



Intensive French Language Study

FREN 1003-3503 (3 credits / 30 class & 30 practice hours)

SIT Study Abroad Program:

Senegal: Global Security and Religious Pluralism

PLEASE NOTE: This syllabus represents a recent 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

The course is primarily intended to enhance students' French oral and writing proficiency, and to introduce students to the variety of Senegal's rural and urban French linguistic cultures. The course is deliberately designed to take full advantage of students' immersion in Senegalese society. Students spend 30 hours on formal classroom instruction and another 30 hours on field activities that are intended to support language acquisition. Field assignments in recreational activities such as sports, song and dance, shopping, cooking and treasure hunts enhance students' language acquisition in interesting and engaging ways, build new vocabulary and develop inter-cultural competence. Students practice learned vocabulary and fluency using simple texts, moving to more complex texts as they gradually develop their language abilities. Language proficiency assessment will include in-class oral and written tests and students' use of French throughout the course of the program, in everyday life and field assignments. Students' language abilities are assessed through an oral proficiency test at the beginning of the semester to determine language class level assignment. A second midterm assessment reviews progress in order to reassign class level. A third assessment at the end of the semester determines students' final language proficiency level.

Expected Outcomes

By the end of the course, students should have attained the following:

- Demonstrate enhanced proficiency in spoken and written French – i.e., students completing the course should move up two levels or more on the oral proficiency score;
- Articulate understanding of the historical and contemporary use and function of French in the context of Senegal; and
- Demonstrate confidence in the use of French in Senegal's social settings.

Course Schedule:

A course schedule outlining weekly lessons plans for French comprehension and writing goals will be circulated at the beginning of the course and revised each week. Lesson plans will list readings, videos, music, practice assignments and field activities.

Students are expected to complete all readings and assignments by the expected due date, and students should be prepared to discuss these during respective class periods.

Course materials:

Required CDs:

Pimsleur French Conversational Course - Level I Lessons 1-16 CD: Learn to Speak and Understand French with Pimsleur Language Programs Unabridged Edition

Or

Living Language French, Platinum Edition: A complete beginner through advanced course, including 3 course books, 9 audio CDs, complete online course, apps, and live e-Tutoring Com/Pap/Ps Edition

Select Texts (these are available at the program center):

Kane, Cheikh Hamidou. *Les Gardiens du Temple*. Abidjan: Nouvelles Editions Ivoiriennes, 1996.

Kane, Cheikh Hamidou. *L'Aventure Ambigue*. Paris: Julliard, 1961.

Sembène, Ousmane. *Les bouts de bois de Dieu*. Paris: Le Livre Contemporain, 1960.

Irele, Abiola. *Selected Poems of Léopold Sédar Senghor*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1977.

Sow Fall, Aminata. *La Grève des Bàttu*. Paris: Serpent à plumes, 1979.

Select Films (these are available at the program center):

Moolade - Ousmane Sembène

Hyenes – Djibril Diop Mambety

Guelwar - Ousmane Sembène

Camp Thiaroye - Ousmane Sembène

Ramaka, Joseph Gai. *Karmen Gei*. [San Francisco, California, USA]: Kanopy Streaming, 2015.

Music Genres (these are available at the program center):

Students examine and analyze texts from local musical genres such as:

Mbalax

Yela

Bugarabu

Local rap, hip hop and other popular music styles

Print and additional textual resources to be used in instruction:

Local and regional newspaper and periodical sources

Comic strips

Local publications

Kirikou

Proverbs

Evaluation and Grading Criteria

Student performance is evaluated by teachers at each class meeting. Lessons are planned and students regrouped according to learning pace and individual strengths and weaknesses. At the end of the semester, teachers will compose an evaluation for each student, taking into account both classroom performance, effort and the use of and improvement in language skills over the course of the class. Students will be evaluated on oral presentations, written assignments, and on the extent to which they make an effort to use French both inside and outside the classroom. In addition, students will be given an oral ACTFL exam by certified testers to help in assessing progress. The final semester grade is determined by the academic director based on a combination of the criteria above.

Evaluation:

Homework assignments	20%
Quizzes and oral exams	20%
Analytical paper	30%
Class participation	10%
Use outside class	20%

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

Grading Criteria

Students will receive grades on oral presentations and written work, as well as on the extent to which students make an effort to use the language outside the classroom. In addition, students may choose to take an ACTFL exam by a certified tester. The final semester grade is determined by the academic director based on a combination of the above criteria.

Student Expectations

Class Participation

Participation in class refers to attendance, punctuality, attentive listening and active engagement in all language lectures, discussions, field trips and other activities. It also means polite and respectful behavior.

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 refer to the SIT Study Abroad handbook for policies on academic integrity, ethics, warning and probation, diversity and disability, sexual harassment and the academic appeals process. Also, refer to the specific information available in the Student Handbook and the Program Dossier given to you at Orientation.