

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN  
DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH

FRENCH 103  
COURSE SYLLABUS  
FALL 2009

<http://www.french.uiuc.edu/FR103>

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**\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE.\*\*** You are expected to read and understand this syllabus in its entirety and complete all readings, exams, and assignments as indicated. If you have any questions, please ask your instructor. Since this is a multi-section course, the same policies are applied to all students to be fair to everyone. **Being unaware of course policies, exam/due dates, etc. is not an acceptable excuse.**

**In this syllabus, you will find important information on the following:**

- |                   |                              |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Course Goals   | 4. Grading                   | 7. Assignments         |
| 2. Placement      | 5. Participation & HW Checks | 8. Additional Policies |
| 3. Required Texts | 6. Exams                     | 9. Course Calendar     |

**1. COURSE GOALS.** French 103 is designed to help you develop intermediate proficiency in oral expression, listening comprehension, reading, writing, and cultural understanding.

**2. PLACEMENT.** It is important you are in the correct course to make sure you receive credit for taking French.

**Freshmen:** If you have taken French before at the high school or college level, but have never taken a French course at UIUC, you **must** take the online French Placement Examination. Even if you received AP or other credit elsewhere, you still must take this exam. If you haven't taken the placement test yet, please consult <http://www.cte.uiuc.edu/dme/Placement> for details on how to do so.

**Transfer students:** If you have ever taken French in high school or at another college or university, you should first consult your advisor and/or the Office of Admissions and Records (<http://www.oar.uiuc.edu>) to determine if you have already received transfer credit for French. This will determine what course you should take at UIUC.

**In case of doubt** over whether you are enrolled in the right course, you can contact the French Department's Director of Basic Language Cristina Toharia, ([ctoharia@illinois.edu](mailto:ctoharia@illinois.edu)) with any questions.

**3. REQUIRED TEXTS.** You are expected to have the following texts with you in class every day, unless otherwise instructed by your teacher:

- *Vis-à-Vis*, 4rd edition. (Amon, Muyskens, Omaggio-Hadley, 2008)
- Workbook/Lab Manual to accompany *Vis-à-Vis*, 4rd edition

**4. GRADING.** Your grade in this course will be calculated according to a 1000-point system.

A+	= 980-1000	B+	= 880-899	C+	= 780-799	D+	= 680-699
A	= 930-979	B	= 830-879	C	= 730-779	D	= 630-679
A-	= 900-929	B-	= 800-829	C-	= 700-729	D-	= 600-629
						F	= 0-599

**The point values for various course components in FR 103 are as follows:**

Unit tests (2 @ 50 points each)	100 Points
Quizzes (3 @ 30 points each)	90 Points
Participation and homework checks (6 points per week)	90 Points
Compositions (4 drafts @ 50 points each)	200 Points
Workbook (5 chapters @ 20 points each + Révisez @ 10 points each)	120 Points
Internet activities (2 @ 25 points each)	50 Points
Midterm oral exam	50 Points
Final oral evaluation	100 Points
Final written exam	<u>200 Points</u>
	1000 Points

## 5. PARTICIPATION AND HOMEWORK CHECKS.

**Attendance:** Due to the nature of language learning in general, attendance to class is mandatory since it is absolutely critical for developing communicative abilities in French. You are allowed up to 4 absences for illnesses, doctor's visits, family matters, job interviews, etc., **on days where there is no exam or composition. Beginning with the 5<sup>th</sup> absence, your course average will drop dramatically (a 1% deduction off of your final grade per missed day).** Family emergencies that can be substantiated to the satisfaction of the coordinator or serious illnesses verified by a doctor's note will be treated as exceptions.

Active participation and proper preparation are all crucial for improving your French. To help gauge your progress, you can earn up to **six points per week** for these essential components.

**4 points per week for participation**  
**2 points per week for the homework check**

**Participation:** You are expected to **read the assigned pages in the textbook daily before coming to class and participate actively in individual, pair, and group work in French.** If you don't, you won't receive full points that week for participation.

