
Intermediate Grammar and Methodology

COURSE DESIGNATOR: MONT 1xxx

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: French

NUMBER OF CREDITS: 3

CONTACT HOURS: 45

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will help students to improve their written and oral skills in French and train them to develop an approach to various writing assignments. This is designed to broaden the range of options available to them for expressing themselves in the language.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To help students develop an approach for various written exercises/assignments. This includes organizing and structuring ideas and arguments.
- To improve both their oral and written French skills (comprehension and expression) and to help them express their thoughts in grammatically correct and linguistic register-appropriate French.
- To reinforce the students' grammatical knowledge and skills.

METHODOLOGY

An inductive approach, with both visual and audio material as supporting pedagogical media will be used to reinforce grammatical skills. Written and oral activities will be a key part of the curriculum. Feedback will be provided for written assignments; written assignments will be handed in for corrections on a regular basis. There will also be several grammar tests over the course of the semester to ensure students' acquisition of the material. The following types of assignments will be covered: *résumé* (summary), *essai argumentatif* (argumentative essay), the *exposé* (oral presentation).

Students will be required to correct at least two of their assignments taking into account the instructor's feedback on their first version, and hand in corrected versions to thereby improve their grade. The student's initial version will include commentary and suggestions for structural/ analytical changes as well as indicate grammatical and stylistic errors. The instructor will provide the students with regular feedback, focusing on essay structure, grammar and stylistics.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

Students must have a minimum level of A1+ (Waystage or Elementary) in the Common European Language Framework or have completed the equivalent of FREN 1002 in the University of Minnesota system.

REQUIRED READINGS/ MATERIALS

TEXTS

- Gregoire. M, 2011, *Grammaire Progressive du Français, Intermédiaire* CLE International.
Gregoire. M, 2012, *Grammaire Progressive du Français, Perfectionnement*, CLE International.
Miquel. C, 2012, *Grammaire en dialogue, Intermédiaire*, CLE International
Pons. S, Dollez, 2007, *Alter Ego*, niveau B1, Hachette

ARTICLES DE PRESSE

- Quotidiens : Le Monde, Libération...
Magazines : Le Français dans le monde

GRADING

Grading Rubric		
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 meet fully 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

Homework, participation, attendance	15%
Oral presentation	20%
First exam	20%
Second exam	20%
Final exam	25%
Overall grade	100%

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Different pedagogical tools will be exploited, including excerpts from literary works, news source articles, visual images and graphs; a broad variety of themes and topics will allow students to improve their written and oral language skills in French and also project themselves in French and Francophone society.

Each assignment, whether written or oral, will be worked on in and outside of the classroom, individually or in groups. Students will be asked to hand in assignments on a regular basis (a minimum of 3 written grades and one oral, for a group presentation).

The group oral presentation (2-3 students) will take place during the grammar sessions. Topics will include themes that highlight French society, and potentially a comparison with American society.

Important: Students will be asked to hand in a minimum of 10 pages of written work over the course of the semester.

COURSE CONTENT

WEEK 1:

Methodology: Creating an oral presentation

Grammar: Speaking about current events

WEEK 2:

Methodology: Understanding an informative text

Grammar: Recounting events in the past (the past tenses)

WEEK 3:

Methodology: Understanding an argumentative text

Grammar: The simple past

WEEK 4:

Methodology: Exam 1 (Reading comprehension + grammar)

Grammar: Expressing uncertainty/different forms of the conditional

EXAM 1

WEEK 5:

Methodology: Grammar exam 1 corrections/the techniques for reformulating ideas

Grammar: Expressing hypotheses

WEEK 6:

Methodology: *Résumé* writing

Grammar: Expressing comparisons

WEEK 7:

Methodology: *Résumé* writing

Grammar: Adjectives and demonstrative pronouns

WEEK 8:

Methodology: Exam 2 (*Résumé*+ grammar)

Grammar: Adjectives and indefinite pronouns—different forms of negation

WEEK 9:

Methodology: Developing an thesis statement

Grammar: Expressing yourself in short sentences (direct and indirect object pronouns)

WEEK 10:

Methodology: Argumentation (argument + example)

Grammar: Describing an object with precision (simple and complex relative pronouns)

WEEK 11:

Methodology: The argumentative essay

Grammar: Expressions of time

WEEK 12:

Methodology: The argumentative essay (continued...)

Grammar: Logical connectors

WEEK 13:

Final exam

Course conclusions and discussion/student questions

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 AND 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.