

COURSE SYLLABUS



French 1

FRE 100

Fall 2017

Mon, Wed 9:45-11:15

Lecturer: Arnaud Sassi Tchokonté

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Office hours: I do not have an office at AAU, but students can arrange to meet me after class. I will always be available on Mondays and Wednesdays (11:15-12:15).

Semester Credits	3	Language of Instruction	French
ECTS	6	Level	Introductory
Length	15 weeks	Pre-requisites	French I
Contact hours	42 hours	Course type	Language course

1. Course Description

French 1 is an introductory course designed for beginners in French language who want to understand (or revise) the basic tools to communicate in French through four skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

The documents used during the course will emphasize specific grammar, vocabulary, phonetics...so that students can conceptualize the way language works, and give them the first blocks to build a strong skill in French language.

Culture and civilisation are part of the course. Students will learn about "Francophonie" (French-speaking countries), and will be introduced to some basics of French history. They will also be introduced to the places where they can discover French culture in Prague.

The course aims at delivering an all-round practical knowledge of grammar, skills, vocabulary and real-life functional language.

2. Student Learning Outcomes

After completing this course, students will be in the middle of the A1 (level), which is the first level in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. They should be able to communicate about themselves and their close environment.

At the end of *French I* students will be able to:

- present themselves and ask personal informations to other people
- interact in a simple way; ask basic questions
- arrange a meeting;
- describe where you live;
- speak about their activities, their hobbies;
- situate themselves in a city
- analyze and test out new grammar strategies in listening, writing and speaking;

3. Required Materials

Coursebook, **Gammaire Progressive du Français, niveau débutant**
Maïa Grégoire

4. Teaching methodology

The main characteristic of the course is an emphasis on establishing conversational skills. Therefore the approach adopted is based on a communicative methodology, i.e. the students should have many opportunities to speak and to practice the language. An idiom is not a sum of isolated words but a web of contextual and intentional linguistic activities. Therefore students will learn to interact by the means of role-playing games and creativity exercises. The indispensable grammar base will be acquired in a simplified form. However, the concept of systematical and continuous language learning will be realized by regular homework assignments, vocabulary quizzes, and permanent learning-by-doing training.

5. Course Requirements and Assessment (with estimated workloads)

A written exam will be held in class at mid-term and a final exam will be held on date during finals week. The final will cover all course material covered during the semester.

Attendance is required. Students are expected to arrive on time and to attend class regularly. Each above 2 absences lowers the grade by ½ a point. 12 missed classes = F. Students are expected to study for about one hour after each lesson.

Grading:

- 2 written tests (the first one will be 5 weeks into the course). Each of them will be worth 15%.
- 2 grades for participation (the first one will be 5 weeks into the course, the other one for the rest of the semester). Each of them will be worth 10%.
- Final exam will be worth 30%.
- Short tests will count for 20%.

Students are expected to come to class prepared to participate in class discussion.

They are also responsible for catching up with the content of lessons and homework if they were absent.

In addition short tests of the reviewed material might be given during the lectures and the students might be asked to reuse knowledge in situation (This also applies to students who miss a lesson, the latest one included).

Important note: The final grade will be a sum of the above mentioned requirements and it is not possible to pass the course unless all of the assignments are completed. Furthermore, if you fail more than one assignment during the course, you will not receive a passing grade. **There are no retakes of any assignments.**

The use of laptop computers, mobile phones or any other electronic devices is forbidden. Any disruptive activity e.g. late arrival, chat, eating, using mobile phones etc. will result in a lower mark.

6. General Requirements and School Policies

- All coursework is governed by AAU academic rules, and students are expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and academic integrity in their work. All students are expected to be familiar with the AAU academic rules available in the Student Handbook.
- **Communication:** The university and lecturers will use only the student's university email address for communication. Students are responsible for checking their university email accounts regularly.
- **Attendance** is required. Students are allowed two unexcused absences. Absences above this number may result in failure of the course. NOTE: Every 3rd late attendance will be equated with a full, *unexcused* absence.
- Mobile phones should be on silent; no calling or texting during class meetings (wait until the break). *Students consistently observed to be doing web surfing, texting, or other activities unrelated to the course will receive point deductions for class participation.*
- **Cheating and plagiarism:** AAU strictly enforces its policy against cheating and plagiarism. Full policy is available in the Student Handbook.

Briefly: Cheating and plagiarism results in the failing grade from the assignment at minimum, it may lead to suspension from the university.

Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities are asked to contact their lecturer as soon as possible to discuss reasonable accommodation.

7. Grading Scale

This is the official grading scale at AAU. Do not change.
For required courses, C- is the minimum passing grade.

Letter Grade	Percentage	Description
A	95 - 100	Excellent performance. The student has shown originality and displayed an exceptional grasp of the material and a deep analytical understanding of the subject.
A-	90 - 94	
B+	87 - 89	Good performance. The student has mastered the material, understands the subject well and has shown some originality of thought and/or considerable effort.
B	83 - 86	
B-	80 - 82	
C+	77 - 79	Fair performance. The student has acquired an acceptable understanding of the material and essential subject matter of the course, but has not succeeded in translating this understanding into consistently creative or original work.
C	73 - 76	
C-	70 - 72	Poor. The student has shown some understanding of the material and subject matter covered during the course. The student's work, however, has not shown enough effort or understanding to allow for a passing grade in School Required Courses. It does qualify as a passing mark for the General College Courses and Electives.
D+	65 - 70	
D	60 - 64	
F	0 - 59	Fail. The student has not succeeded in mastering the subject matter covered in the course