



Spoken Contemporary French FREN-UA 9101

Summer 2022

Instructor Information

- Elizabeth Molkou, Ph.D

Prerequisites

- The prerequisite for this course is FREN-UA 30 (French Grammar and Composition). Please keep in mind that while you may have chosen this course based on your beliefs about your abilities in French or based on a placement score (NYU online language placement test : <http://www.nyu.edu/cas/flpexam/>), the final decision concerning your correct placement in a French course is up to your instructor and the Coordinator of Language Programs.

Units earned

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Course Details

- MTWRF 10:45am-12:25pm
- Location: 411
- COVID-related details: In the interest of protecting the NYU Paris community, we are closely following CDC guidance around COVID-19 and adjusting our recommendations and policies accordingly. Your health and well-being is our top priority.

Course Description

- This course is designed to help students to develop vocabulary, learn new idiomatic expressions, and improve fluency and pronunciation. The emphasis is on the understanding and production of contemporary spoken French through a study of

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authentic documents such as radio and television interviews, advertisements, and spontaneous oral productions.

Course Objective

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

- express themselves with ease as well as communicate with reasonable accuracy in familiar contexts,
- describe unpredictable situations, explain points in an idea or problem with reasonable precision and express thoughts on abstract or cultural topics such as music and films,
- exploit a basic repertoire of strategies to keep a conversation or discussion going, give comments on others' views during discussion, intervene to check and confirm detailed information,
- understand descriptions, viewpoints and arguments on most topics pertinent to your everyday life such as family, hobbies and interests, work, travel, and current events,
- identify unfamiliar words from the context on topics related to your field and interests, extrapolate the meaning of occasional unknown words from the context and deduce sentence meaning.

Assessment Components

You are expected to attend class in person or remote synchronously. Failure to submit or fulfill any required component may result in failure of the class, regardless of grades achieved in other assignments.

The grade for this course will be determined according to the following formula:

Assignments/Activities	% of Final Grade
Class participation	10%
Oral production / interaction	15%
In-class presentations	20%
Oral comprehensions	15%
Midterm exam	20%
Final exam	20%

Class Participation

Your participation grade does not depend simply on your being physically present in class. A good participation grade depends on having all your assignments completed before class, participating (in French!) to the best of your ability, and making a real effort to improve. Keep

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in mind that when you are not in class, no matter what the reason, you are missing essential time spent in French. This has a negative impact on your progress and the participation component of your grade. In addition, two points will be deducted from your final grade for every unexcused absence.

Oral exercises

You will do an oral performance from a task seen in class.

Oral comprehensions

You will do transcript from an audio document.

In-class presentations

Throughout the semester you will be called upon to perform a variety of types of oral performance, from more simple tasks that require less preparation, such as writing and performing a dialogue in class or engaging in a role play with a partner, to more complex performances that will require much more formal preparation, such as an oral presentation or exposé done alone or with a partner.

Exams

The **midterm / final exams** consist of an audio comprehension and a dialogue / conversation with your instructor or a classmate. You will get constructive feedback on your French and your pronunciation. It is a good practice for the final oral exam.

To practice verb conjugation, review grammar rules and vocabulary, work on your oral comprehension and pronunciation and do self-correcting exercises:

[Français interactif.](#)

[Apprendre le français avec TV5MONDE \(niveau A2, B1\),](#)

<https://savoirs.rfi.fr/fr/recherche/objectif/apprendre-et-perfectionner-le-francais-2707>

Week	Topic	quiz-compo-exam
Semaine 1	Parler de ses activités et goûts Demander son chemin et décrire un lieu La disparition des sons dans la langue familière Thèmes 1 et 2 : la ville / l'éducation	Quiz 1+ Audio 1 + Présentation 1

