French Reading, Conversation, and Composition

Required Texts: Collage, Révision de Grammaire, 5ème édition
Collage, Cahier d’exercices oraux et écrits, 5ème édition

Introduction.

French 202 continues the work of FR 201, reviewing, expanding, and perfecting listening, speaking, reading, writing, and cultural awareness of French through a communicative approach. The primary emphasis in this class is on the student’s active use of the language. This class is taught using an immersion method—we will all speak French at all times.

Because many of you are taking this course to complete your core requirement and plan to go no further, I wish to remind you what an important asset the knowledge of a foreign language is in today’s market.

"South Carolina ranks 16th in the nation in terms of the number of workers employed by U.S. subsidiaries of foreign firms..."

Organization for International Investment, 25 September 2007

"In the wake of a changing security environment and the increasing globalization of the U.S. economy, the need for personnel with foreign language proficiency has grown significantly... Along with benefits to local and national interests, substantial personal and economic benefits can flow to the individual who is multilingual. From higher salaries and promotions, easier access to jobs and increased mobility, individuals who are proficient in more than one language are offered more choices."

NCELA, January 2003

"Not surprisingly, job seekers have found that knowledge of a foreign language can make an average candidate an extraordinary one. ...evidence suggests that a U.S. college graduate who speaks another language fluently can add up to $15,000 to his take-home pay."

The Post and Courier, 6 April 1998
Knowledge of a foreign language is now recognized as an essential element of a liberal arts education, as well as a vital asset in a global society. The importance of being able to communicate effectively with the millions of non-English speakers in the areas of commerce, government, science and the arts cannot be over-emphasized.

Why Study French in particular?

The study of any foreign language may well be determined by one's job or region, either of which may restrict global mobility. After English, French is the most frequently taught foreign language in the world. The International Organization of Francophonie comprises 53 nations of which 32 have French as an official language. French and English are the only two languages spoken on five continents and are the only two global languages. According to the 2000 census, French is one of the languages spoken at home in the United States by 1.9 million people, with concentrations in Louisiana and New England. www.francophonie.org/oif/pays/statut.cfm

- Together with English, French is the working language of many international organizations, including the UN, NATO, UNESCO, the International Red Cross, the International Olympic Committee, FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association), the Council of Europe, and the European Community.
- French is the dominant working language of international courts of justice and auditors.
- In a job survey distributed by the US State Department (8/30/05), 135 employers required or preferred French, 49 Spanish, 25 a UN language (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish), 6 Arabic, 6 Russian, 2 German, 2 Italian, and Chinese

Economics of the French and of France

- French is the language of our largest trading partner (Canada). In 2000, the province of Québec alone ranked as the fifth largest trading partner of the United States with over $104 billion in trade. In that year, trading with Canada surpassed the total of all exports to our southern neighbors. France has the sixth largest economy in the world, following the US, Japan, Germany, China, and England. In 2005, France’s economy was similar in size to that of China and England.

- France ranks second in the world in agricultural exports. In recent years, the United States has been the largest foreign investor in France, and in 2002, France was the second largest foreign investor in the United States. In 2003, France was the second largest destination of investments in the world. Per capita, France surpasses Japan in the number of exports and, per capita, exports more than twice as much as Americans. Overall, France ranks fourth internationally in exports and leads the world in the production of luxury goods.

- Tourism is a major component of the French economy. The total number of visitors each year surpasses the total population of France.
France gives more foreign aid to developing countries than does the US.

Science and Technology

- France has long been a leader in the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Approximately 90% of the electricity generated comes from nuclear reactors. Excess electricity is exported to immediate European neighbors. France will be the site of the world’s first nuclear fusion reactor (International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor). Finally, France is a world center for research in high energy physics.
- France ranks fourth internationally in automobile production and third in automobile exports.
- Seven of the top ten French exports to the United States are industrial or high technological products.
- In medical research, the AIDS virus was first isolated by French doctors. In genetics, the Human Genome Project is located in Paris.
- France is the world’s third largest producer of electronics projects and is a European leader in commercial aviation (Aérospatiale, Arianespace, Airbus). Most commercial satellites are launched into space by Ariane rockets.
- France is a world leader in development of high-speed rail transportation (the TGV holds the world’s speed record). The smart card was invented in France and the Minitel database was a precursor of the internet. In telecommunications, fiber optics and HDTV were invented in France.

