

FRE1102 French I - Beginners

Course Title	: French I- Beginners
Course Code	: FRE1102
Year of Study	: 2, 3 & 4 in priority (open to Year 1)
Number of Credits/ Term:	3
Mode of Tuition	: Tutorial
Number of Sections	: TBC
Teaching Hours per week:	3 hours per week
Total Teaching Hours	: 42 hours
Category in Programme	: Elective (free)
Pre-requisite	: Nil
Co-requisite	: Nil
Exclusions	: FRE1101
Exemption Requirements:	n/a
Recommended	: Cumulative GPA of 2.2
Restriction	: Nil

Course Description

The course focuses on introducing students to a third language and its culture with a view to preparing them to enter the global workplace. The emphasis is on providing students with an enjoyable, and interactive learning experience by creating opportunities for them to indirectly discover the new culture and actively practice using the language. Furthermore, the course encourages students to learn French more independently by completing a Portfolio.

The course has been developed with students' instrumental motivation in mind and is aiming to give them a foundation – if they choose – to prepare for an internationally recognised French examination (i.e. Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française –DELF- or the Test de Connaissance du Français -TCF), examined elsewhere.

Note: FRE1102 students enrol in this course to gain credits. So, although FRE1102 is similar in content to the equivalent non credit-bearing course FRE1101, students in this course will be more challenged with continuous assessment assignments such as the Portfolio independent learning project and also, with homework. This is to enable FRE1102 students to gain broader exposure and a more comprehensive understanding of the language.

Aims

The main aims of this course are to:

- ☐ provide you with the language tools necessary to communicate both orally and in writing at a beginner level in French
- ☐ develop your confidence in your ability to communicate in a new language and maintain your interest by providing varied, engaging and interactive activities
- ☐ get you to experience the French culture at first hand by meeting French people, through music or videos, or by participating in various cultural activities where possible
- ☐ increase your awareness of the global workplace through the introduction of a new culture
- ☐ develop your independent learning skills through the use of an e-Portfolio

Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the FRE1102 course, you will:

- ☐ be able to recognise essential linguistic features of French in texts and use them reasonably accurately orally and in writing
- ☐ be able to pronounce reasonably accurately
- ☐ be able to communicate orally in everyday social exchanges, displaying an appropriate cultural awareness
- ☐ talk or write about topics at beginner level related to home, family, friends, objects, routine, hobbies, etc.
- ☐ have developed a vocabulary level sufficient to discuss the above topics
- ☐ have developed your self-study skills, thus ensuring better progress whilst learning French and establishing effective learning habits (see below for further details)

Indicative Content

Topics will follow the recommendations of the European Council for the learning, teaching and evaluation of European languages, also reflected in the chosen course main teaching material *Le Nouveau TAXI 1*. The course is aiming at students acquiring the first level A1 as described by the European framework; it also provides the framework for the *Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française (DELF)* level A1 for the students who want to prepare elsewhere for this external examination after the FRE1202 course.

A range of self-developed and authentic materials will be used to cater for the needs and interests of the students as well as maintain a level of motivation and enjoyment.

Activities will be varied and could include, for example: games; role plays; watching TV programs, clips and films; visiting French based art exhibitions in town; inviting French exchange students to class; learning songs; being introduced to French cartoons/humour; taking part in a classroom French-created event, etc. Computers and IT will be used in the course where appropriate to facilitate learning.

Teaching Method

Students will work on a range of activities either individually or in small groups.

The main teaching focus will be on using interactive and learner-centred methods of learning where students are encouraged to use and explore the new language. Communicating orally and developing confidence in the ability to learn a foreign language will be paramount in this course. For this reason, a maximum class size of 20 will be set.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

Student learning outcomes will be assessed in a variety of ways:

- ☐ A speaking assessment will assess your ability to communicate (including pronunciation skills) in a social exchange / presentation situation.
- ☐ Two other assessments will test your understanding of grammar, vocabulary, listening, reading and writing.
- ☐ You will demonstrate your learning and study habits outside the classroom through the use of an Independent learning Portfolio. You will collect evidence in speaking, listening, grammar and vocabulary etc in your Portfolio at regular intervals. The Self-Study module will also help you to consolidate what you have learned in class and to gain further exposure to the new language.

Assessment

The assessment is 100% by continuous assessment. It will follow the regular grading system, i.e. grades A to F. Components of the two assessments include: [60% total]

1 x 25 % [midterm] 1 x 35 % [final]

- Compréhension Orale (Listening)
 - ☐ Grammaire/ Vocabulaire (Grammar/ Vocabulary)
 - ☐ Compréhension Écrite (Reading)
 - ☐ Expression Écrite (Writing)

plus

- | | | |
|----|------------|-----|
| 1. | Speaking | 25% |
| 2. | Self-Study | 15% |

Learning Outcome	Assessment Method			
	Mid-term Assessment	Interactive Oral Assessment	Final Assessment	Independent E-Portfolio
Understand all content mentioned above in intended learning outcomes in listening, reading, speaking and writing and use them through various class activities, enhancing and strengthening students' communicative skills for daily life and social relationship, by means of beginners' French grammar and vocabulary.	√	√	√	√

“Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations.”