**Homework checks:** Once a week, your instructor will pick a random day to look and see if you have **all the homework pages listed for that day completed and corrected.** If you don't, you'll get no points that week for the homework check. You are allowed to make up homework checks for permitted unexcused absences.

**6. EXAMS.** To give both you and your instructor an idea of how well you are doing in learning the language, there are periodic tests and quizzes scheduled. **Exams cover grammar, vocabulary, and cultural readings from the textbook,** as well as any additional material covered in class that your instructor indicates.

**If you are absent** from any quiz or test for illness or other reason, you **must** obtain a note from the emergency dean (<http://www.odos.uiuc.edu/emergency>), the dean of your college, or a doctor. Otherwise, you will not be able to make it up.

**Please note:** the official schedule for final exams is determined by Facilities Management and Scheduling, **not** by the Department of French. The Department must wait until this schedule is received before we can announce the date, time, and location for the final exam. Please wait to make travel plans since **travel is NOT an excuse for missing any exam or taking an exam early, including the final.**

**7. ASSIGNMENTS.** In order to help you develop a variety of skills in French, there are a number of assignments you will complete.

- **Compositions.** You will have two compositions to develop your writing skills. For each composition, there are two drafts: the first draft written in class and the final draft written at home. Each draft is worth 50 points. After your instructor grades the first draft, **you will be expected to make corrections and type up a final version to be printed out and turned in.** See the course website, <http://www.french.uiuc.edu/FR103> for the grading criteria as well as information on how to make corrections and type accents.

**If you are absent** from a composition for illness or other reason, you **must** obtain a note from the emergency dean (<http://www.odos.uiuc.edu/emergency>), the dean of your college, or a doctor. Otherwise, you will not be able to make it up.

- **Workbook.** These oral and written exercises are meant to provide you with additional practice with listening, grammar, vocabulary, and writing. In addition to the weekly homework checks mentioned above, **you are to turn in your all the completed homework pages on the days indicated.** The audio for the oral exercises can be found on <http://www.mhhe.com/visavis4>.

Once you have completed an exercise, you can look at the answer key in the back to see whether your answers are correct. If there are any mistakes, **you are expected to make corrections in a different color ink.** The number of mistakes you make does **not** influence your grade as long as you have corrected them. It is normal to make errors at the beginning levels of a language. Noticing and correcting these errors should help you improve your level in French as time goes on. **Students who have incomplete exercises, who have not made corrections in a different color ink, or who are found to have copied answers directly from the back will have points deducted** from their workbook grade.

• **Internet Activities.** These activities are designed to introduce you to French-language information used by French speakers and to help you learn more about French-speaking culture. **You are expected to attend each Internet session at the location listed on the syllabus and complete the activities** as indicated on the instruction sheets you will receive.

In addition to the required Internet activities, there are additional resources available on the *Vis-à-Vis* website, <http://www.mhhe.com/visavis4>. These include grammar and vocabulary practice as well as additional cultural information to explore on your own or as instructed by your teacher.

**8. ADDITIONAL POLICIES.** In addition to the above policies on participation, exams, and assignments, you are responsible for being aware of these broader policies, so please read them carefully.

• **Disability-related adjustments:** To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students must contact the instructor and the Division of Rehabilitation-Education Services (DRES) as soon as possible. To contact DRES, you may visit 1207 S. Oak Street, Champaign; call (217) 333-1970 (V/TDD); or e-mail a message to [disability@uiuc.edu](mailto:disability@uiuc.edu).

• **Academic honesty/cheating:** Certain policies are in place both at the university and departmental level to ensure fairness and to make sure you benefit the most out of your courses.

You may consult tutors, classmates, friends, and others outside of class **for general practice** to help improve your fluency in French. However, with the exception of help from the student's instructor, **outside assistance is not allowed on any graded assignments** in this course and is considered **cheating**.

