



Center for French Studies
FRE 102-AIX 1
Practical Elementary French II
202425 Fall

Course Details

Credit Hours: 3

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays

Time: 2pm /3.25pm

Prerequisite to attend this course:

Students have completed one semester of French.

Instructor Information

Florence Rossignol

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Course Description

Students will learn the French language via spoken and written exercises, and by observing and interacting with their immediate environment in Aix-en-Provence. The initial emphasis will be on listening comprehension and oral ability, with progressively greater emphasis on reading and writing skills. The aim of this class is to provide students with the means to understand French and express themselves. Syntactical and linguistic elements are integrated into the context of the students' daily life in France. Audiovisual and reading activities as well as in-class discussions draw upon the diversity of French and Francophone society and culture. Practical, everyday communication is emphasized in hands-on exercises in writing, speaking, listening, audio and video sessions. Class is taught in French.

Course Objectives

- The aim of this class is to provide the student the means to better understand French and express herself/himself/themself in an efficient manner. The student will be able to speak about himself/herself/themself, his/her/their immediate environment. He/she/they will be able to talk about personal tastes and interests and understand the main points of a text or a conversation.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the semester, students will be capable of:

- Understand common words and basic phrases when people speak slowly and clearly.
- Use familiar names, words and simple sentences about their experience in Aix (shopping, food, Art)
- Ask and answer simple questions about their health, trips, tastes etc.
- Produce simple sentences to describe where they live and people they know.
- Write a short text describing their experiences in Aix and its surroundings.

(These skills adhere to the European Language Portfolio for level A1+ of the CECRL (Cadre Européen Commun de Référence des Langues) of the Council of Europe).

Instructional Methods and Activities

Typical class includes :

Oral discussion about life in France, students' own questions about their new life (survival French: sentences or cultural explanations of immediate relevance)

Collective and individual homework correction

Practical exercises, role play

Field practice, outdoor observations to discover the people and culture of Aix-en-Provence.

Examples: describe French habits in the streets or in a cafés; understand and give directions visiting a place; talk with fruit and vegetable vendors in the open air market; order coffee

Group work: creative writing, dialogues, etc.

Short oral presentations (for example: a presentation with photo and video)

Variety of games to practice French language such as songs, cartoons, board games, etc.

Primary/Required Textbooks and Materials

Edito A1

ISBN: 9782278104468

Publisher: Didier

Assessment, Evaluation, and Grading

Participation : 10 % ;

Two oral productions : 10%;

Homework : 10% ;

Quizzes : 20%

Note book : 10%

Mid-term exam : 20% ;

Final exam : 20%

Extra Credits: Cultural activities: Conversation club (6 % max)

Additional credit of 2% per activity (with a maximum of 6% per semester). They are not obligatory but HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. After participating in this activity, students will have to write a ten-lines text in French and submit it within the week following the activity. Each text should include the date of the activity, a brief description. To validate the credit, you must write this text without any help (AI, online translator or websites)

- Participation: Students are expected to actively participate during each class.

- 2 oral productions (oral 1 : My routines ; oral 2 : Photolanguage)

- Homework : Students must review vocabulary and grammar after each class. Students will have homework that will be either corrected in class or picked up. The homework should be neatly presented or will be refused. Grade will be "F" if homework is not done on time.

- Quizzes : Students take a short written quiz on a regular basis about grammar, vocab, conjugation. No make-up quizzes will be given (before or after the quiz date and time). Grade will be "F" in case of absence. (Multiple choice questions, true or false, Yes or No, knowledge test, etc.). Students can re-submit corrections to improve their initial grade.

- Written Exams : Students take a cumulative mid-semester exam and a cumulative final exam for 90mns each. Written comprehension, written expression, grammar and vocabulary will be tested. No exam will be given in advance or later.

Grade will be "F" in case of absence.

