



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY  
**FACULTY OF ARTS**

**DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH, ITALIAN AND SPANISH**

**BEGINNER'S FRENCH I, FRENCH 209 Lectures 01 & 02**  
**Winter 2016**

**CRAIGIE HALL CHE 102, M, W, F 9:00-9:50 and 11:00-11:50**

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME and E-MAIL:** Dr. Moustapha Fall ([moustapha.fall@ucalgary.ca](mailto:moustapha.fall@ucalgary.ca))

**OFFICE LOCATION and HOURS:** Craigie Hall D317 – **Tuesday and Thursday 2:00-3:00pm**

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 403-220-6734

**WEBSITE:** [d2l.ucalgary.ca](http://d2l.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* (2<sup>nd</sup> 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 (2 x 5%) .....	10%
Compositions (2 x 10%) .....	20%
Tests (2 x 15%) .....	30%
Online quizzes (4 x 5%) .....	20%
Oral Presentation (lab) .....	5%
Regular Class Attendance .....	5%
Passeport d'activités .....	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**

*Promenades* 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.
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 is no mid-term examination and no final examination but all tests are cumulative.
6. The "Passeport d'activités" consists of **5** communicative activities:
  - These activities are performed in the French Centre (Craigie Hall C 301, open Monday to Friday, 10.00AM-12.00PM and 1.00PM-3.00PM, Phone 220-6706).
  - You may go to the French Centre 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
  - **One** activity per week.
  - Please book a specific time in the booking binder "Réservation"
  - If for any reason you need to cancel your passport appointment, you must send an email to: "**passport@ucalgary.ca**"
  - Please pick-up your "Passeport d'activités" at the French Centre (Craigie Hall C301). Here is how to ask for a passport: "Je voudrais un passeport d'activités s'il vous plaît".
  - Please give your "Passport" to your instructor on **Monday April 11, 2016**
  - Activities:
    - Reading (Lecture): Prepare a 2 minute reading (from the textbook or any other text approved by your Instructor) and read it to a monitor.
    - Oral presentation 1: Practice your oral presentation (for the lab Instructor) in front a monitor.
    - Oral presentation 2 (Poésie): Choose **ONE** poem from the list provided on D2L, under "Informations générales"---- "Poésies". Memorize it and present it to a monitor. If you prefer, you may choose another poem or write your own, but have it approved by your instructor.
    - Communication: Choose 4 questions in the "Communication" binder in the French Centre, prepare the answers and present them to a monitor.
    - **"Free" activity in French**: spend a minimum of 30 minutes in the French Centre doing an activity in French : homework, reading, participating in a French activity... , and have a monitor stamp your "Passeport d'activités"

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 on September 14, 2015. 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 lab manual to the lab. Written and comprehension exercises will be done in the lab on a regular basis.
9. Students are expected to check the D2L page on a regular basis for announcements, homework, assignments, marks and the tentative schedule.
10. Please mute your cell phone during class.
11. Students are advised to read the excerpt on PLAGIARISM.
12. Grading Rubrics

### **Dictations**

Dictations are spelling tests. They 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, 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 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, tenses, conjugations, punctuation, agreements, sentence structure, spelling, prepositions and avoidance of anglicisms). In French 209, each composition is worth 10%. Dates are posted on the tentative schedule.

### **3. 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 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. In French 209, the oral presentation is worth 5%. Please choose a date 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 post the format of the test on D2L or send it through email to all students. In French 209, each test is worth 15% of the final mark, and dates are posted on the tentative schedule.

#### 5. Online Quizzes

There are four (4) online quizzes posted on D2L and available immediately and until **Wednesday April 13, 2016, 12:00PM**. Each quiz corresponds to one of the 4 units covered during the semester (*Promenades* Units 1, 2, 3 and 4) and consists in 100 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 want to see 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 but submission date is Dec 4.

You will respond to 100 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 *Supersite* 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.

Make sure to submit your 4 quizzes before **April 13, 2016, 11:55 PM**.

#### 6. 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.

#### 13. How to enhance your French class?

- Go to the French Centre on a regular basis. The French Centre is a drop in centre with French monitors hired to help you with your French. It is located in Craigie Hall C 301 and is open Monday to Friday, 10.00AM to 3.00PM. The French Centre organizes all kinds of activities for students of French, please participate! You can borrow magazines, books and movies in French, eat your lunch, attend the "Café Croissant" the first Wednesday of each month, play a game in French or review material covered in class. This is a fun place to be. Go with a friend!
- Use the *Supersite* regularly to review vocabulary, and do online exercises.
- Use to following website for extra online exercises :  
<http://ucalgary.ca/repst/exercices-de-langue/>

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services ; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/)<<http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>>.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf) .

**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.