

Beginning French I

FREN 1003 (3 credits)

Switzerland: International Studies and Multilateral Diplomacy

This syllabus is representative of a typical semester. Because courses develop and change over time to take advantage of unique learning opportunities, actual course content varies from semester to semester.

Course Description

This course is provided online prior to students arriving in-country. The course seeks to provide students with broader access to the host culture and enable participation in daily social life. Students are introduced to basic concepts and principles of grammar, developing the ability to function easily in predictable daily social situations and maintain basic face-to-face conversations.

With a focus on communicative competence and linguistic functional ability, the lessons cover grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation as well as skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Instructors adapt the content of the courses to students' needs in order to achieve much greater fluency in a short period of time.

Instructors use a wide variety of materials and exercises, including authentic recorded material, role-plays, newspapers, and magazines, in addition to a French learning method proposed by the language school where classes take place.

Through a homestay residence in the French-speaking Canton of Vaud, each student becomes a member of a family and shares in its daily life. This opportunity facilitates cultural immersion and helps develop language skills further.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, student should be able to:

- communicate in simple and routine task
- ask and answer simple questions on familiar topics
- handle very short social exchanges
- read short, simple texts
- understand short, simple personal letters
- write short notes and messages such as postcards, emails, etc.

Language of Instruction

This course is conducted entirely in French.

Course Schedule:

This course is offered online. Students will regularly be assigned homework to complement and practice what has been studied in class. A list of instructional material will be provided on the first-class day. Below is a list of recommended textbooks:

Recommended Bibliography:

Grammaire progressive du français, Débutant, CLE international, ISBN 209033858-X

Exercices de vocabulaire en contexte, Intermédiaire, Hachette *Français langue étrangère*, ISBN 201155153-6

Les exercices de grammaire, niveau A1, Hachette *Français langue étrangère*, ISBN 978-2-01-155432-1

Vocabulaire illustré, Débutant, Hachette *Français langue étrangère*, ISBN 978-2-01-019861-8

Communication progressive du français, Débutant, CLE international, ISBN 9782090-333-060

Evaluation and Grading Criteria

Description of Assignments:

- Written exam: grammar, listening and reading comprehension, written production. Questions are multiple choice and short answer.
- Oral exam: 10-minute exam, assessing fluency, vocabulary, use of structures learned in class, and improvement.
- Short quizzes corresponding to topics studied in class.
- Homework: completion of exercises.
- Participation: questions and participation in oral exercises, motivation.

Assessment:

Written exam	40%
Oral exam	30%
In-class quizzes	10%
Homework	10%
Participation	10%

Grading Scale

The grading scale for all classes is as follows:

94-100%	A
90-93%	A-
87-89%	B+
84-86%	B
80-83%	B-
77-79%	C+
74-76%	C
70-73%	C-
67-69%	D+
64-66%	D
below 64%	F

Expectations and Policies

- Show up prepared. Be on time; have your homework completed and points in mind for discussion or clarification.
- Have assignments completed on schedule, printed, and done according to the specified requirements. This will help ensure that your assignments are returned in a timely manner.
- Ask questions in class.
- Comply with academic integrity policies as specified in the SIT Study Abroad Student Handbook: <http://studyabroad.sit.edu/documents/studyabroad/Student-Handbook.pdf>
- Respect differences of opinion (those of classmates, lecturers, local constituents engaged with on the visits, etc.). You are not expected to agree with everything you hear, but you are expected to listen across difference and consider other perspectives with respect.

Academic Policies: SIT prides itself on providing students with an experientially based program; we hold ourselves, and our students, to the highest of academic standards. Students are asked to refer to the **SIT Study Abroad Handbook** for policies on academic integrity, ethics, academic warning and probation, diversity and disability, sexual harassment and the academic appeals process.

Disability Services: Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Disability Services at disabilityservices@sit.edu for information and support in facilitating an accessible educational experience. Additional information regarding SIT Disability Services, including a link to the online request form, can be found on the Disability Services website at <http://studyabroad.sit.edu/disabilityservices>.

Please note that the syllabus, course content, lecturers, and readings may be modified by the academic director in order to better suit the needs of the course and its participants. Should any change of class topics or lecturers be necessary, students will be promptly notified.