- Note book : Each week, students will be expected to keep a note book in French

Grading System/Grade Distribution

Grading System/Grade
Distribution

U.S	ACM	French Equivalent
95-100%	A	17-20
90-94%	A -	16
88-89%	B+	15
84-87%	B	14
80-83%	B-	13
78-79%	C+	12
74-77%	C	11
70-73%	C-	10
68-69%	D+	9
64-67%	D	8
60-63%	D-	7
0-59%	F	0-6

Attendance

One of the primary requirements this semester is that you attend class. This is not a lecture class; it's essential that you come to class on time, be prepared for the lesson, and be ready to participate in discussions and activities. Attendance will be part of your final grade. Any absences can harm your final grade. It will be up to the student to manage and communicate with professors about their absences. For every absence, your final grade may be lowered by one half-letter grade (B+ to become a B, B to become B-, and so on). ACM-IAU professors are empowered to impose academic sanctions (including a lowered grade or even failure) upon students for unexcused absences, frequent tardiness, work submitted late, or any other actions or behaviors that violate ACM's academic standards and policies.

Academic Policies

All students are responsible for reading, knowing, and understanding the information pertinent to their areas of study available in the ACM Catalog. The catalog contains requirements for all degree programs, course descriptions, academic policies, and regulations that govern ACM. All parts of the catalog are subject to annual changes as university rules, policies, and curricula change. It is your responsibility to keep informed of such changes; failure to do so will not exempt you from whatever penalties you may incur. Catalogs are published from August through July.

Review the latest catalog at: <https://www.acmfrance.org/academics/catalog>

Schedule of Classes and Assignments

Content may change according to the pace of the class.

Theme 1: What about you? 2 sessions

1: Revisions - How to communicate in class - To introduce oneself - like or dislike. My hobbies. - Syllabus and guidelines for the journal to be kept during the semester

Communication

- How to greet each other —> « tu » and « vous »; say and ask how we are;
- Review the sounds of the letters of the alphabet.
- Give personal information, ask for and give an email , an address, a telephone number.

Grammar:

- Review the French alphabet (the sound of the letters)

- Review the subject pronouns Je, tu, il, elle, on, nous, vous, ils, elles
- Revision of some verbs in the present tense (être, avoir, appeler, habiter, aimer)
- Adjectives of nationality (feminine, masculine) + professions
- The simple question (Quel âge as-tu?), Questions with "do" (Tu parles espagnol?) Questions with "what" (Quel âge as-tu? Quelle est ta nationalité? Quel est ton numéro de téléphone? Quelle est ton adresse mail?)

Vocabulary: presentation vocabulary:

- Greetings; Polite expressions;
- Numbers from 0 to 100;
- Reminder: Days of the week, months of the year and seasons; countries and nationalities.

Class activities: Presentation games; number games; communicative activities (book p 160)

Homework: Review the vocabulary to introduce someone. Written communication: Introduce yourself in 5 sentences minimum + ask minimum 5 simple questions to get to know each other.

2: Communication: Describe yourself.

- Describe people, their family (physics and character).
- Identify things.

Grammar:

- Ask questions (continued). : Qui est-ce? C'est quoi ? Est-ce que c'est... ? Combien ça coûte... ?
- The negation with "avoir" and "être": Je ne suis pas blonde – Je n'ai pas de frère. (book p50 (ex 3, p 51 and p52, exercise 3 p 53)
- The defined articles; the indefinite articles (Book page 36-37)
- Adjectives (book p. 10-14) and possessive adjectives (book page 40).
- Tonic pronouns (book p 146. Exercises 1, 4 p 147)
- Verbs in the present tense: aimer, porter, écrire et lire .

Vocabulary: family, face and body, clothes, colors.

Class activity: game : find the right description

Homework: Review grammar (finish exercises done in class if necessary) and vocabulary for description, family, hobbies. Ask questions Write questions to interview a person , (ex :from their host family); record the conversation and send an audio file to the teacher. (graded)

Theme 2: Where are we going? 2 sessions

Quiz 1 (introduce and describe yourself, ask questions, grammar and vocabulary seen in week 2)

1: Communication: ask, indicate a path while visiting a place.

