
Columbia Summer School in Paris
FREN 01202 INTERMEDIATE FRENCH II, 4 points
*Student Life in Paris * La Vie Étudiante à Paris*
Monday – Thursday: 10am-12pm
Friday: Cultural Excursions

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Office Hours: Fridays 10am-12pm, or by appointment

Course Description

This 8-week summer course is designed for non-native speakers who have taken 3 semesters of French or have placed out of Intermediate I (or equivalent). The course consists of eight hours of weekly in-class meetings, which take place Monday through Thursday, with Fridays designated for cultural excursions.

The course's objective is three-fold: to advance students' grammatical command of written and spoken French; to contextualize their language study with a variety of literary, artistic, and cultural readings in the classroom; and to provide students the opportunity to reinforce and refine their new skills and knowledge through an immersive experience in Paris.

Our lessons will be organized around the theme of Student Life in Paris. Through a sampling of French and Francophone texts and films, as well as through field trips around the city, we will aim to answer the following questions: Why, since the 12th century founding of the Université de Paris, have students flocked from across Europe, and eventually, from all over the world, to pursue university studies in the City of Lights? What was student life like during various periods of French history? Where did students live, study, and gather? How is activism and political engagement culturally engrained in the role of the student and in the history of universities in Paris?

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will

1. be able to communicate with native French speakers and navigate living in Paris with ease
2. be able to express, both orally and through written work, abstract ideas and cohesive arguments pertaining to the history of student life and the social role of the university student in Paris since the Middle Ages, drawing on a broad understanding of the city as a European capital and a site of colonial and postcolonial exchange
3. have improved their pronunciation, syntax, and vocabulary of both formal and colloquial French
4. have strengthened and polished their written French grammar in order to excel in upper level French literature and culture courses

Required texts

- Grammar: *Contrastes : grammaire du français courant* (Second Edition), textbook + workbook.
- Additional texts will be uploaded to Courseworks. Please print them ahead of time and bring them to class, along with your textbook.

Policy on Absences

Beyond the first unexplained absence you will need to ask the professor for permission to have an “excused absence.” Excused absences are granted on the grounds of illness, family emergencies, and for major religious holidays. Except in extreme circumstances, excused absences must be requested in advance of the course that you will miss.

Written assignments:

All assignments will be completed in French. All written work handed in to me must be typed, double-spaced, printed, and stapled in order to receive credit. Compositions are due in my box by Friday at 12pm of the week for which they are listed.

Homework

Workbook exercises are to be completed in tandem with the structures covered in class. The assigned exercises can be found on the *plan de travail*. Homework is to be self-corrected (the answers can be found at the back of the *Contrastes* workbook), but will be collected and checked by me on Unit Exam days. You should plan to spend between one and two hours daily on workbook assignments, and additional time for readings.

Reading assignments

All *lectures* have been uploaded onto our CourseWorks site. If a reading is assigned for Tuesday, June 5th, for example, you should come to class on June 5th having read the text twice through and with the following: a printed copy of the text and a vocabulary list of words you looked up.

Excursion write-ups and *expos photos* :

Over the course of the summer term, you will be asked to go on at least three excursions related to the cultural themes covered in class (I will provide you with a list of options). By the last day of class, you must have turned in to me at least three excursion write-ups, consisting of a personal response to the excursion and your ideas on how the experience related to the material and themes covered in class. These must be written in French, by hand or on the computer. On the Monday following an excursion you have completed, you will be asked to share with the class 10-15 photos you have taken during the activity. You may print these out or share them on the classroom computer.

Vocabulary lists:

Each Monday, you will come in with 5 new words that you have learned “on the street”—these may be anything you consider useful to living life in French as a young adult. You will present these new words to your classmates (try to coordinate so that you don’t all show up with the same words each Monday morning). I will collect these words and, on Tuesdays, hand out a comprehensive weekly list. These lists will make up the vocabulary sections of the Unit Exams.

Here is the breakdown of your grade:

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| Participation + attendance + homework | 20% |
| Vocab presentations + oral proficiency | 20% |
| Compositions + excursion write-ups (3 each) | 30% |
| Exams (5 total) | 30% |

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Any work submitted or presented by you and that bears your name is presumed to be your own original work that has not previously been submitted for credit in another course unless you obtain prior written approval to do so from your instructor.

In all of your assignments, including your homework or drafts of papers, you may use words or ideas written by other individuals in publications, web sites, or other sources, but only with proper attribution. “Proper attribution” means that you have fully identified the original source and extent of your use of the words or ideas of others that you reproduce in your work for this course, usually in the form of a footnote or parenthesis.

Furthermore, any test, paper or post submitted by you and that bears your name must have been written by you without the help of an online translator (such as Google Translate, Bing, or Babblefish, to name the most popular) or French editor (friends, romantic partners, family members, French people you meet in a bar, etc.).

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who will be taking this course and may need disability-related accommodations are encouraged to make an appointment to see me as soon as possible. Disabled students who need test or classroom accommodations must be registered in advance with the Office of Disability Services.