

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures
www.unm.edu/~fll
Spring 2008

Course Syllabus: FRENCH 101

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Textbooks: *Débuts* 2nd ed., plus Workbook and Lab manual ch. 1-7, and CD-ROM

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to FRENCH 101! 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. 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. 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. 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:

- Hear, speak, read, and write basic French.
- Converse and write on topics related to immediate personal needs, greetings, farewells, introductions, personal data, likes and dislikes, obligations and desires, daily routines, the home, working, basic food, school, family, clothing, functioning in the market place and so on.
- Comprehend both artificial and authentic written and aural texts of short to moderate length on familiar topics.
- Attain an ACTFL oral proficiency level of Novice-mid
- Use essential grammar concepts.
- Identify patterns of cultural behavior or customs which have been presented in class discussions.

ASSESSMENTS: Students will be assessed over the course of the semester in the following areas:

- interpersonal communication
- listening and reading comprehension
- writing
- oral interview

- oral cultural presentation

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.

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 that 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.

CAPS (Center for Academic Program Support) offers free French language tutoring, in addition to a weekly conversation hour (possible extra credit earned by attending conversation sessions). For more information on how to use CAPS, go to the Zimmerman Library, third Floor, and talk to a receptionist to schedule an appointment, call 277-7205, or check out www.unm.edu/caps.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

FRENCH PLACEMENT EXAM: All FRENCH 101 students are required to take a short (~10 min.) French placement exam in UNM's Language Learning Center (<http://www.unm.edu/~llcenter>). The Language Learning Center is located on the ground floor of Ortega Hall, just inside the doors on the west side of the building. Students will turn this placement exam in to their instructor no later than Friday, Aug. 24. See <http://www.unm.edu/~fll>, and click on "student resources" for instructions.

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. If you do miss a class, please contact a classmate promptly to keep abreast of the homework assignments. You are allowed 2 absences after which your attendance grade will be lowered by 4% every absence. There are no "excused absences". If you are consistently late to class your participation grade will reflect this. 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. You should plan on spending at least two hours of outside preparation and review for every hour of class time. The instructor will regularly assign and collect homework. The two lowest homework scores will be dropped. *Late homework will not be accepted for a grade.*

Le Chemin du retour: You are required to watch episodes of this film in the Language Learning Center at least once as the lesson is being covered in the textbook (or you may buy your own copy of the film from the Bookstore and watch it at home). The film reinforces material studied in class and provides you with invaluable exposure to French in context.

STUDENT CD-ROM AND AUDIO CD: The CD-ROM that accompanies the textbook is a means for you to interact with the material outside of class time. Your instructor will indicate the parts to be completed. You may use the LLC for this purpose. The audio CD will help you practice your pronunciation skills. You should listen several times to each section since the pronunciation of the French language is obviously the key to communication. The audio can be accessed at: www.mhhe.com/debuts2

JOURNAL: For each chapter, you will write a journal entry of at least 10 sentences in English about the cultural subject(s) presented in that chapter. These can generally be found in each chapter under "Regards sur la culture" and "Synthèse." These will be graded Complete/Incomplete, and will contribute to your overall homework grade.

COMPOSITIONS: Four short compositions will be assigned over the course of the semester. They will be assessed according to the following criteria: vocabulary, grammar, organization/style, communication of ideas. Compositions must be typed in size 12 font and 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.

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 you to speak to the class about a "French" subject that interests you (3-5 min. in length) based on vocabulary and structures that have been covered in class. (Subject areas to be determined by the instructor). These presentations are for the benefit of the entire class, and as such should be "presented" and **not read** in French, **not English**. It will be evaluated according to the following criteria: grammar, pronunciation, fluency, creativity, comprehensibility.

The oral interview involves the student and the instructor in informal conversation. You will answer questions and discuss basic ideas in French. Evaluation categories are: pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar, fluency.

CHAPTER TESTS AND QUIZZES: A written test will be given at the end of chapters 2 and 5 to evaluate your progress in listening, reading and writing. No make-up exams will be given. In addition, a number of 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.

ASSESSMENTS: Assessments are an opportunity to inform both the student and the teacher of the effectiveness of course learning and teaching. In some cases, assessments will be reflected in the overall student grade. In others, it is simply an opportunity to ensure that course objectives are being met.

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

EXTRA CREDIT: Two points of extra credit on the final grade are available for students who attend UNM French club events and activities (such as the World Language Expo on March 8). Students will receive .5% for each event attended, with a maximum of 2% overall. No other extra credit is available.

INCOMPLETES: In accordance with University policy, incompletes are granted only in the most extreme and unusual circumstances. 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, attendance, classroom activities and homework	25%
Quizzes	5%
Compositions	10%
2 chapter tests	20%
Oral assignments	20%
Final exam	20%

FRANCAIS 101

(Homework will be assigned regularly by the instructor)

<u>DATES</u>	<u>COMPOSITIONS</u>	<u>QUIZ</u>
23 janvier	introductions	
25 janvier	chapitre préliminaire	
28 janvier		
30 janvier		quiz 1
1 février	chapitre 1	
4 février		
6 février	Computer lab - LLC	
8 février		quiz 2
11 février	chapitre 2	
13 février		
15 février	composition 1	
18 février		quiz 3
20 février	composition 1 à rendre	
22 février	EXAMEN 1	
25 février	chapitre 3	
27 février		
29 février	composition 2	
1 mars	WORLD LANGUAGE EXPO - 9h00-13h00	ORTEGA HALL
3 mars		
5 mars		quiz 4
7 mars	composition 2 à rendre	
	chapitre 4	
10 mars		
12 mars		
14 mars		
VACANCES DE PRINTEMPS		
24 mars		quiz 5
26 mars	composition 3	
28 mars	chapitre 5	
31 mars		
	composition 3 à rendre	
2 avril		quiz 6
4 avril		

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

FRENCH 101 Course material

Text: *Débuts - chapitre préliminaire - chapitre 7*

Over the semester, you 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"

