

Syllabus French 2a/2b – Intermediate French

Professor: Kevin Elstob

French 2a/2b - Section 1
TR: 3:30pm-5.20 pm (EUR 103)

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Office Hours:
Mon: 1pm - 3pm; Tues: 2 - 3 pm
and by appointment

Catalog Description

Intermediate French – Fren 2A

This third/fourth semester class further develops the four linguistic skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing). The emphasis is on speaking, reading and writing ability including dialogues, discussions and compositions in French. The spoken language and the relationship of the language to French and Francophone civilization and culture are given special attention. We therefore hone students' ability within a contemporary, cultural context so they can learn the language and some of the many cultural components, which constitute a French way of life: social issues, family, art, music, film, history, geography, and more. **Prerequisite:** One year of college French, suitable score on placement exam; or instructor permission. **Units:** 4.0.

Course Objectives

We aim to develop the four language skills and to familiarize the student with the Francophone world. The course objectives are to provide instruction and practice toward competency in French oral and written communication. The instructor will guide students through each part, gradually giving the students more autonomy to create on their own. The main communicative and grammatical goals are as follows: to engage in conversation with others using past, present and future tenses; to talk about social issues, and relationships, French and American perspectives, and immigration and diversity.

Important Guidelines and Expectations

a) In-Class

Class material is presented in French. Grammar, conversation, and written expression are emphasized. Language proficiency grows through the common courtesies and alliances that have anchored all language speaking communities, therefore students are expected to show mutual respect for one another, participate actively in class, focus on class activities, and demonstrate a desire to learn.

Language learning is not a passive activity, therefore, class time is used to practice as much spoken French as possible. This means not only speaking, but also listening; students should listen carefully to the instructor AND to other students. By listening closely we can learn a lot about how to say things and how to interact in another language. Students will often break up into groups to work on written and oral exercises so that they actively learn grammar, vocabulary, and expressions.

b) Preparation and Outside Class

In order to participate successfully, students need to study the lesson before coming to class (use the day-by-day study guide we provide). You are encouraged to speak French immediately using the new material learned. Consistent practice of all of the skills reinforces and builds our understanding of the language. SO we NEED to practice outside class as well as in class. Language is a DAILY activity therefore we expect you to do 30-60 minutes of French EVERYDAY - do not be afraid to make it pleasurable by supplementing exercises from the text and workbook with enjoyable activities - music, movies, reading a recipe - we are happy to provide ideas.

Textbook

The Ultimate French Review and Practice by David Stillman and Ronni Gordon

The textbook will be supplemented with material from films, poems, songs, TV shows and more.

Method

Active participation of the student in class is required. Oral practice of the French language is essential to our becoming comfortable with the language and the culture. Part of your grade will depend on your participation in class. Oral participation will include: repeating the vocabulary and new expressions as modeled by your professor, readings, dialogues with partners and in groups, skits and debates, games, songs, and rehearsals for recordings we will do in class. Students should also collaborate on portions of grammar lessons in group study.

Homework (see day-by-day guide on SacCT for your homework schedule)

In addition to preparing for each day's lesson, students have a homework and assignment schedule. You will find the schedule at the Fren 2A home on SacCT. This schedule is a minimum, do more exercises for more practice and extra credit).

Samlink Account

So that I can plot student progress in a confidential on-line grade book (you will have access to your own grades using your password and user name), you must have a Samlink Account. GET ONE before September 8th at the latest.

NO CLASSES

CSUS Academic Holidays: NOVEMBER 26

FURLOUGH Days for Our Class: NOVEMBER 24

FURLOUGH DAYS

Due to the massive budget cuts in the State of California, faculty have been furloughed for 2 days per month. Some of these days are instructional days, and, as the CSU administration and the faculty labor union said, “cuts of this magnitude will naturally have consequences for the quality of education.” One of these furlough days, listed above, will be taken when class would normally have met. Alternative assignments will be given to make up for the lost time.

For details on all assignments, please check the “Week by Week” on the SacCT page

GRADING

FINAL (Covers all material) - Dec 15 MRP 2032: 3:00-5:00pm	100
Oral exams (December 3)	100
2 individual presentations: “Une recette” (October 21 and 23); “Les prix du cinéma” (December 8 and 10)	200
4 Tests: <u>In Class</u> (Sep 22); <u>In Class</u> (Oct 20); <u>Take Home</u> (Pick-up: Nov 17; Due: Dec 1) <u>Take Home</u> (Pick-up: Dec 3; Due: Dec 8)	200
4 Compositions 1. Conversation 1: «Dans un café» (Due : Sep 22) 2. Conversation 2: «Une recette/un repas» (Due : Oct 20) 3. Rédaction 1 : «Ma sortie de rêve» (Due : Nov 17) 4. Rédaction 2 : «Le meilleur film» (Due : Dec 8)	200
Preparation and participation – do all homework, participate in class, be in class - Includes homework done on time. NB : All homework can be corrected for upgrade IF it is given in on time. The new grade is the average of original and corrected scores.	150
Binder: Include all your work (handout with details to follow) Due : Dec 8	50
TOTAL	1000

What you need to get a good grade:

Your overall effort in doing homework and participating in class are essential

A - a very good, almost error-free understanding and knowledge of vocabulary, grammar, sentence structure, and oral comprehension and proficiency (90-100 %);

B - a good understanding and knowledge of vocab, grammar, syntax, and good oral skills but errors occur throughout homework and tests (80-89 %);

C - knowledge and ability at this level reflects some understanding and knowledge of most materials presented, but confusion exists in the overall understanding of some concepts presented (70-79%)

D - little understanding and knowledge of vocabulary, grammar, syntax, and oral comprehension and proficiency. (60-69%)

I - you who have to stop coming to classes and turning in work can get an incomplete, but in order to receive this grade you must complete a written contract with the instructor.

U - unofficial drops (equivalent to an F) are given to you who do not attend class or no longer attend class, turn in assignments, or take tests.

PLEASE NOTE

Homework and participation

Do all homework on time, participate in class, be in class and do in class assignments

NB : All homework can be corrected for upgrade IF it is given in on time. The new grade is the average of original and corrected scores.

Syllabus changes

The instructor reserves the right to alter this syllabus at any time should it be warranted by the demands of sound pedagogy. Changes to the syllabus will be announced on the SacCT announcement page. In any event, the posted, e-text versions of the syllabus and schedule of classes are authoritative, taking precedence over any printed version.

Special needs - *Students with Disabilities*

In order to ensure equal access and opportunity to pursue their educational goals, CSUS Services to Students with Disabilities (SSWD) offers support services for students with visual, hearing, mobility impairments, specific learning disabilities, psychiatric disorders, and/or other types of disabilities. For more information call 916-278-7825.

If you have a documented disability and verification from SSWD, and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as