**Acceptable resources for preparing all graded assignments** include the following:

- Course textbooks and workbooks
- Dictionaries and grammar references
- Your instructor, or other instructors in the French Department

**Prohibited resources for preparing all graded assignments** include the following:

- Tutors, friends, native speakers, etc.
- Spell/grammar check
- Computer-assisted translators or online translation programs

In all cases of academic dishonesty, the penalties outlined online in Part 4 of the *Code of Policies and Regulations Applying to All Students* ([http://www.admin.uiuc.edu/policy/code/article\\_1/a1\\_1-401.html](http://www.admin.uiuc.edu/policy/code/article_1/a1_1-401.html)) include no credit for the assignment and the possibility of a written warning sent to the student (with a copy placed in the student's academic file and another sent to the Senate Committee on Student Discipline). In severe cases, failure of the course and/or other academic discipline may apply.

• **Translation programs versus dictionaries:** The use of **paper, electronic, and online dictionaries** will be **permitted**, while the use of **all translation sites and programs** will be **strictly prohibited**. If you have any doubt about whether a resource is allowed, it is **your** responsibility to consult with your instructor beforehand.

**Dictionaries** are **permitted** resources that allow you to look up **one word at a time** and receive an entry giving the **grammatical function** (noun, verb), **pronunciation**, and a **list of English or French equivalent(s)** of the word you have looked up. Often **examples or other usage notes** are given, allowing you to use your knowledge of the language to **help you choose** an appropriate form when writing, or to understand a given portion of text when reading, **based on context**.

**Translation programs and online translators** are **prohibited** resources that attempt to automatically give a translation of a text into another language. Generally, these programs allow the user to input **whole phrases, sentences, or paragraphs**. Unlike dictionaries, **the user is not given a list of possible equivalents**; rather **the translator decides for you** what words and grammar to use, **often without regard to context**. Instructors will refer suspected cases of translator use to their course coordinator. **Students caught using a translator will receive a zero and may be referred for further disciplinary action.**

**The course calendar, which gives the dates for readings, exams, etc. follows.**  
**Thank you very much for reading this information. Best wishes for a good semester!**

AOÛT			
Lundi	Mardi	Jeudi	Vendredi
24 Introduction Review Ch. 1-6	25 Review Ch. 7-9	27 Review Ch. 10-11	28 Read before class : Ch. 12, Leçon 1, pp. 320-324
31 Read before class : Ch. 12, Leçons 1-2, pp. 325-329  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 233-235</b>			

SEPTEMBRE			
Lundi	Mardi	Jeudi	Vendredi
	1 Read before class : Ch. 12, Leçon 2, pp. 330-333 + Mots-clés, Blog pp. 334-335  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 235-237</b>	3 Read before class : Ch. 12, Leçon 3, pp. 336-343  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 238-242</b>	4 Read before class : Ch. 12, Leçon 4, pp. 344-347, vidéoblog  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 243-249</b>
7  <b>LABOR DAY</b>	8 Review  <b>QUIZ #1 : Ch. 12</b>  <b>*Hand in Révissez! Ch. 9-12 and all assigned pages from Wkbk. Ch 12</b>	10 Read before class : Ch. 13, Leçon 1, pp. 354-357	11 Read before class : Ch. 13, Leçon 2, pp. 358-360  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 257-259</b>
14 Read before class : Ch. 13, Leçon 2, pp. 360-363  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 260-261</b>	15 Read before class : Blog, pp. 364-5, Ch. 13, Leçon 3, pp. 366- 367  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 262-264</b>	17 Read before class : Ch. 13, Leçon 3, pp. 368-370 + Mots-clés  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 265-269</b>	18 Read before class : Ch. 13, Leçon 4, pp. 371-374, vidéoblog  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 270-275</b>
21 Review  <b>QUIZ # 2 : Ch. 13</b>  <b>*Hand in all assigned pages from Workbook Ch. 13</b>	22 Pre-writing for composition	24  <b>COMPOSITION #1 IN CLASS</b>  Bring Vis-à-vis and a dictionary.	25 Read before class : Ch. 14, Leçon 1, pp. 378-380
28  <b>INTERNET ACTIVITY FLB G17</b>	29 Read before class : Ch. 14, Leçon 1, pp. 381-383  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 277-278</b>		

