

Intermediate French Conversation

UNH Course Code: FRE203

Subject Area: French Language & Literature

Level: 200

Prerequisites: Intermediate French II (co-requisite) or higher

Language of Instruction: French

Contact Hours: 45

Credits: 3

Description:

Designed for the student having had a minimum of 3 semesters of university-level French, Intermediate French Conversation refines and builds upon oral production skills acquired at the Beginner and Intermediate levels. Learning French in France, you have a considerable advantage as far as active, language acquisition is concerned: the reality of continual contact with the French and all their linguistic and cultural idiosyncrasies. Your goal, therefore, is to develop such conversational skills which will extend, on one hand, from practical, communicative situations to, on the other hand, more complex and demanding acts of speech such as “defending your point of view” and “giving and receiving compliments” among people with whom you are involved in daily life.

To this end, you will learn and integrate into your daily usage an extended vocabulary of words, phrases, idioms and expressions. For the many political, cultural and current events and issues raised and debated in class, you will use different levels and styles of French, from the most formal to the most familiar.

Conducted entirely in French, this class requires daily preparation as well as a high level of engagement on your part during class meetings. And while the instructor does not expect you to understand every word said in class, you should listen/look for patterns and contextual clues in order to gain a global understanding of the situation and sense behind it. Learning to derive global meanings from speech and text that you may not entirely understand is a powerful tool that will hone your ability to understand your environment as you navigate your way through French-speaking cultures, both literally and figuratively.

Your constant attention and dynamic participation are indispensable ingredients for making real and observable improvements in your cross-cultural competency. As an active student you will be expected not only to come prepared to class, but also to discuss there the new cultural facts or discoveries you have encountered outside of class.

Learning Objectives:

Grammatical Objectives:

- review of all tenses: present, past, conditional, future, subjunctive
- interrogative structure
- comparative structure
- pronouns: direct/indirect, personal, relative

Lexical Objectives:

- introduce oneself / to introduce others
- inquire about events
- propose an activity
- express apology

- congratulate
- express opinions
- express judgements
- insist
- outline plans

Intermediate Cultural Skills:

- identify subtleties in a French conversation
- express oneself with confidence while participating in a conversation
- French theatre

Instructional Format:

The class will include individual and group work as well as preparatory work outside of class. Students can expect to encounter authentic documentation from varied sources such as excerpts from TV/film, advertisements and literature. Student participation will include various activities such as role play and question & answer. Instructor-led excursions will take place throughout the semester. The class will meet two times a week for 90 minutes.

Form of Assessment:

Various elements will be taken into account when determining your final grade. The instructor will explain in detail the content, criteria and specific requirements for all assessment categories but the basic breakdown is as follows below. A passing grade in all of these categories is required in order to pass the course.

Class Participation	10%
Homework	10%
Oral Presentations	30%
Midterm Examination	25%
Final Examination	25%

Class Participation: When deciding class participation grades, traditional criteria such as preparation, completed reading before class, interactive group work and active, meaningful participation are all taken into account. Attendance and punctuality are expected and do not count positively towards the participation grade. However, laxity in these areas will have a negative effect on your grade. The use of English will also negatively impact your participation grade.

Homework: In order to prepare for productive participation in class, homework is assigned to allow you the opportunity to review material covered in the previous class as well as to anticipate material to be covered in the next class. It is therefore essential that your homework be completed in a thoughtful and insightful manner. To encourage consistent preparation, your homework will be evaluated on a regular basis. No late homework will be accepted.

Oral Presentations: You will do three oral presentations over the course of the semester: one based on an issue of your choice in “Notre époque” in *Le Nouvel Observateur*, one based on a French movie, and one based on the play *Le Tour du Monde en 80 Jours*. These presentations will assess your oral production and comprehension.

Midterm Examination: The midterm exam is an oral examination that will assess your listening comprehension as well as your knowledge about and ability to reproduce the vocabulary and idiomatic structures studied in class.

Final Examination: Over the course of the semester, you will collect approximately ten artifacts of your choice (words, pictures, different souvenirs of your stay in France, etc) and then present and justify to the instructor and other students how these artifacts, in a global context, represent your experience in France.

CEA Attendance Policy:

Every student is expected to attend all scheduled class sessions on time and be thoroughly prepared for the day's class activities. In compliance with NEASC and UNH accreditation requirements, CEA instructors compile regular attendance records for every course and take these records into account when evaluating student participation and performance.

