

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO  
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures  
Spring 2007

Course Syllabus: FRENCH 101

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Textbooks: *Débuts* 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., plus Workbook and Lab manual, CD-ROM + audio CDs (available at UNM Bookstore)

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to FRENCH101! Camille Leclair, a t.v. journalist in the film, *Le Chemin du retour*, will help you begin your journey of exploration into the french language. The film will provide a contextual point of departure for understanding the french culture and language, allowing you to enjoy the learning process in a dynamic student-interactive classroom where French will be the only language of choice. You will be surprised at how quickly your ability to understand and respond will develop. If you consistently keep up with assignments, by the end of the semester you should be able to listen to and understand simple dialogues, read and understand short texts, engage in brief conversations on everyday topics and write short compositions on familiar topics using the grammar and vocabulary practiced in class. You will easily know enough words and phrases to understand and to communicate with native speakers on a very basic level.

This course follows ACTFL language guidelines, integrating the five C's: communication, cultures, connections, comparisons and communities, to offer the student a well-rounded classroom experience.

FRENCH 101 is the first in a trilogy of *Débuts* courses. It will cover the *chapitre préliminaire - chapitre 7*, leaving chapters 8 - 22 for the subsequent FRENCH 102 and 201 courses. This three-semester approach allows for a more intense exploration of the themes and structures introduced by *Débuts*, as well as for much greater opportunity for oral practice, cultural forays and any other "communicative" digressions along the way. In other words, this is not "just another grammar class." Its objective is to teach students to communicate in a meaningful and enjoyable way using all four language skills: speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing. We hope that your adventure with *Débuts* and *Le Chemin du retour* will be both fun and productive at the same time.

FRENCH 101 is for students beginning the study of French, not for those who have had previous French classes. The following are the equivalency standards:

2 yrs of French = FR201      3 yrs of French = FR202      4 yrs of French or more = FR301 and above

Qualified students with disabilities needing appropriate academic adjustments should contact their instructor as soon as possible to ensure your needs are met in a timely manner. Handouts are available in alternative accessible formats upon request.

**PLACEMENT EXAM:** All FR101 students are required to take the placement exam in the Language Learning Center (basement of Ortega Hall), even if you have had no prior French. For exam times, see llcenter website). The student must give the exam report to the course instructor by the end of the first week of the semester. Failure to do so may result in being dropped from the class.

CONVERSATION SECTION: FRENCH 101 meets for only three hours per week, therefore we strongly encourage you to enroll in FRENCH 103, a one credit-hour course designed to complement FR101. FRENCH 103 is an enjoyable way to gain an additional hour of French practice. It is offered this semester on Monday 12 - 12:50 and Thursday, 12:30 - 1:20.

READING SECTION: FRENCH 108 is another one credit-hour course which complements FR101 and focuses on reading practice and skills. For those students intending to complete a course of study in French and also for those who need primarily a reading knowledge of French to enhance other studies or requirements, this class is ideal. FRENCH 108 is offered on Wednesdays 12 - 12:50.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

TEXTBOOK: This course will cover the *chapitre préliminaire* through *chapitre 7* of *Débuts*, where you will be introduced to the characters involved in the film. We will explore their lifestyles and personalities, their cultures and backgrounds through integration of film, CD-ROM and classroom activities, continually recycling and reinforcing material and themes presented throughout the various media.

PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE: In FRENCH 101, the regular attendance and active participation of each student are essential. Since the class is based on student interaction, your absence will be felt sorely. Each student is allowed 2 absences. After these, your attendance grade will be lowered by 4% every absence. Those students with perfect attendance and participation records will receive a bonus on their final grade.

HOMEWORK: You will find that regular rather than sporadic preparation will help you to make steady progress in this course. Always come to class prepared by reading and studying the pages in your textbook indicated by your instructor. Your instructor will regularly assign and collect homework. *Late homework will not be accepted.*

*Le Chemin du retour*: The student is required to watch episodes of this film in the Language Learning Center (located on the ground floor of Ortega Hall) at least once as the lesson is being covered in the textbook. The film reinforces material studied in class and provides the student with invaluable exposure to French in context. Or you may purchase the DVD and watch it at home.

WORKBOOK AND LABORATORY MANUAL: You will be required to complete and hand in exercises from the workbook as assigned by the instructor. Correct each exercise using the answer key in the back of the book. Use a different color pen or pencil for corrections. Included in the workbook is a lab manual. You can purchase the audio cd's to accompany the lab manual from the Bookstore, use the copies in the Language Learning Center, or use the McGraw-Hill on-line learning center.