France-US Cultural Relations

- Historically, France has been extremely influential in the development of the United States. The Declaration of Independence reflects radical ideas deriving from Montesquieu, Voltaire, Diderot and Rousseau, writers and philosophes with whom our Founding Fathers were intimately familiar. Thomas Jefferson’s donation of his library to Congress met with much resistance from the more conservative members due to the content of many of the French works which were considered too radical or seditious. Separation of powers embodied in the Constitution derives from the same sources. La Déclaration des droits de l’homme et du citoyen (adopted by the Assemblée Nationale 26 August 1789) is remarkably similar in content to the Bill of Rights proposed to the First Federal Congress 25 September 1789. The ideals of the French Revolution have formed the basis of all subsequent French republics up to the present. Ideologically speaking, the United States and France have a common heritage which have bound the two nations together, although political differences have occasioned momentary separations. (http://www.info-france-usa.org/franceus)
- In short:

When employers look at prospective employees, they frequently look for applicants whose dossier indicates a course of study and/or experiences which rise above the
norm. An applicant who has undertaken the more difficult route to a diploma by mastery of a foreign language rises above the rest. With French, the student has access to the most widely spoken language, after English, and becomes quite familiar with a culture that has significantly influenced our own. Given the strength of the French economy at present and the technological developments currently in place or planned for the future, French is indeed the global language of the future.

HOW TO SUCCEED IN THIS CLASS:
1. Learn two things about every structure presented: how to form it: **Formes** and when to use it: **Emplois**.

2. Be aggressive with your French. Don’t just look at the **Formes** and the **Emplois** sections, believing that you know the material they present. Say them out loud in your own words as you study. Memorize examples or create your own. Knowing French means using French.

3. Find a system for memorizing vocabulary—for instance, put new words on post-it notes displayed in conspicuous locations, write them on index cards or in a notebook you keep with you, or record them on a cassette tape. Group new words with their synonyms, opposites, words that rhyme, word families, sentences using them, and so on. First-year vocabulary is not enough for this level.

4. Be consistent. Study a little every day rather than a lot at once. The former leads to increased proficiency while the latter leads to unpredictable results and frustration.

5. Succeeding in this class does not mean simply showing up and saying whatever pops into your head. It is very helpful to “rehearse” what you will say each day. Read aloud from the text, do some of the items in exercises, and then volunteer when you come to class. Ever wonder why some students sound better then others? They are prepared.

Reminders:
- The Honor Code of The Citadel is expected to be observed at all times: **A cadet does not lie, cheat, or steal, nor tolerate those who do.**
  No form of cheating will be tolerated. This does not mean that you may not use your textbooks for homework, however. When working preparing presentations or writing up exercises, please feel free to use your textbooks and dictionaries.

- Consequences for unexcused absences:
  First unexcused absence: 3 Demerits/3 Confinements
  Second: 5 Demerits/5 Confinements
  Third: 5 Demerits/10 Confinements
  Fourth: 5 Demerits/5 Tours
etc.

Roll will be called in the first 5 minutes of every class. The roll will be reported by computer, and can only be changed by your Tactical Officer. Please come to class everyday and arrive on time.

The breakdown of the final grade is as follows:

- Daily quizzes: 25%
- Chapter Oral Exams (based on the à l’écoute sections of the workbook/lab manual): 20%
- Mid-term and Final Exam: 10%
- Homework/Compositions (based on the Pour écrire en français sections of the workbook/lab manual) Newspaper essays: 25%
- Participation: 20%*

Quizzes: Instead of chapter exams, you will be given daily quizzes based on homework. Come to class prepared every day and you will have the opportunity to do very well.

*Participation: Letter grades (A, B, C, D, F) for participation will be assigned daily. This can either bolster or destroy your final grade. Your participation grade takes into account your attitude and your willingness to respond in French frequently as well as your ability to avoid sleeping in class. A student who falls asleep in class will be required to stand and will receive a participation grade of a D for the class period.