OCTOBRE			
Lundi	Mardi	Jeudi	Vendredi
		1 Read before class : Ch. 14, Leçon 2, pp. 384-389 + Mots-clés  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 278-281</b>	2 Read before class : Blog, pp. 390-391, Ch. 14, Leçon 3, pp. 392-396  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 281-286</b>
5 Preparation for oral midterm, pronunciation practice  <b>*Internet assignment due</b>	6  <b>MIDTERM ORAL EXAM - NO CLASS</b>	8  <b>MIDTERM ORAL EXAM - NO CLASS</b>	9 Read before class : Ch. 14, Leçon 3, pp. 397-400 + Mots-clés  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 286-289</b>
12 Read before class : Ch. 14, Leçon 4, pp. 401-405, vidéoblog  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 290-295</b>  <b>*Composition #1 Re-write due</b>	13 Review of chapters 12-14  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 295-297</b>	15 <b>UNIT TEST I: Ch. 12-14</b>  <b>*Hand in all assigned pages from Workbook Ch 14</b>	16 Read before class : Ch. 15, Leçon 1, pp. 410-412
19 Read before class : Ch. 15, Leçon 2, pp. 413-417  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 299-302</b>	20 Read before class : Ch. 15, Leçon 2, pp. 417-421  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 303-305</b>	22 Read before class : Blog, pp. 422-423, Ch. 15, Leçon 3, pp. 424-426  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 305-307</b>	23 Read before class : Ch. 15, Leçon 3, pp. 427-430  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 307-312</b>
26 Read before class : Ch. 15, Leçon 4, pp. 431-436, vidéoblog  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 312-318</b>	27 Review  <b>QUIZ 3 : Ch. 15</b>  <b>*Hand in all assigned pages from Workbook Ch 15</b>	29 How to talk about images / film	30 Cultural activities: Preparation to the film

NOVEMBRE			
Lundi	Mardi	Jeudi	Vendredi
2 <b>INTERNET ACTIVITY FLB G17</b>	3 Cultural activities: Preparation to the film	5  <b>FILM UGL 295</b>	6  <b>FILM UGL 295</b>
9 FILM: discussion  Pre-writing for composition  <b>*Internet assignment due</b>	10 <b>COMPOSITION #2 IN CLASS</b>  Bring Vis-à-vis and a dictionary	12 Read before class : Ch. 16, Leçon 1, pp. 440-443	13 Read before class : Ch. 16, Leçon 2, pp. 444-449  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 319-321</b>

16 Read before class : Ch. 16, Leçon 2, pp. 450-453, Blog, pp. 454-455  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 322-324</b>	17 Read before class : Ch. 16, Leçon 3, pp. 456-461  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 325-329</b>	19 Read before class : Ch. 16, Leçon 4 pp. 462-465, vidéoblog  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 329-333</b>	20 Review of the subjunctive  <b>Do before class : Wkbk. pp. 333-337</b>
23  THANKSGIVING BREAK	24  THANKSGIVING BREAK	26  THANKSGIVING BREAK	27  THANKSGIVING BREAK
30 Review of chapters 15-16			

DECEMBRE			
Lundi	Mardi	Jeudi	Vendredi
	1 <b>UNIT TEST II : Ch. 15-16</b>  <b>*Hand in Révisez!Ch.13-16 and all assigned pages from Workbook Ch 16</b>	3 Review  <b>*Composition 2 re-write due</b>	4 Review
7 <b>FINAL ORAL EXAM – NO CLASS</b>	8 <b>FINAL ORAL EXAM – NO CLASS</b>	10  <b>READING DAY</b>	

**FINALS WEEK - Dec 11, 2009 - Dec 18, 2009**

**Note concerning final exam:** This course has a combined final exam, so all sections of this course will take the exam at the same time. **Do NOT refer the published non-combined exam schedule** to determine when your French final exam will be.

**Facilities Management and Scheduling announces the time, date, and location of combined exams. As soon as the official combined exam schedule is provided to the French Department, your instructor will let you know when your exam is.** Please do not make travel plans until your instructor tells you when and where your final exam will be, since **travel plans are not a valid excuse for missing any exam or taking an exam early.**