Required/ Essential Readings

Nil

Recommended/ Supplementary Readings

References

Capelle, G. and Menand, R. 2008. Le Nouveau TAXI 1 Méthode de Français. Hachette Français Langue Étrangère : Paris.

Capelle, G. and Menand, R. 2008. Le Nouveau TAXI 1 Méthode de Français : Cahier d'Exercices. Hachette Français Langue Étrangère : Paris.

Hughes, A. and Reader, K. 1998. Encyclopedia of Contemporary French Culture. Routledge : London.

Lang, M. and Perez, I. 1996. Modern French Grammar : A practical guide. Routledge : London.

Online references

Académie Française <http://www.academie-francaise.fr/langue/index.html>

Alliance Française : <http://www.alliancefrancaise.com.hk/en/index.html>

CIEP (Centre International d'Études Pédagogiques) : <http://www.ciep.fr/delfdalf/index.php>

Cours de français interactif : <http://www.laits.utexas.edu/fi/>

FLE (Français Langue Etrangère) : <http://www.fle.fr/pro/ressources-etu/index.html>

Francophonie sans frontières : <http://www.francophonie-sans-frontieres.org/>

French at Hong Kong University e-learning : <http://www.hku.hk/french/resources.htm>

Le Monde <http://www.lemonde.fr>

Modules pédagogiques sur le site de la BBC
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/index.shtml#hptab>

RFI (Radio France International) http://www.rfi.fr/lffr/statiques/accueil_apprendre.asp

TV5 Monde: <http://www.tv5.org>

Syllabus

Wk	Communication objectives	Linguistic objectives	Cultural Awareness	Assessment
1	- Course introduction - Ice Breaking - Greetings - Introducing oneself	- The verb "<i>être</i>" (<i>to be</i>) at the present tense - Singular personal pronouns (<i>je/tu/il/elle</i>)	- Localisation of France - Introduction to the French language at natural speed	
2	- Identifying a person through nationality, occupation, place of residence, age - Asking/answering questions about people	- Masculine & Feminine forms - Jobs/ nationalities vocabulary - Yes/No questions + Wh-questions	- Introduction to library resources including useful online resources and websites in French	
3	- Reviewing introductions	- Pronunciation focus		

4	- Asking how someone is - Asking about someone (address/ telephone number/ email address/ jobs)	- The polite form <i>vous</i> - The first verb group (<i>ER</i>- verbs) - Possessive adjectives	Activities around a French song	
5	- Talking about leisure and what we like doing - Talking about one's family - Writing an email	- Vocabulary about family and hobbies - Possessive adjectives - Email format and letter expressions	- Introduction to <i>La Francophonie</i> -	
6	Revision;			First in class assessment or later Eg week 9 25%
7	- Naming objects in the living room - Locating and describing positions of objects in a room	- Plural nouns - Prepositions of place - Use of <i>Il y a</i> - Questions with <i>Qu'est-ce que</i>		
8	- Describing physical appearance - Expressing possession	- Vocabulary about colours and clothes - Word order - Agreement noun/ adjective - Negative form <i>ne...pas</i>	- Introduction to French humour through cartoon strips in magazines - Looking at French fashion brands	
9	- Characterising an item through colour/reference/size/ price - Asking and giving prices	- Review interrogative adjectives <i>quel/quelle</i> - Questions with <i>combien/ comment</i>	- Introduction to <i>euros</i> and <i>la zone euro</i> - Presenting <i>La Redoute</i> and <i>Les 3 Suisses</i> online catalogues	
10	- Reading a passage and answering questions - Describing a scene in writing in a letter format or in a poem	- Vocabulary		
11	- Describing a city	- Vocabulary about Paris - Introduction to the second <i>/R</i>- verb group and to the third verb group (other/ irregular verbs) in the present	- Introduction to various Parisian districts including artistic quarters and other famous places/monuments in the capital	

		tense		
12	- Describing a flat/ a house - Giving directions using a floor plan - Locating rooms in a house	- Vocabulary about a house (rooms/ floors/ adjectives to describe a flat/house) - Prepositions		- Continuous assessment No.2 - Submit Self-Study Portfolio 15%
13	Revision/preparation for test		Introduction to French festivals including <i>Noël (Christmas)</i>	- Continuous assessment No.3 - speaking test 25%
Last week of term	revision/preparation for test			Final in class assessment No.4 ,35%

*Note: The schedule proposed above is tentative. It may be modified according to student progress and time available.

Important Notes:

- (1) Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 3 hours of class contact and 6 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
- (2) Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations and Course Work. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
- (3) Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.
- (4) To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.
- (5) Students must adhere to the University’s guidelines and practices when using Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools. The official documents “Guidelines for Using GAI Tools at Lingnan University” and “Best Practices for Ethical and Responsible Use of GAI Tools in Course Assessments” can be found here: <https://www.ln.edu.hk/tlc/generative-artificial-intelligence/gai-guidelines-best-practices>