



## Written Contemporary French

### FREN-UA 9105

**Summer 2022**

Syllabus last updated on: **05/23/2022**

#### Lecturer Contact Information

**David UHRIG**

#### 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 : 4**

#### Course Details

- **9:00 am to 10:40 am**
- All times are French Time
- Location: **Room 4.10**
- 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.

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## Course Description

- This course is designed to help students to develop their vocabulary, further their mastery of grammar, and improve their ability to write informally and, more importantly, formally in French. There will be an emphasis on the understanding and production of sophisticated written French through a study of authentic documents such as newspaper articles and excerpts of longer works. There will also be considerable work on learning how best to proofread, edit, and rewrite written work. This syllabus may be subject to changes.

## Course Objective

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

- parfaire votre maîtrise du français écrit
- lire et comprendre les nuances de différents types de textes
- organiser vos idées en français pour les communiquer clairement,
- développer votre style et votre vocabulaire.
- employer les points de grammaire suivants: tous les temps et modes, la concordance des temps, les pronoms relatifs, les liens logiques, des figures de style, etc.

## 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:

<b>Assignments/Activities</b>	<b>% of Final Grade</b>
Class participation	10%
Written assignments + journal	20%
Compositions	20%
Quizzes	15%
Midterm exam	15%
Final exam	20%

## Class Participation

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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 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.

## Written assignments and journal :

You will have to **write short essays and essay rewrites**. Your written assignments grade is not based on how many mistakes you make but rather on how much effort you put into doing the assigned work on a regular basis. Mistakes are an essential part of learning a language.

When you turn in an essay, your instructor will read it and signal the type of errors; however, he or she will not provide you with the correct forms. When you get your essay back, you will then need to look over your instructor's comments and rewrite the essay, correcting the errors your instructor indicated and incorporating all the changes your instructor suggested. You will have to turn in both your first draft and your corrected draft. Not rewriting your essay or not correcting the errors indicated by your instructor will result in a 0 (zero).

## Written comprehensions

Written comprehension will allow you and your instructor to keep a closer eye on your progress, identifying both those areas in which you have mastered the material and those items that you need to review further.

## Exams

The **midterm exam** and the **final exam** consists of a reading comprehension and a writing section. Tests should not be solely an indication of the average of where you have been during the semester; they should also reflect the level of skill and knowledge you've achieved by the end of the course.

## Required Materials

No required textbook – digital resources will be provided via Brightspace

Apps and softwares

- Bilingual dictionary (e.g. *Word Reference*) – very good apps for smartphones
- You will be asked to use the Google Docs word processor for all your written assignments; it will allow us to collaborate in real-time

One notebook dedicated to every aspects of your personal exploration of the French language while in Paris (this may include vocabulary, expressions, questions, impressions, etc.)

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## Classroom Etiquette

### Social Media Policy

You are not to engage in sending or receiving text messages or any other form of social media during the class period. This includes a prohibition on sending images, video or audio from class via social media. This includes live streaming of a lecture, class discussion, meeting with professor or any other class-related event. Smartphones or other types of mobile devices will not be allowed out during class periods unless explicitly stated by the instructor.

### Recommended Study Habits

Participants will be expected to put in approximately 6 hours of work/practice per week in addition to the class time. The remaining class period consists of class activities and lecture to provide information about the topic of the week, sometimes supplemented with online lectures. To be successful in studying for this class, keep in mind the following four items:

- Make use of short bursts of study time. Don't block out extended periods of time for studying. Research has shown that cramming is not a good method for retention or long-term learning. Space your studying out over several days and you'll do much better.
- Be active in note taking while reading. Making notes that summarize the chapter, rather than trying to record everything the author says, is a good way to reinforce concepts in class, learn content, and be successful.
- While doing your grammar exercises, keep in mind that you will be tested on your ability to do the same kind of exercises, if not the exact same ones. Make sure you understand each word, write the new words down in your dedicated French notebook, and rewrite the complete sentences even if you are just asked to fill in the blanks.
- Focus on your writing. This class has intensive writing requirements. Keep in mind the following when you are writing: do not think in English before you begin writing but do create an outline in French before you begin to write.

### Co-Curricular Activities

You will write a journal in French until the end of the semester

### Your Lecturer

David Uhrig completed his PhD in French Literature and Semiotics at the University Paris 7-Diderot. Acclaimed by *Le Monde* in 2017, David Uhrig's research about Maurice Blanchot's political writings brought to light some of the most confidential texts of the 1930's literary France (*Chroniques politiques des années trente*, Editions Gallimard, 2017, 560 pages). David Uhrig major research interests concern the impact of writing on politics, from journalism to literature, with a focus given to psychoanalysis (you may watch <https://youtu.be/MkPjIGIV-G4> with english subtitles). He taught French language and literature in the U.S. (University of Massachusetts Boston), in France (University of Paris-Nord and American University of Paris) as well as in the U.K. (University of Leicester) before joining NYU-Paris in 2012.

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Date	Grammar	Skills	Topics	
May 25, 27, 30, 31	Se rencontrer et se raconter De l'oral à l'écrit	Relater un événement en faisant ressortir son caractère extraordinaire	L'Interculturel	Compo 1
June 1, 2, 3, 6, 7	Le Présent et la Présence	Ecrire une présentation vivante d'oeuvre d'art et la présenter à l'oral	Peintres et peinture	Quiz 1
	La Place des Adjectifs	Décrire un endroit parisien en prenant le point de vue d'un complet étranger	Portraits de ville	Compo 2
June 8, 9, 10, 13, 14	La Place des Pronoms	Décrire les gestes et comportements et attitudes (d'un enfant, d'un professionnel...)	Georges Pérec <i>Un Homme qui dort</i>	Quiz 2
	Le Conditionnel	Ecrire une fable	Jacques Prévert <i>Le Dromadaire mécontent</i>	Exam 1
June 15, 16, 17, 20, 21	Le Discours Indirect au Présent et au Passé	Rapporter fidèlement des points de vue différents	Les Médias Sociaux et l'Information	Quiz 3
June 22, 23, 24, 27, 28	L'Opposition et la Concession	Débattre d'une question	La Presse Quotidienne Française	Compo 3
June 29, 30 July 1	Le Subjonctif et la Nuance	Exprimer des doutes et des souhaits	Alain Robbe-Grillet <i>Djinn</i>	Exam 2

## Academic Policies

### Grade Conversion

Letter grades for the entire course will be assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Description	%	Letter Grade	Description	%
A	Outstanding	94	C+	Above Average	77
A-	Excellent	90	C	Average	74
B+	Very Good	88	C	Below	70

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		7	-	Average	
<b>B</b>	Good	8 4	<b>D</b>	Unsatisfactor y	65
<b>B-</b>	Satisfactory	8 0	<b>F</b>	Fail	< 65

## 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](mailto: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.

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.

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## **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 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](#)

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## **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)**

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](mailto: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.

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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](mailto:bias.response@nyu.edu)
- Phone (NY): +1 (212) 998-2277
- Office of the Director, NYU Paris: +33 1 53 92 50 80