FRENCH 1~ BEGINNING FRENCH

Welcome to class! *Bievenus à la classe de français!*

FALL 2021 / Section: 57385 / 5 Units/ Instructor: Franchesca Amezola

COURSE OVERVIEW

This is a beginning course in conversational and written French for non-native speakers; it is intended for students without previous exposure to French. Students will be introduced to the pronunciation, vocabulary, idioms, grammar, basic composition, and they will explore the cultures of France and other Francophone countries and regions. ADVISORIES: English 1A or 1AH. (A, CSU-GE, UC, I).

What You Will Learn

Throughout the course, you will develop language skills in French, will gain a sensitivity to differences and similarities in cultural issues, and by the end of the semester, you will be able to:

1. when shown a drawing of several actions, describe what is happening.
2. discuss your habits, vacation plans, describe your home, friends/family.
3. interview other students to find out their experiences.
4. tell about your daily routine: the 20-30 things you do in a normal day.
5. describe other persons and things using appropriate adjectives.
6. tell some important things you did yesterday, or last summer.

Computer Readiness

- This online French course requires you to watch videos, record videos, make voice recordings and many other things that require an updated computer. The last thing I want is for you to be frustrated by technology, so before beginning this course, please go to Computer Requirements to see whether your computer meets the requirements for using MindTap.

- Please Note: The System Check is also accessible in the drop-down box next to your name located in the upper right corner of your MindTap page.

Required Materials

- Computer (desktop or laptop), iPad or smartphones do not support the audio/video exercises
- Webcam, microphone, and speakers or earphones/pods

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- **MindTap**, 1 term (6 months) Printed Access Card for *ATELIER*, First Edition, Jansma/Kassen/Denié-Higney, Cengage, Boston, MA, 2019.

- You may purchase the **MindTap Printed Access Card** for *ATELIER* at the college bookstore OR for a discounted price, at the publishing's company website. Follow instructions on Week 1 as to the process of buying the code and accessing the class materials.
- **Do not buy a used code from an outside source**; these codes can only be used once by one student.

Grading and Evaluation

This course is not self-paced. All assignments, discussions, oral activities, quizzes, etc. are to be completed no later than 11:59pm PST/PDT on the date indicated.

Amount of Work

This is a 5-unit course, and the workload reflects that. For *every unit*, about *three hours* of work are required. You will be reviewing grammar tutorials and completing various activities online to reinforce what you are learning. You will also spend time completing compositions, discussions, modules quizzes, and preparing for oral presentations, the final exam; this will require on average about **15 hours a week.** Depending on your computer skills and understanding of the materials, the amount of time spent on the class may vary, as you become acquainted with online procedures.
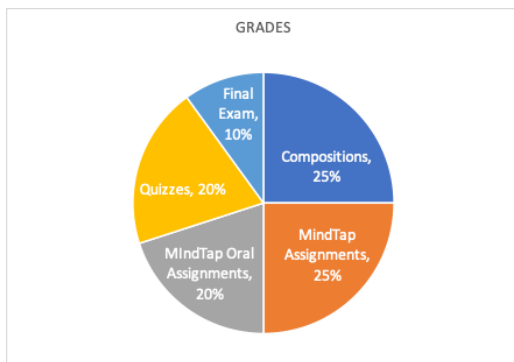

Figure 1 Amount of Work

Assignment	Percentage of Total Grade
Compositions / Discussion Boards	25%
MindTap Assignments	25%
MindTap Oral Assignments	20%
Lesson Quizzes	20%
Final Exam	10%
TOTAL	**100%**

Table 1Grading Scale

Grading scale

A = 90-100%	B = 80-89%	C = 70-79%	D = 60-69%	F = 59% and below

MindTap Assignments

Each module in MindTap will have formative activities that will assess your listening, reading and writing assignments. You will also watch cultural videos and read articles, and you will answer comprehension questions. More specifically, MindTap includes a carefully designed "learning path" that will take you step-by-step through each module. This process is fundamental to your success and includes a short introduction to the broad content; lively presentations of key topics and content; brief comprehension checks; abundant opportunities for practice and for using the content in context through chat and finally an opportunity to self-evaluate using a checklist of "Can do…" statements that specify what you are expected to be able to accomplish after completing the chapter.

- You weekly MindTap Assignments **need to be submitted every Sunday night by 11:59 pm PST/PDT** and new ones will be assigned every Monday morning.

