



Beginning French I

COURSE DETAILS

Course Designator and Number: MONT 1001

Number of Credits: 4

Language of Instruction: French

Contact Hours: 60

Instructor: Onsite Faculty

Term: Spring 2025

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a beginning level French course that will develop the four language skills (reading, oral comprehension, writing, and speaking). MONT 1001 is designed for students with little or no knowledge of the French language. In this course students will build skills for meaningful communication in French, develop their understanding of Francophone cultures, and reflect on their learning by participating in local cultural activities linked to themes and grammar points studied in the classroom. Each week, students will have opportunities for experiential learning through diverse activities/visits that will encourage them to exchange/communicate with the community aiming at opening the doorway for them to become global citizens.

Course Objectives

During this course, you will become an effective multilingual communicator, critical thinker, cross-cultural navigator, and life-long learner. Learning a language opens doors in the workplace, in your world as a global citizen, and also in your mind, whether it's through promoting creativity or developing critical thinking skills.

The goal will be to reach A1 competency in French (within the CEFR – Common European Framework of Reference for Languages). A1 corresponds to a user level elementary (level introductory or discovery). This means that you have the following capabilities: Understand and use familiar and everyday expressions and very simple statements that are intended to meet concrete needs, knowing how to introduce yourself or someone, being able to ask and answer simple questions about a person, and communicate simply if the caller speaks slowly and clearly and is cooperative.

The following topics and skill areas will be explored over the course of the program.

Grammar:

- Verb tenses: présent, passé composé, futur, impératif.
- Number and gender of nouns and adjectives, determiners: definite and indefinite articles, the partitive, possessives, and demonstratives.
- Simple sentences: affirmative, negative, interrogative, and exclamatory
- Subject, tonic, and direct–object pronouns
- Prepositions and adverbs

Lexical skills:

- Everyday vocabulary//professions/family/housing/food/directions

Socio- -cultural topics:

- Approaches and comparison of cultural and social aspects relating to the daily life and the heritage of France and its inhabitants.

Methodology

The course focuses on class discussions with an emphasis on speaking, listening, reading, and writing that will help students to develop linguistic and cultural skills. The course content provides opportunities to develop their understanding of Francophone cultures and, as previously noted, students will participate in organized activities that will also allow them to generate language and explore cultural aspects of its use while immersed in the community.

Required Readings/Materials

- Council of Europe, Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning,teaching, assessment, 2001.
- Méthode de français Edito, niveau A1- Collection Didier/ Français Langue Etrangère édition 2022.

- Cahier d'activités Edito niveau A1- Collection Didier/Français Langue Étrangère, édition 2016.
- Site Compagnon : www.didierfle-edito2022.fr

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 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

Assignments	Percentage of grade
Participation in class	10%
Cultural activities	30%
Quizzes	30%
Final exam	30%
Overall grade	100%

COURSE CONTENT

Each unit corresponds to 3 hours of instructor-led traditional in class teaching & 1 hour self-directed experiential learning activity within the community, guided by an online component.

Unit 1

Découverte de la langue française - Faire connaissance - Donner des informations personnelles

- Syllabus
- Premiers contacts
- Le vocabulaire de classe
- L'identité : nom, âge, adresse, profession, nationalité...
- Grammaire : Être, avoir, adjectifs de nationalité, j'aime/je n'aime pas, préposition devant le nom des pays....

Unit 2

Faire connaissance – Donner des informations personnelles (suite)

- L'identité : nom, âge, adresse, profession, nationalité...
- Grammaire: Être, avoir, adjectifs de nationalité, j'aime/je n'aime pas, préposition devant le nom des pays....

Unit 3

Les achats – Faire les soldes

- Vocabulaire des vêtements
- Faire des achats (demander la taille, la pointure, le prix...)
- Grammaire: Adjectifs, place de l'adjectif, les nombres

Unit 4

Présenter sa ville et se déplacer

- Décrire sa ville d'origine (ville d'où vous venez)
- Les articles définis et indéfinis
- Grammaire: Il y a – il n'y a pas de/d'& Les verbes en « ER » au présent

Unit 5

Présenter sa ville et se déplacer (suite)

- Décrire sa ville d'origine (ville d'où vous venez)
- Les articles définis et indéfinis
- Grammaire: Il y a – il n'y a pas de/d'& Les verbes en « ER » au présent
- Examen 1: production écrite permettant de reprendre les différents thèmes étudiés durant les 4 premières semaines

Unit 6

La gastronomie : les aliments et les plats

- Faire des courses
- Commander au café et au restaurant
- Grammaire: Les articles partitifs et Les verbes : acheter / faire / manger

Unit 7

Raconter sa journée

- Parler de ses activités quotidiennes
- Grammaire: Les verbes pronominaux

Unit 8

Parler de sa famille

- Présenter sa famille
- Grammaire: Les adjectifs possessifs

Unit 9

Le logement

- Se renseigner sur un logement, sur les quartiers de la ville avec ses commerces...
- Grammaire: Les prépositions de lieu

Unit 10

Situer des événements dans le temps / Parler de ses projets

- Faire des projets, partir en voyage
- Grammaire: Futur proche

Unit 11

Les vacances

- Parler de ses vacances
- Écrire une carte postale
- Grammaire : Introduction au passé (passé composé)

Unit 12

Préparation à l'examen final

- Révision générale
- Exercices divers

Unit 13

Examen final

- Compréhension orale
- Compréhension écrite
- Production écrite

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.