Newspaper essays: Every Monday I will send you a copy of the French newspaper Le Monde. You must choose an article to summarize in five lines for me—to be handed in the following Friday. Be sure to underline the lines in the article that inform what you have written, and include the article with your summary.

A note on Attendance: While there will be no attendance grade, the 20% rule, as set forth by the college, does apply and will be enforced. I.E., if you miss 14 classes or more, you automatically receive an F.

In the event that you come to class UNPREPARED, i.e. without your homework/composition or without having studied the previous class’s lesson, you will be marked absent. I expect you to be present both physically and mentally and if you are unprepared for class you are de facto mentally absent.

Behavior in class:

While in this classroom I expect you to behave with respect toward one another and toward me. That is to say that whenever someone is speaking, everyone else must look at that person, listen attentively, and remain silent. I expect you to listen actively, that is to say to nod your head if you understand what is being said and to shake your head if you do not understand.
Expressions for communication in class:
Because no English will be tolerated in this class, here are some expressions you may find useful:

Je ne comprends pas: I don’t understand.
Je ne sais pas: I don’t know.
Comment? Pardon?: Excuse me?
Répétez, s’il vous plaît: Please repeat (said to me).
Répète, s’il te plaît: Please repeat (said to another student).
Excusez-moi: excuse me.

As for addressing one another, please use “tu” with fellow students and “vous” with me. You may call me either “Madame Jellenik,” “Doctor Jellenik,” or “Professor Jellenik.”
PROGRAMME D'ETUDES

le 9 janvier : Introduction au cours. Chapitre 1 : vocabulaire ; le présent de l’indicatif des verbes réguliers.

le 11 : Le présent de l’indicatif des verbes réguliers ; les verbes qui changent d’orthographe.

le 14 : Le présent de l’indicatif des verbes irréguliers ; l’interrogation.

le 16 : les verbes pronominaux ; constructions particulières avec le présent.

le 18 : Révision.

le 21: Martin Luther King Jr.

le 23: **Examen oral chapitre 1.**

le 25 : Chapitre 2 : vocabulaire ; l’article défini et l’article indéfini.

le 28 : Le nom ; l’adjectif qualificatif.

le 30 : L’adverbe.

le 1 février : Révision.

le 4 : **Examen oral chapitre 2.**

le 6 : Chapitre 3 : vocabulaire ; les pronoms disjoints.

le 8 : Le comparatif et le superlatif.

le 11 : Le passé composé avec avoir et être.

le 13 : Le passé composé des verbes pronominaux.

le 15 : Révision.

le 20: **Examen oral chapitre 3.**

le 22 : Chapitre 4 : le vocabulaire ; l’imparfait.

le 25 : L’imparfait par rapport au passé composé.

le 27 : L’imparfait par rapport au passé composé.
le 3 mars : Les pronoms objets direct et indirects.
le 5 : Révision.
le 7 : **Examen oral chapitre 4.**
le 10 : Chapitre 5 : vocabulaire ; l’article partitif.
le 12 : Les pronoms adverbiaux *y* et et *en* ; l’ordre des pronoms objets.
le 14 : Le plus-que-parfait.
le 17 : Le plus-que-parfait ; les pronoms démonstratifs invariables.
le 19 : Révision.
le 21 : **Examen oral chapitre 5.**
le 31 : Chapitre 6 : vocabulaire ; l’impératif.
le 2 avril : Le futur simple.
le 4 : Le futur simple ; le conditionnel présent.
le 7 : Le conditionnel présent.
le 9 : Révision.
le 11 : **Examen oral chapitre 6.**
le 14 : Chapitre 7 : vocabulaire ; le présent du subjonctif.
le 16 : Le présent du subjonctif. L’emploi obligatoire du subjonctif.
le 18 : Le subjonctif par rapport à l’infinitif ; le subjonctif par rapport à l’indicatif.
le 21 : **Final oral.**

Thursday, April 24th, 1:00 pm : FINAL FOR FREN 202.02 (9:00 class).
Saturday, April 26th, 1:00 pm: FINAL FOR FREN 202.01 (8:00 class).