MindTap Oral Assignments

Every module in MindTap has required **speaking/video assignments** to be completed individually or with a partner(s). These assignments will be scaffolded to help you communicate using the newly acquired language skills. They will be graded with a rubric that evaluates task completion, comprehensibility, pronunciation, intonation, as well as vocabulary and grammatical accuracy. **IMPORTANT!** Try your own personal best in oral assignments. It is very easy to tell when someone is cheating on camera. It is easy to see eyes moving across a screen or looking down or side to side to check your notes, so please don't try it. There is a zero tolerance for cheating. Prepare for the assignments and look directly into the camera. I do not want to have to give anyone a zero if I suspect that you are cheating. Check schedule for MindTap Oral Assignments due dates.

- You will also be <u>required</u> to **meet two times via Zoom during the semester** with the instructor for 10 minutes each time. We will meet once in the middle of the semester and once towards the end of the semester for the purposes of oral evaluation. See Calendar for specific dates. Other occasional online sessions will be held, and even though they are not mandatory, they will prove beneficial for the practice of the language with your peers and the instructor.
- **Failure to complete these oral assignments will result in an F in the course regardless of the other points earned!**

IMPORTANT! The Oral Assignments, which require you to record your voice, will receive a grade of zero (0) if you record surrounding noise such as music or other people speaking in the background, rather than your own voice with appropriate responses. Additionally, if your recording demonstrates that someone in the background helped you with an assignment or if you record vulgar language, disciplinary actions will be initiated for academic dishonesty and/or misconduct done on your part.

Canvas Compositions / Discussion Boards

Compositions / Discussion Boards will be assigned in Canvas throughout the semester. They are to be typed directly into Canvas. Your grade will be based on the breadth and accuracy of grammar and vocabulary, and your correct use of punctuation and accents.

IMPORTANT! The use of machine translators for graded assignments is prohibited and constitutes academic dishonestly unless expressly allowed for a particular assignment by the instructor. Please consult the grading rubric on each assignment. Check schedule for MindTap Compositions due dates.

Canvas Quizzes

You will be taking Quizzes at the end of each unit. These are designed to match the objectives and student outcomes, and may include listening comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, reading comprehension and/or writing. You will take these quizzes on Canvas. These are timed quizzes and you will have only one attempt to complete during an assigned day (please see calendar). If you don't complete the quiz by the deadline, you will receive a grade of 0 on the quiz. **I do not allow students to make up quizzes.** Check schedule for Canvas Quizzes dates.

Canvas Final Exam

At the end of the semester, you will complete a final exam on Canvas that will cover Module 1 to Module 5, and only part of Module 6. **I do not allow students to make up the Final Exam.** Check schedule for Canvas Final Exam date.

Office Hours and Communication Policy

My **office hours** are a time that is reserved for you. You can make an appointment or just contact me at these times.

- Monday 12:00-3:00 p.m.
- Tuesday 10:00-11:00 a.m.
- Wednesday 6:00-7:00 p.m.

There are three ways to contact me:

- Email franchesca.amezola@reedleycollege.edu I'll try to respond to your email within 24 hours.
- Canvas Inbox. Like email, I'll respond to you within 24 hours, usually less.
- Zoom Office https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/5082362525 Log in and I'll receive a message that you are waiting for me. I'll join you in a minute or so and we can talk face-to-face on our screens.

Besides office hours, I'm often available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. If you contact me on Saturday or Sunday, I will reply on Monday.

Drop and Attendance Policy

During the first week of class, you must complete the assignment *Introductions* Discussion on Canvas by the due date, or you will be dropped from the class. In an online class, attendance means that you regularly engage in course activities. Most of the work in this class will be completed on Canvas and Cengage/MindTap**. If you don't engage in the course work for more than a week, you will be considered absent and will be dropped from class.** Please communicate with me if you have concerns about your attendance.

Late Work Policy

You will know the due dates of assignments and exams for this class well in advance. All work, however, must be completed on time. Extra work or makeup work will not affect your grade. For MindTap Assignments *only* you have a one-day grace period. You may submit those assignments one day late, but will receive a 10% deduction on those grades. After that date, grades will be entered on Canvas. No exceptions. Please do not ask. No late Quizzes or Final Exam accepted. If you have an emergency, contact me before the due date. Examples of emergencies constitute a car accident or a heart attack. A planned vacation or a birthday party do not fall into an emergency category.

In need of a tutor?