- Talk about a city. (Example: Aix en Provence)

Grammar: Il y a, il n'y a pas

- Prepositions: à, de, chez, en, au. the most common
- "er" verbs: aller, visiter, regarder, chercher, tourner, croiser, passer, travailler, voyager (book p.

38 and 104)

Vocabulary: transport. Directions for an itinerary (là gauche, à droite, en face, etc.)

Homework: grammar: exercises p 58 (3, 4, 5) + p 63 (5, 6) + (finish the exercises done in class if necessary)

2: Communication: Describe a city. Cities to discover: Paris, Montreal

Vocabulary: the city, the monuments.

Class activity: Talk about your favorite cities.

Homework: Reviews for the week (vocabulary and grammar) + (finish exercises done in class if necessary). Power point: present your city + In my city, "il y a"... "mais il n'y a pas"...

Theme 3 : At the table! 2 sessions

Quiz 2: indicate a route. Grammar and vocabulary

1. Communication: Buy your groceries. Order at the restaurant, at the cafe.

Grammar: The singular and plural of nouns (une pomme, des pommes)

- The partitive articles (book p 80. Exercises 3 and 4 p 81)
- The quantity with "de" (un kilo de, une bouteille de, un morceau de, beaucoup de...)
- The conditional (j'aimerais)
- Verbs: boire+manger+commander+vouloir.

Vocabulary: fruits and vegetables. Businesses. At the restaurant, at the cafe

Activities: Video: ad « love, love ». role plays: at the market, at the restaurant, at the café

Homework: Complete grammar exercises done in class if necessary.

2. Communication: Explain the contents of your fridge; indicate a cooking recipe.

Grammar: Imperative tense

Vocabulary: cooking vocabulary

Class activities: Finding information on connected fridges + Debate

Homework: Find a recipe for French cuisine or not and make a shopping list.

Theme 4 : What is the program? 2 sessions

Quiz 3: Grammar and vocabulary 1.

Communication: Suggest an outing, set an appointment. Book by phone. Tell and ask the time.

Grammar:

- Temporal markers and reading the time.
- The recent past (je viens de faire du shopping)
- The frequency (ne jamais, souvent, parfois...).
- Must, want, can.

The near future, book p 108.

Vocabulary: outings, cultural activities

Class activity: Start the activity "What are we doing this weekend"? Example: On the Internet, search for an outing offered by the city of Aix or the surrounding area. Record the information.

Homework: continuation of the activity started in class. Write an email or WhatsApp to propose this outing to the group.

2. Communication: Talking about your daily life

Grammar:

- Verbs in « ir » the present tense (partir, finir, dormir).
- Pronominal verbs in the present tense (se préparer, s'occuper, s'habiller, se lever, se réveiller, se brosser etc.).
- L'imparfait with avoir (1). Book p 110 (exercice no. 3) 112/113 (ex: 2 and 4 p 113)

Vocabulary: daily activities

Class activity: Poem: Prévert's morning breakfast + Learn 10 lines of the poem by heart.

Homework: split the poem in half & learn it + write a text to talk about your routines. Save it and send it to the teacher by WhatsApp → Graded activity = Oral production 1

Theme 5 : Happy holidays. 2 sessions

1. Communication: Talk about your plans, Prepare a trip + Pack your suitcase.

Grammar

- Imparfait (continued) + with être (p114)

Vocabulary: travel: accommodation, transport. Useful items when traveling.

Class activities: Write a list of the contents of your suitcase for your next vacation.

Homework: Grammar revision (past tense) and vocabulary seen during the week + (finish the exercises done in class if necessary).

2. Quiz 4: vocabulary + grammar

Communication: Express sensations, positive emotions, surprise

Grammar:

- The comparison of quality + mieux, meilleur . p 84, exercices 3 and 5 p 85

Vocabulary: sensations and emotions

Class activities: Living your dreams. Written comprehension: Text by Nicolas Bouvier; Travel writer. "The use of the world".