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Semaine 2	Parler d'un objet L'insistance Thèmes 3 et 4 : la cuisine / l'alimentation et la vie quotidienne	Quiz 2 + Audio 2 + Présentation 2
Semaine 3	Raconter une histoire personnelle Les enchaînements vocaliques Thèmes 5 et 6 : l'amour / le cinéma	Quiz 3 + Audio 3 + Présentation 3 Examen midterm
Semaine 4	Parler de ce qui va se passer Thèmes 7 et 8 : la politique et les institutions/ l'histoire	Quiz 4 + Audio 4 + Présentation 4
Semaine 5	Donner des conseils Thèmes 9 et 10 : l'art / le sport	Quiz 5 + Audio 5 + Présentation 5
Semaine 6	Exprimer une opinion Thèmes 11 et 12 : les inégalités / la justice	Quiz 6 + Audio 6 + Présentation 6 Examen final

Required Text(s)

Electronic Resources (via Brightspace / NYU Library Course Reserves)

Classroom Etiquette

Please make sure you read and acknowledge the information regarding this section on the **NYU Paris Resources** site on Brightspace.

Academic Policies

Grade Conversion

Your lecturer may use one of the following scales of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

US Letter Grade	US numerical	French numerical	
A	94-100 or 4.0	16-20	Excellent

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A-	90-93 or 3.7	15	Very Good
B+	87-89 or 3.3	14	Good
B	84-86 or 2.7	13	Good
B-	80-83 or 2.7	12	Satisfactory
C+	77-79 or 2.3	11	Sufficient
C	74-76 or 2.0	10	Sufficient
C-	70-73 or 1.7	9	Sufficient
D	65-66 or 1.0	5-8	Poor
F	below 65 or 0	1-4	Fail

Attendance Policy

Studying at Global Academic Centers is an academically intensive and immersive experience, in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. And since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance at the centers, or online through NYU Brightspaces if the course is remote synchronous/blended, is expected promptly when class begins. Attendance will be checked at each class meeting. If you have scheduled a remote course immediately preceding/following an in-person class, you may want to write to nyu.paris.academics@nyu.edu to see if you can take your remote class at the Academic Center.

As soon as it becomes clear that you cannot attend a class, you must inform your professor and/or the Academics team by e-mail immediately (i.e. before the start of your class). Absences are only excused if they are due to illness, Moses Center accommodations, religious observance or emergencies. Your professor or site staff may ask you to present a doctor's note or an exceptional permission from an NYU Staff member as proof. Emergencies or other exceptional circumstances that you wish to be treated confidentially must be presented to staff. Doctor's notes must be submitted in person or by e-mail to the Academics team, who will inform your professors.

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Unexcused absences may be penalized with a two percent deduction from the student's final course grade for every week's worth of classes missed, and may negatively affect your class participation grade. Four unexcused absences in one course may lead to a Fail in that course. Being more than 15 minutes late counts as an unexcused absence. Your professor is entitled to deduct points if you frequently join the class late.

Exams, tests and quizzes, deadlines, and oral presentations that are missed due to illness always require a doctor's note as documentation. It is the student's responsibility to produce this doctor's note and submit it to site staff; until this doctor's note is produced the missed assessment is graded with an F and no make-up assessment is scheduled. In content classes, an F in one assignment may lead to failure of the entire class.

Regardless of whether an absence is excused or not, it is the student's responsibility to catch up with the work that was missed.

Final exams

Final exams must be taken at their designated times. Should there be a conflict between your final exams, please bring this to the attention of the Academics team. Final exams may not be taken early, and students should not plan to leave the site before the end of the finals period.

Late Submission of Work

- (1) Work submitted late receives a penalty of 2 points on the 100 point scale for each day it is late (including weekends and public holidays), unless an extension has been approved (with a doctor's note or by approval of NYU SITE Staff), in which case the 2 points per day deductions start counting from the day the extended deadline has passed.
- (2) Without an approved extension, written work submitted more than 5 days (including weekends and public holidays) following the submission date receives an F.
- (3) Assignments due during finals week that are submitted more than 3 days late (including weekends and public holidays) without previously arranged extensions will not be accepted and will receive a zero. Any exceptions or extensions for work during finals week must be approved by Academic Affairs (nyu.paris.academics@nyu.edu).
- (4) Students who are late for a written exam have no automatic right to take extra time or to write the exam on another day.
- (5) Please remember that university computers do not keep your essays - you must save them elsewhere. Having lost parts of your essay on the university computer is no excuse for a late submission.

