

## Intermediate French FREN 2003-2503 (3 credits)

### Senegal: French Language (Intermediate & Advanced)

*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 online course engages learners on a highly creative and instructive linguistic and cultural journey. They learn the mechanics of the languages and are given considerable space for self-expression and exchange both in oral and written forms.

Learners carry out research, write their essays at home and use the classroom time for presentations, discussions, film projections as well as for grammar exercises. They explore global issues and how these realities manifest in the context of Senegal while acquiring higher skills and competence in the use of the French language.

#### A. Grammatical points

The main goal for this course is to help students master these grammatical points. As for the method, it is not a matter of systematic grammar courses but trying to guide students so they can discover/understand by themselves grammatical points from adequate questions or exercises.

#### B. Conversation or discussion on current topics, historical figures...

- Values and beliefs in Senegal
- Coexistence between Muslim and Christian
- Begging in Senegal: definition, function, social and political status
- The religious brotherhoods in Senegal
- The Islamic veil
- Causes and consequences of global warming and world food crisis.

How do these phenomena impact your country and Africa?

- Talata Nder
- Dieumbeut Mboji (Queen of a thriving kingdom: The Walo)
- Lat Dior Diop (King of Cayor)
- Kocc Barma (Philosopher)
- Sembene Ousmane (father of African cinema, novelist)
- Cheikh Anta Diop (Multidimensional scholar)
- Aline Sitoe Diatta (Nonviolent female resistant to colonialism)

Other topics proposed by the students.

#### Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate spoken and written French grammatical and lexical accuracy.
- Expand active vocabulary, idiomatic usage and knowledge of Senegalese French;
- Read basic/complex French literary texts;
- Organize and articulate effectively more complex ideas in speaking as well in writing French;
- Demonstrate improved French language pronunciation.

## Course Schedule

Weeks	Lessons	Activities
<b>Week 1</b>	<u>Session 1</u> *Introduction to the course	*Students' expectations
	<u>Session 2</u> *Prepositions with geographical names	*Getting to know each other (presentation of students using USA map) *Written & oral exercises prepositions with geographical names  <u>Assignments</u> Exercice : complete with appropriate preposition
<b>Week 2</b>	<u>Session 3</u> *Revision of present tense	*Written & oral exercises to practice the present tense  <u>Assignments</u> * <u>Lettre à un ami</u>
	<u>Session 4</u> *Revision of tenses (perfect and imperfect)	*Written & oral exercises to practice different tenses  <u>Assignments</u> *Write a story in the past Ex : a paragrah on childhood souvenirs (1page + presentation in class)
<b>Week 3</b>	<u>Session 5</u> *Revision of tenses (perfect and imperfect)	*Questions and answers *Discussion

	<u>Session 6</u> *Assignment of week 2 /session 4 *NEGATION	*Students' presentation (a story in the past) * Uses and exercises of practice
<b>Week 4</b>	<u>Session 7</u> *The Pluperfect tense (Forms and Uses)	*Written & oral exercises to practice Pluperfect tense <u>Assignments</u> *Reading assignment analysis
	<u>Session 8</u> First Evaluation (written)	*Knowledge of the language (grammar)
<b>Week 5</b>	<u>Session 9</u> *Simple future tense	*Written & oral exercises to practice Future tense
	<u>Session 10</u> *Relative Pronouns	*Uses and exercises of practice
<b>Week 6</b>	<u>Session 11</u> * Movies screening	*Discussion on the films
<b>Week 7</b>	<u>Session 12</u> *Visite rurale virtuelle	Compte rendu détaillé visite rurale virtuelle
	<u>Session 13</u> *2 <sup>nd</sup> Evaluation (presentation)	*Topics suggested by students
<b>Week 8</b>	<u>Session 14</u> *Subjunctive tense	*Different uses of the subjunctive present + practical exercises
	<u>Session 15</u> *Styles direct et indirect	*Written exercises
<b>Week 9</b>	<u>Session 16</u> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Evaluation (oral) assignment of week 4 /session 7	*newspapers articles Analysis Presentation by students

	<u>Session 17</u> Final Exam: Digital presentation + written report (2 pages)	
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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.

Print and additional textual resources to be used in instruction:

- Local and regional newspapers and periodical sources
- Comic strips
- Local publications
- 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, considering 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 try 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**

- Quizzes and Oral Exams (20%): (1st evaluation + 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation)
- Analytical Paper (20%): (3rd evaluation (oral) newspapers articles analysis)
- Homework Assignments (15%)
- Class Participation (10%)
- Final Exam (35%): digital presentation + written report (2 pages)

### **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

### **Class Participation**

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

### **SIT Policies and Resources**

Please refer to the [SIT Study Abroad Handbook](#) and the [Policies](#) section of the SIT website for all academic and student affairs policies. Students are accountable for complying with all published policies. Of particular relevance to this course are the policies regarding: academic integrity, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), research and ethics in field study and internships, late assignments, academic status, academic appeals, diversity and disability, sexual harassment and misconduct, and the student code of conduct.

Please refer to the SIT Study Abroad Handbook and SIT website for information on important resources and services provided through our central administration in Vermont, such as [Library resources and research support](#), [Disability Services](#), [Counseling Services](#), [Title IX information](#), and [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion](#) resources.