

FRE1101 French (Beginner Level)

Course Title	: French (Beginner Level)
Course Code	: FRE1101
Year of Study	: 2 ,3 & 4 in priority (open to Year 1)
Number of Credits/ Term:	Nil
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
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 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, whether in the classroom or for homework.

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

Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the FRE1101 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 at beginner level about topics related to home, family, friends, objects, routine, hobbies, etc.
- have developed a vocabulary level sufficient to discuss the above topics

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*.

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 test will assess your ability to communicate (including pronunciation skills) in a social exchange/ presentation situation. [continuous assessment]
- Two other in class assessments will test your understanding of grammar, vocabulary, listening, reading and writing.

Assessment

The assessment is 100% by continuous assessment. The course will be awarded on a Pass or Fail basis with a Merit, Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory mention. Components of the modes of assessment include:

2 assessments (30% + 40%)

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

Total : 70%

Speaking test: 30%

Learning Outcome	Assessment Method		
	Mid-term Assessment	Interactive Oral Assessment	Final Assessment
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/lfr/statiques/accueil_apprendre.asp

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

Syllabus

Wk	Communication objectives	Linguistic objectives	Cultural Awareness	Assessment
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Course introduction - Ice Breaking - Greetings - Introducing oneself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The verb “être” (to be) at the present tense - Singular personal pronouns (<i>je/tu/il/elle</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Localisation of France - Introduction to the French language at natural speed 	
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifying a person through nationality, occupation, place of residence, age - Asking/answering questions about people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masculine & Feminine forms - Jobs/ nationalities vocabulary - Yes/No questions + Wh-questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to library resources including useful online resources and websites in French 	
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reviewing introductions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pronunciation focus 		
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asking how someone is - Asking about someone (address/ telephone number/ email address/ jobs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The polite form <i>vous</i>” - The first verb group (<i>ER</i>- verbs) - Possessive adjectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities around a French song 	
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Talking about leisure and what we like doing - Talking about one’s family - Writing an email 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vocabulary about family and hobbies - Possessive adjectives - Email format and letter expressions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to <i>La Francophonie</i> - 	
6	Revision			First in class assessment or later 30%
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Naming objects in the living room - Locating and describing positions of objects in a room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plural nouns - Prepositions of place - Use of <i>Il y a</i> - Questions with <i>Qu’est-ce que</i> 		
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Describing physical appearance - Expressing possession 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vocabulary about colours and clothes - Word order - Agreement noun/ adjective - Negative form <i>ne...pas</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to French humour through cartoon strips in magazines - Looking at French fashion brands 	

9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Characterising an item through colour/reference/size/price - Asking and giving prices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review interrogative adjectives <i>quel/quelle</i> - Questions with <i>combien/ comment</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading a passage and answering questions - Describing a scene in writing in a letter format or in a poem 			
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Describing a city 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vocabulary about Paris 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to various Parisian districts including artistic quarters and other famous places/monuments in the capital 	
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Describing a flat/ a house - Giving directions using a floor plan - Locating rooms in a house 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vocabulary about a house (rooms/ floors/ adjectives to describe a flat/house) - Prepositions 		
13	Revision/preparation for speaking		Introduction to French festivals including <i>Noël (Christmas)</i>	Continuous assessment in class Speaking 30%
Last week of term	revision/preparation for assessment			Final in class assessment 40%

***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. 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/>.