Academic Honesty/Plagiarism

As the University's policy on "[Academic Integrity for Students at NYU](#)" states: "At NYU, a commitment to excellence, fairness, honesty, and respect within and outside the classroom is

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essential to maintaining the integrity of our community. By accepting membership in this community, students take responsibility for demonstrating these values in their own conduct and for recognizing and supporting these values in others." Students at Global Academic Centers must follow the University and school policies.

NYU takes plagiarism very seriously; penalties follow and may exceed those set out by your home school. Your lecturer may ask you to sign a declaration of authorship form, and may check your assignments by using TurnItIn or another software designed to detect offences against academic integrity.

The presentation of another person's words, ideas, judgment, images, or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism. It is also an offense to submit work for assignments from two different courses that is substantially the same (be it oral presentations or written work). If there is an overlap of the subject of your assignment with one that you produced for another course (either in the current or any previous semester), you **MUST** inform your professor.

For guidelines on academic honesty, clarification of the definition of plagiarism, examples of procedures and sanctions, and resources to support proper citation, please see:

[NYU Academic Integrity Policies and Guidelines](#)

[NYU Library Guides](#)

Inclusivity Policies and Priorities

NYU's Office of Global Programs and NYU's global sites are committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion. In order to nurture a more inclusive global university, NYU affirms the value of sharing differing perspectives and encourages open dialogue through a variety of pedagogical approaches. Our goal is to make all students feel included and welcome in all aspects of academic life, including our syllabi, classrooms, and educational activities/spaces.

Attendance Rules on Religious Holidays

Members of any religious group may, without penalty, excuse themselves from classes when required in compliance with their religious obligations. Students who anticipate being absent due to religious observance should notify their lecturer AND NYU SITE's Academics Office in writing via e-mail one week in advance. If examinations or assignment deadlines are scheduled on the day the student will be absent, the Academics Office will schedule a make-up examination or extend the deadline for assignments. Please note that an absence is only excused for the holiday but not for any days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday. See also [University Calendar Policy on Religious Holidays](#)

Pronouns and Name Pronunciation (Albert and Zoom)

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Students, staff, and faculty have the opportunity to add their pronouns, as well as the pronunciation of their names, into Albert. Students can have this information displayed to faculty, advisors, and administrators in Albert, Brightspace, the NYU Home internal directory, as well as other NYU systems. Students can also opt out of having their pronouns viewed by their instructors, in case they feel more comfortable sharing their pronouns outside of the classroom. For more information on how to change this information for your Albert account, please see the [Pronouns and Name Pronunciation website](#).

Students, staff, and faculty are also encouraged, though not required, to list their pronouns, and update their names in the name display for Zoom. For more information on how to make this change, please see the [Personalizing Zoom Display Names website](#).

Moses Accommodations Statement

Academic accommodations are available for students with documented and registered disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Student Accessibility (+1 212-998-4980 or mosescsd@nyu.edu) for further information. Students who are requesting academic accommodations are advised to reach out to the Moses Center as early as possible in the semester for assistance. Accommodations for this course are managed through NYU Paris.

Bias Response

The New York University Bias Response Line provides a mechanism through which members of our community can share or report experiences and concerns of bias, discrimination, or harassing behavior that may occur within our community.

Experienced administrators in the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) receive and assess reports, and then help facilitate responses, which may include referral to another University school or unit, or investigation if warranted according to the University's existing Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy.

The Bias Response Line is designed to enable the University to provide an open forum that helps to ensure that our community is equitable and inclusive.

To report an incident, please contact one of the following:

- Online using the [Web Form \(link\)](#)
- Email: bias.response@nyu.edu
- Phone (NY): +1 (212) 998-2277
- Office of the Director, NYU Paris: +33 1 53 92 50 80