You may always talk to me during office hours, but you can also work with a tutor from the Learning Center. Watch this video on information about online tutoring. This is the Tutor Matching Service that connects you with online tutors. Check it out! We are here to help you.

Disabilities

If you have special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or need course materials in alternate formats, notify me immediately. We have Disabled Student Programs and Services on campus. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.

Netiquette

Online etiquette is extremely important. We must show respect to one another at all times. Rudeness and disrespect will not be tolerated in this course. Please recognize that communication is rather "flat" online where we cannot see and hear each other. So be cautious when using sarcasm or negative statements. Familiarize yourself with "smileys," online icons that show emotion, so that you lessen the risk of offending the person you are trying to communicate with. Whenever possible, give constructive criticism and treat others the way you would like to be treated. Click HERE for more information about netiquette.

General Notes on Assignments and Academic Honesty

- Usage of English: For assignments, you should only use English when it is EXPLICITLY requested. If a language is not specified, use French.
- Accented Characters: Make sure to use accents marks when needed. They are within the MindTap exercises and they constitute an important part of the language.
- Original Work: The assignments represent opportunities for you as a student of French to demonstrate your acquired knowledge of the material we have covered. Your work should be wholly original, and only your instructor should provide feedback and corrections on it. While you may use online dictionaries to look up words and expressions, you may NOT use online translators to translate whole sentences. Assignments that contain structures that have not been covered in the course or phrases that have been copied from elsewhere will only receive partial credit. In some cases, if appropriate, you will be asked to redo the assignment. Academic dishonesty also includes cheating or using unauthorized devices during quizzes, exams or the preparation of writing projects. Egregious cases will be forwarded for disciplinary action. Penalties for academic dishonesty range from an "F" on an assignment to dismissal from the course and/ or the college.

Important dates

August 20 (F) Last day to drop a Fall 2021 full-term class for full refund
August 27 (F) Last day **to register** for a Fall 2021 full-term class in person
August 27 (F) Last day **to drop** a Fall 2021 full-term class to avoid a "W" in person
August 29 (SU) Last day **to drop** a Fall 2021 full-term class to avoid a "W" on WebAdvisor
September 6 (M) Labor Day Holiday (no classes held, campus closed)
October 8 (F) Last day to drop a Fall 2021 full-term class: (letter grades will be assigned after this date). See pg. 3 on the Academic Calendar 2021-2022 for additional information.
November 11 (Th) Veterans Day (*no classes, campus open*)
November 25-26 (Th-F) Thanksgiving Holiday (*no classes, campus closed*)
December 6-10 (M-F) Final Exams Week

FRENCH 1 COURSE OUTCOMES:

After the completion of this course the student will be able to:

A. recognize and comprehend basic spoken French at the low beginner level of competency.
B. orally produce comprehensible sentences and phrases in French to respond appropriately to questions, initiate and sustain simple conversations, or describe people, places and activities.
C. read, identify, and comprehend specific pieces of information from selected short readings and authentic, graphically-represented text such as ads or short magazine articles.
D. construct simple sentences and compose basic paragraphs applying correct usage of basic grammatical structures to express ideas.
E. demonstrate knowledge and appreciation of the diversity of Francophone cultures and the products of these cultures.

FRENCH 1 COURSE OBJECTIVES:

In the process of completing this course the student will:

A. recognize and pronounce the French phonology.
B. comprehend and interact in simple spoken French within the range of vocabulary topics and structures at the low-beginner level of competency. These contexts include meeting people; describing oneself and others; talking about family, friends, daily activities and pastimes; and making plans.
C. recognize and employ new vocabulary and apply the correct usage of basic grammatical structures in order to communicate ideas, describe events, ask simple questions, and respond, both orally and in writing, to questions in the present tense.
D. comprehend basic written texts using contextual clues, vocabulary recognition, grammar knowledge, cognates, and inferences.
E. review, recall and use previously learned vocabulary and grammatical structures while continuing to augment and expand this base of knowledge.
F. compare and contrast the target language and cultures with the language and cultures of the U.S.
G. demonstrate a low beginner level of competency in the five skills as mandated by the proficiency guidelines of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL): listening comprehension, speaking, reading, writing and a basic knowledge and appreciation of the people and cultures of French-speaking countries and regions.

Welcome to class! You will enjoy learning French and about the Francophone cultures. *Bienvenus*!

Photo Credit: https://medium.com/allme/what-is-francophonie-a9bb7dc68f