



Course Title: French 1
Course Code: FRN 01
Instructor: Heather Howard

Français 1: Automne 2019

Course Summary:

Bienvenus au cours de Français 1! Please read the course description carefully. It will provide important information about the French Program at Stanford and the course you have enrolled in.

I. THE APPROACH TO LANGUAGE LEARNING USED HERE AT STANFORD:

The program at Stanford seeks to help language learners develop the ability to communicate and interact in French. Communication and interaction, of course, involve two important processes: the ability to produce language *to say what you mean* and the ability *to understand language when others speak to you*. This is achieved through the memorization and repetition of key vocabulary, immersion in the target language through an exposure of a wide variety of oral and visual aids (images, video clips, music, and written texts) and continuous interaction with your instructor and classmates.

This program will seek to develop your ability to carry out a number of functions in French, while also providing the opportunity to understand what others say in French. French 1 will target a variety of communicative strategies such as:

- Greeting people and introducing oneself in a variety of settings
- Understanding and making typical classroom requests; identifying classroom objects
- Asking for and giving basic personal information (personality, age, physical description, clothing and colors)
- Discussing favorite activities, sports, hobbies, and preferences
- Describing a university and a campus, fields of study and preferred courses
- Expressing family relationships; talking about where people are from.

Focus in class will be on developing oral proficiency and aural comprehension, while also reinforcing the "backbone" of the language --- form and structure. Students are encouraged to study key grammatical rules outside of class to better prepare for class participation.

Please contact the Stanford Continuing Studies office with any questions
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II. CLASS STRUCTURE AND OBJECTIVES:

Typically, you will spend about one quarter of class time listening to spoken French. As your instructor, I will be your first contact with the language. You will learn through repetition, association with images, intonation, body language and other cues. In addition, we will supplement the text with a variety of audio and visual materials such as: songs, video clips, and other realia. All materials used in these presentations will be directly related to the topics covered in the text. You will be amazed how quickly you will begin to understand what you are hearing!!

The class will also have a strong interactive component, as you will be learning and practicing key phrases that you can use to communicate with others in a variety of social settings, both interpersonal and more formal. Typically, you will work with partners or in groups to practice vocabulary and structures.

I encourage you to also take the time outside of class to practice vocabulary, review new structures and avail yourselves of the resources that accompany the text. In addition, I will provide you with a variety of Internet sources to supplement the text.

Grade Options and Requirements:

A. Requirements:

Class attendance:

Class attendance is essential to develop proficiency in the language. Hearing spoken French geared to your level of acquisition in class will help you develop the skills needed to comprehend oral French. Interacting with others in the language will enable you to develop beginning communicative strategies in French.

Self-study and preparation:

The text is designed to present the grammar separately (see the green pages in each chapter labeled "Structures utiles.") You should read ahead and study the pages before the next class session (see Chapter Schedules below). We will do some of the written exercises together in class and others will be assigned.

Quizzes and class assignments:

There will be two take-home tests that will focus on assessing your learning of key phrases, vocabulary and structures. I will also assign homework to be turned in the following week. In addition, there will be two opportunities to submit oral recordings to receive feedback on pronunciation, vocabulary and accuracy.

B. Grades:

- Letter Grade (A, B, C, D, No Pass)
 - Attendance and Participation 30%
 - Midterm 15%
 - Final exam 15%
 - Homework and preparation 20%
 - Oral recordings 20%
- Credit/No Credit (CR/NC)
 - A passing grade (for "Credit") = at least 80% of expectations accomplished
- No Grade Requested (NGR)
 - This is the default option. No credit shall be received; no proof of attendance can be provided.

**Please Note: If you require proof that you completed a Continuing Studies course for any reason (for example, employer reimbursement), you must choose either the Letter Grade or Credit/No Credit option. Courses taken for NGR will not appear on official transcripts or grade reports.*

Tentative Weekly Outline:

Weeks 1-2: How to introduce oneself and exchange basic information: greetings (familiar vs. formal). The alphabet and numbers from 0 to 60..

Review of greetings. Identifying people and classroom objects.

Weeks 3-4: . Useful classroom expressions. Physical appearance and personality (Describing oneself and others). Clothing and colors.

Weeks 5-6: Saying what you like to do: preference verbs. Describing one's preferred activities in the present tense. Expressing preferences (adverbs, negation). Discussing one's favorite pass-times (compared with the French). Describing what one does on the weekend. Describing a university campus (places on campus)

Weeks 7-8: The Sorbonne, a French university. Describing what you study (used to study) and preferred subjects. Calendar: days of the week, months and seasons. Expressing age, hair color, eye color.

Week 9: Talking about one's family and family relationships. Reading about the French family. Learning personal adjectives to describe personality.