



Advanced French Composition & Communication

Course Details

Course Designator & Number: MONT 3016

Number of Credits: 3

Language of Instruction: French

Contact Hours: 45

Course Description

In this level, students will work through an intensive review of grammar and focus on how to articulate and organize ideas. Reading, writing, and textual analysis tend to be the focal points. Students will improve their skills on different writing assignments, incorporating the acquired grammatical structures and discover selected cultural topics through text and video. Generally, students will regular writing assignments will Generally speaking, at level B2 these topics are covered:

Course Objectives

Grammar:

- In level B2, the goal will be for students to acquire the skills to be capable of expressing themselves clearly in French, without giving the impression of struggling to say what they wish.
- Phrasal construction is an objective, including the use of relative clauses and infinitives, the present participle, the gerundive, and verbal adjectives.
- Verbs: at the B2 level, most of the commonly used verb forms and tenses will have been acquired; the goal will therefore be to focus on nuances and the specific meaning of various forms; key concepts such as simultaneity, prior and future actions will be explored in detail.

- Expressing assertion/command forms/doubt/hypothesis/supposition. Hypothetical phrases introduced by “si”; contrast between the indicative and the subjunctive moods.
- Complex sentences including logical markers of cause and effect, goals, hypothesis, restriction, opposition, concession, comparison; also “*au vu de, avoir beau, or, au mépris de*”).
- Indirect, reported discourse (advanced forms drawn from novels, theater, etc.)

Lexical skills:

- Students will be capable of varying their vocabulary to some extent in order to avoid repetition, and be capable of talking about a wide range of topics.

Socio-cultural topics:

- As in level B1, topics may be drawn from diverse areas of Francophone culture including cinema, civilization of Southern France, heritage studies, economic and social sciences, art history, and literature.

Methodology

The student’s grade will be based on an oral exposé, a research paper, and an essay question.

Course Prerequisites

Students must have completed FREN 3015 or the equivalent of 5th semester college-level French.

Grading

Grading Rubric

Letter Grade	Score or Percentage	Description
A	93–100	Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.
A-	90–92	Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.
B+	87–89	
B	83–86	
B-	80–82	Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.
C+	77–79	
C	73–76	
C-	70–72	Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to fully meet the course requirements.
D+	67–69	
D	60–66	
F	0–59	Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I.

Summary of How Grades Are Weighted

Assignments	Percentage of Grade
Quizzes and written exercises	40%
Participation	10%
Final exam	50%
Overall grade	100%

Policies

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to be on time and attend all classes while abroad. Many instructors assess both attendance and participation when assigning a final course grade. Attendance alone does not guarantee a positive participation grade; the student should be prepared for class and engage in class discussion. See the on-site syllabus for specific class requirements.

University of Minnesota Policies & Procedures

Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows:

Scholastic Dishonesty

Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an "F" or "N" for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask.

Student Conduct

The University of Minnesota has specific policies concerning student conduct. This information can be found [on the Learning Abroad Center website](#).