

Advanced French I

FREN 3003 (3 credits / 45 class hours)

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.

Description

This course 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, field visits, newspapers and magazines, in addition to a French grammar book proposed by the language school where classes take place.

Through a home stay 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.

Expected Learning Outcomes

The *Advanced French I* course comprises 45 hours of instruction (3 credits). Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to interact with natives with fluency and spontaneity
- Present descriptions on a wide range of subjects of personal interest
- Explain a viewpoint on a topical issue in a clear and well structured manner
- Comprehend the main points of TV news, films and current affairs programs
- Demonstrate the ability to understand a wide range of written articles and reports concerned with contemporary issues, and to grasp implicit content.
- Write clear, well-structured and articulated texts on subjects of academic context and personal interest, as well as letters to highlight the significance of events and experiences.

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Language of Instruction

This course is conducted entirely in French.

Course Schedule:

Students will attend French classes two to three afternoons a week during the program. Classes are attended by SIT students only. Students will regularly be assigned homework to complement and practice what has been studied in class.

Bibliography:

- Cosmopolite 3 B1, Hachette, ISBN 9782015135472
- Le nouvel Edito B2, Didier, ISBN 978-3-12-529345-8
- Grammaire progressive du français, Niveau intermédiaire, CLE international, ISBN 978-209-038124-5
- Exercices de grammaire en contexte, Niveau avancé, Hachette, ISBN 978-2-01-155170-2
- La Suisse en jeu, Association français en jeu, Editions Lep ch, ISBN 978-2-606-01400-1
- DELF B1 200 activités, CLE international-ISBN 978-2-09-035230-6
- 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 with two French teachers. Student will be asked to choose a press article, present it, discuss it, and answer questions. Will be assessed: fluency, vocabulary, use of structures learned in class, ability to answer improvised questions, and improvement
- Oral presentation: 10-minute presentation with a handout for the group. Will be assessed: fluency, structure, grammar and vocabulary, content, and ability to open a debate
- 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+

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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.

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