STUDENT CD-ROM AND AUDIO CD: The CD-ROM that accompanies the textbook is a means for the student to interact with the material outside of class time. Your instructor will indicate the parts to be completed. The audio CD is also an extremely important component of the multi-media approach, allowing the student practice in pronunciation skills. The student should listen several times to each section since the pronunciation of the French language is obviously the key to communication.

**ORAL ASSIGNMENTS:** To evaluate your progress in listening and speaking, there will be an oral presentation and an oral interview over the course of the semester. The presentation is an opportunity for each student to speak to the class (3-5 min. in length) based on vocabulary and structures that have been covered in class. These presentations are for the benefit of the entire class, and as such should be "presented" and not read, in French, not English. The oral interview involves the student and the instructor in informal conversation. The student will answer questions and discuss basic ideas in French.

**CHAPTER TESTS AND QUIZZES:** A written test will be given at the end of *chapitres 2* and *5* to evaluate your progress in listening, reading and writing. No make-up exams will be given. In the case of an absence, your grade from the other exam will be given double weight. In addition, at least eight quizzes, both oral and written, will be given throughout the semester. These are to ensure that you are staying abreast of the material. They may also apply to assignments given outside of class, or activities from the CD-ROM or film, to determine how well they were completed and understood. The instructor may or may not be more specific as to the format and content of each quiz. The two lowest quiz scores will be dropped.

**FINAL EXAM:** This exam will cover material studied throughout the semester.

**COMPOSITIONS:** Four short compositions will be assigned over the course of the semester. Compositions should be either typed on the computer or very neatly written (double-spaced). Late compositions will not be accepted. Rewrites are encouraged but not required. The grade may be adjusted according to the quality of the rewrite by a maximum of 10%. Naturally, the student will be expected to create and write these compositions by him/herself, without help from others and without the use of a computer translator or any other form of computer dictionary software. Any suspicion of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Students. Please read the guidelines found in your UNM *Pathfinder* regarding academic honesty and plagiarism.

**INCOMPLETES:** In accordance with University policy, incompletes are granted only in the most extreme and unusual circumstances. Your instructor cannot award you an incomplete. An unapproved incomplete given by a teaching assistant will be converted to "F".

Finally, if you have problems or questions concerning this course, please contact your Instructor or the Lower Division Coordinator. We will be glad to help you.

**GRADES:** Grades will be calculated on a percentage basis as follows:

Participation and attendance, homework	25%
Quizzes	5%
Compositions	10%
2 chapter tests	20%
oral assignments	20%
final exam	20%

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(Homework will be assigned regularly by the instructor)

DATES	COMPOSITIONS	QUIZ
17 janvier	introductions	
19 janvier	chapitre préliminaire	
22 janvier		
23 janvier		quiz 1
25 janvier	chapitre 1	
29 janvier		
31 janvier	Computer lab - LLC	
2 février		quiz 2
5 février	chapitre 2	
7 février		
9 février	composition 1	
12 février		quiz 3
14 février	composition 1 à rendre	
16 février	EXAMEN 1	
19 février	chapitre 3	
21 février		
23 février	composition 2	
26 février		
28 février	composition 2 à rendre	quiz 4
2 mars	chapitre 4	
5 mars		
7 mars		
9 mars		quiz 5
19 mars		
21 mars	chapitre 5	
23 mars		
26 mars		
28 mars	composition 3 à rendre	quiz 6
30 mars		
2 avril	EXAMEN 2	

4 avril	chapitre 6		
6 avril		composition 4	
9 avril			
11 avril			
13 avril		composition 4 à rendre	quiz 7
16 avril	chapitre 7		
18 avril			
20 avril			
23 avril			
25 avril			quiz 8
27 avril			
30 avril	entretiens oraux		
2 mai	révisions		
4 mai	révisions		
5 mai	EXAMEN FINAL - 3:00 - 5:00		

#### FRENCH 101 Course material

Text: *Débuts - chapitre préliminaire - chapitre 7*

Over the semester, the student will be responsible for the following specific points:

chapitre préliminaire -	salutations, numbers from 0 - 59, classroom vocabulary, cognates, question format, definite and indefinite articles
chapitre 1 -	subject pronouns, verb "être", negations, intonation and "est-ce que"
chapitre 2 -	adjectives and placement, regular 'er' verbs, construction of verb + infinitive
chapitre 3 -	future with the verb "aller", questions, verb "venir"
chapitre 4 -	possessive adjectives, possession with "de", expressions with "avoir", questions with inversion: où, quand, pourquoi, comment, combien de
chapitre 5 -	expressions with "faire", interrogative adjective "quel" and demonstrative adjective "ce", gender of nouns, and special plural endings
chapitre 6 -	verbs "pouvoir" and "vouloir", verbs with spelling changes, interrogative pronouns
chapitre 7 -	partitive article and expressions of quantity, indirect objects, verbs "prendre, mettre, boire"