Homework: Written communication : minimum 10 sentences describing sensations, emotions and surprise you experienced in France.

Homework: General revision + Mid-semester Exam preparation.

Mid-semester Exam -> Content: Introduce yourself, reconstruct a dialogue at the café, describe your routines + Describe your city and explain an itinerary.

Theme 6: Relate the past 2 sessions

1. Communication: Describe a situation in the past. Recount a childhood memory.

Grammar:

- Passé composé with "avoir"

Vocabulary: the main moments in life

Class activities: extract from the film "The Fabulous Destiny of Amélie Poulain"

Homework: Written communication: The memory box. Write a short text (10 lines minimum) that tells what is in your childhood memory box.

2. Communication: Indicate the chronology. Understanding an autobiography.

Grammar:

- Passé composé (continued)

Vocabulary: art, madness, biography

Class activity: written comprehension: the life of Camille Claudel

Homework: Choose a photo of someone you admire and write his/her biography. (date of birth, place of birth, field (literature, cinema, science, politics etc.). Describe his/her era + the important events of his/her life.

Theme 7 : At home 2 sessions

1. Communication: finding out about accommodation; express rules of common life.

Grammar:

- Obligation and prohibition (Il faut + verb in the infinitive)

- The preposition of place , devant, derrière, sous,...

Vocabulary: housing, furniture

Class activity: describe your accommodation.

2. Communication: describe your lifestyle, your preferences, express your tastes (eg: city or countryside?).

Grammar:

- Comparison of quantity : plus de, moins de, autant de +nom (book page 86/87). Ex n°3, 5, and p 88 ex 4.

Class activity: Describe your dream house (10 lines minimum).

Homework: Photolanguage = Create your physical and psychological portrait in images to present in front of the class (activity graded → Oral production 2)

Theme 8 : Health 2 sessions

Present your photolanguage

1. Communication: Ask and say how you feel. Expressing a negative emotion. Talk about your health

Grammar:

- Prepositions of place, chez, chez le, chez la, au, à la..

- Give advices: tu dois...;

Vocabulary: the body, health

Activity: In groups of 2: to be in good health, you need...+ conversation workshops on health.

2. Communication: describe a photo related to the body, give your opinion on tattoos, paintings on the body.

Vocabulary: the description of an image (foreground, background, etc.)

Class activity: Describe a photo to the group.

Homework: grammar vocabulary revisions for the week

Theme 9 : fashion, consumption, technological objects 2 sessions

Quiz 5: grammar, vocabulary

1. Communication: Describe an object (everyday objects, technological objects), the characteristics of objects (dimension, shape, size, weight, color).

Grammar:

- The demonstrative adjectives ((ce, cet, cet, ces). Book p 42, ex 3,4,5.

Vocabulary: technological objects

Homework: grammar, vocabulary reviews + finish the exercises done in class if necessary.

2. Communication: talking about fashion in France, tattoos

Vocabulary: fashion accessories

Classroom activities: A tattooed school teacher? debates

Theme 10 In the great outdoors 2 sessions

1. Communication: Expressing a life choice.

Grammar:

- Comparison (reminder).

- Futur proche + futur simple (avoir & être).

- 2 verbs to differentiate : connaître & savoir

Vocabulary: city and countryside. Life changes.

Classroom activities : Let's imagine the future!

Homework: Complete exercises done in class if necessary.

2. Communication: know eco-friendly actions. Express your dissatisfaction

Vocabulary: nature, fauna and flora.

Class activities: video « Living and working green » + animal games.

Return the note book

Revision for the final exam

- Revision of themes + vocabulary: 2 sessions
- Grammar revisions: 2 sessions
- + group outing depending on the weather.

Final exam

BEHAVIOUR IN CLASS

Be on time.

Come to class prepared with your homework, notebook, books and pens.

Keep your cell phone turned off.

Stay in class during the entire period.

Eat before and after class (You may ask special permission to eat during class).