use your book, answer all questions, and submit your quiz. Your grade will appear immediately, but you will not see your answers. If you have any questions about your quizzes, make an appointment with your instructor. To access the 4 quizzes, enter D2L French 209, click on "Assessments" --- "Quizzes" -----"Start Quiz".

You are allowed unlimited attempts for all 4 quizzes.

Your highest grade will count.

There is no time restriction to do the quizzes.

You will respond to 80 questions randomly drawn.

You may start the quiz, save all your responses, stop it and resume it later.

There are 3 kinds of questions: Fill in the Blanks, Multiple Choice, and True/False.

You will need to access the *Espace Virtuel* to complete the "Comprehension" questions. If your computer is not equipped with French accents and cedilla, you will be able to cut and paste them from the top of the quiz page.

Precise spelling is required.

You will see all questions on the same page.

You may go back to any question and make changes until you submit your quiz.

First submission of **quiz 1** is due on **Friday, May 15, 2020** at 11:30 PM.

First submission of **quiz 2** is due on **Friday, May 29, 2020** at 11:30 PM.

First submission of **quiz 3** is due on **Monday, June 8, 2020** at 11:30 PM.

First submission of **quiz 4** is due on **Wednesday, June 17, 2020** at 11:30 PM.

All 4 quizzes may be redone until **June 17th, 2020, 11:30 PM**.

Submitting your quizzes on time is part of your participation mark.

7) Laboratory

Active participation in lab and class is worth 5% of your final mark. Attendance is crucial. You need to come prepared for class and exercises must be done in advance. Grading rubrics for oral participation are posted on D2L.

How to enhance your French class?

- Create your own immersion experience in the Francophone culture. Use the many resources available such as videos, podcasts, movies, and books. There is a file called *Pour aller plus loin* on D2L that suggests some useful resources.
- Use the *Espace Virtuel* regularly to review vocabulary and do online exercises. Your code to access the *Espace Virtuel* is included in your *Entre Nous* package.
- Use the following website for extra online exercises: <http://ucalgary.ca/repsit/exercices-de-langue/>

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.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

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 <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>).

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.

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 Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

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.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

A link to required information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources, can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.