

## Advanced French I

FREN 3003 (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. It aims to provide students with broader access to the host culture and enhance participation in daily social life. Students develop their conversation and comprehension skills, strengthening their interactive research. By the end of the course, students should be able to participate in discussions relating to particular interests.

This course focuses 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 a much greater fluency in a short period of time.

Building off skills that students already have, instructors use a wide variety of materials and exercises including authentic recorded material, role-plays, and newspapers and magazines, in addition to a French grammar book proposed by the language school where classes take place.

Through a homestay 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.

### Expected Learning Outcomes

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

- Interact with natives with fluency and spontaneity.
- Take an active part in discussions in familiar contexts, as well as present descriptions on a wide range of subjects of personal interest and to explain a viewpoint on a topical issue.
- Understand the main point of TV news, films, and current affairs programs and to read a wide range of articles and reports concerned with contemporary issues.
- Write clear text on subjects of academic context and personal interest as well as to write letters to highlight the significance of events and experiences.

## 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:

Exercices de grammaire en contexte, Niveau avancé, Hachette, ISBN 978-2-01-155170-2  
Grammaire progressive du français, Niveau intermédiaire, CLE international, ISBN 978-209-038124-5

Le nouvel Edito B2, Didier, ISBN 978-3-12-529345-8

La Suisse en jeu, Association français en jeu, Editions Lep ch, ISBN 978-2-606-01400-1

DELFB1 200 activités, CLE international-ISBN 978-2-09-035230-6

Confédération suisse, votations populaires, explications du Conseil fédéral - publié par le Chancellerie Fédérale

Various Swiss/French newspapers

## Student Evaluation and Grading Criteria

Description of Assignments:

- Written exam: grammar, listening and reading comprehension, written production. Multiple choice, short answer, and open-ended questions.
- Oral exam: 10-minute exam In which the student will be asked to choose a press article, present it, discuss it, and answer questions. Fluency, vocabulary, use of structures learned in class, ability to answer improvised questions, and improvement will be assessed.
- Oral presentation: 10-minute presentation. Fluency, structure, grammar and vocabulary, content, and ability to open a debate will be assessed.
- Homework and participation: homework assignments (exercises and short essays), relevant participation in debates, motivation.

Assessment:

Written exam	40%
Oral exam	30%
Oral presentation	20%
Homework and 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](mailto: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.