- In each three-credit 15-week course, a maximum of the equivalent of two weeks of accumulated absences due to sickness, personal emergency, inevitable transport delay and other related impediments will be tolerated.
- Your final course grade will drop one full letter grade (e.g. A- to B-) for each additional class missed beyond this two week period, regardless of the reason for your absence. However, you will automatically fail a course if your absences exceed the equivalent of three weeks of class.

Furthermore, to comply with immigration and financial regulations, you must maintain full-time student status and attend at least 12 hours of class every week. Consequently, the Dean and Program Director will dismiss from all CEA courses, programs, activities and housing any student who fails to maintain full-time status.

Required Readings:

The required course textbooks listed below are available for purchase at various bookstores around Paris. Please consult the list of bookstores that was distributed during the Academic Orientation. You must have constant access to these texts for reading, highlighting and marginal note-taking. It is required that you have a personal copy of each. Additional copies will be placed on reserve in the Academic Affairs office for short-term loans. Periodical literature, articles, documents, maps, digital images and other sundry materials also required for your class are available in PDF or Word format, are stored in the e-course file assigned to each class, and are located on the CEA shared drive for in-house consultation or copying to your own USB flash-drive. In addition, the Academic Affairs Office compiles a bank of detailed information about the many libraries, documentation centers, research institutes and archival materials located here in the city and accessible to CEA students. You will be required to use these resources throughout your studies. Direct access to additional resources and databanks are available to you through the online library of the University of New Haven.

Claire Miquel, *Communication progressive du Français, avec 365 activités*; CLE International 2006.

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Course Content

Session	Topic	Activity	Student Assignments
1	Présentation du cours et des étudiants	Faire connaissance dans un contexte amical	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 32
2	Les gestes typiquement français Les questions indiscrettes	Faire connaissance / Bavarder	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 32
3	Le vouvoiement et le tutoiement	Repérer les niveaux de langue	Lire article : « <u><i>Tout est « trop » pour les enfants</i></u> , dans <i>Aujourd'hui en France</i>
4	Excuser – S'excuser	« Pardon, je suis désolé... » « Je regrette. »	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 23
5	Parler d'un service	« Comment ça marche ? »	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 13
6	Proposer – accepter – refuser	Proposer une sortie Présentation orale	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 17
7	Critiquer, analyser, commenter	Commenter le film Présentation orale	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 35
8	Refuser poliment	Inviter à dîner Exprimer un empêchement	Devoir : lire l'article « <u><i>Dînons ensemble</i></u> » dans <i>L'Express</i> de J. Attali

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9	L'exclamation	Faire des compliments	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 27
10	L'art délicat des compliments	La façon de s'habiller	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 36
11	Exprimer une opinion	Demander / Donner son avis	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 37
12	Faire un compte-rendu	Préparation à la sortie au théâtre	Rédiger un compte rendu
13	Prendre la parole	Présentation d'un compte-rendu oral	Correction compte rendu
14	Les stéréotypes franco-américains	Présentation d'un compte-rendu oral	Correction compte rendu
15	Dire du bien	L'intonation	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 36
16	La météo	Les expressions idiomatiques	Consultez des bulletins de météo
17	Examen		

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Session	Topic	Activity	Student Assignments
18	Les critiques	Dire du mal	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 35
19	Exprimer l'accord	Les nuances de jugement	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 39
20	Exprimer le désaccord	Quelques expressions de la comparaison	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 39
21	L'articulation	Préparation de la sortie au cinéma	Préparation de la sortie au cinéma
22	Le cinéma français	Sortie au cinéma	Réaction au film
23	Parler d'un film	Conversation autour de la pièce	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 34
24	« Je rêve d'y aller »	Exprimer des intentions ou des espoirs	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 40
25	Les nuances dans l'intention	Exprimer des intentions ou des espoirs	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 40
26	Convaincre avec politesse	Insister Présentation orale	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 20

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Session	Topic	Activity	Student Assignments
27	« Mais si, je t'assure. »	Insister Présentation orale	<i>Conversation Progressive : niveau intermédiaire</i> Chapitre 20
28	L'alibi	Jeu de rôle	Révisions examen final
29	Révisions, examen final	Révisions	Révisions
30	Examen final		