**FREN 1001 – Introduction to French Language and Culture I**

Kennesaw State University | [www.kennesaw.edu](http://www.kennesaw.edu)

Department of Foreign Languages | [foreignlanguages.hss.kennesaw.edu](http://foreignlanguages.hss.kennesaw.edu)

---

**Syllabus Addendum** | Section 02 | CRN 10442

Spring 2009 | MW 9:30 – 10:45 | Social Sciences 3010

---

**Dr. Noah McLaughlin** | profmclaughlin@gmail.com

251 Pilcher Service Building | 678-797-2388

Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday 11:00 – 12:00

---

*This document is merely a summary and addendum. It is the student's responsibility to download and thoroughly read the official course syllabus:*


---

**Course Description**

Introduction to French language and culture, stressing progressive acquisition of effective communication skills in both the written and spoken language and an understanding of the practices and products of French and Francophone cultures. Not open to native speakers of French.

---

**Course Objectives**

During this course, the students will:

- Learn to write basic sentences describing their family, daily schedule, past-times and the weather.
- Learn to speak with peers and the instructor about their family, daily schedule, past-times and the weather.
- Develop their reading skills with articles from the textbook and selections from authentic sources.
- Develop their listening skills by watching the *Roman-photo* video that accompanies the textbook instruction.
- Demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of French and Francophone cultures learned through readings, videos and in-class activities.

---

**Required Materials**


*Supersite Access Code* <http://espaces.vhlcentral.com>. This code is already included in the new book; if a used book is purchased, students will have to buy a new Supersite code at the bookstore or at <www.vistahigherlearning.com>

---

**Suggested Texts**


GENERAL POLICIES

Assignment Submission

All assignments, whether written or oral, are to be finished by the time class begins. No late homework will be accepted. Emergencies will be handled on an individual basis.

Cocktail Party: Tuesday, April 14, Student Center, University Rooms A, B, C

The "Cocktail Party" is an oral communication activity that gives you the opportunity to speak French with a diverse community of French speakers in an authentic atmosphere.

- You must speak in French to at least five people at the party. Three of the people must either be native speakers or at a higher level than yours. Have each of person sign a 4x6 index card. Put your name, your instructor’s name and your course and section number on the back of the card.
- Attendance is mandatory. Completing this assignment counts as half of your oral presentation grade.
- Appropriate attire is expected: no jeans or printed t-shirts.

Tutoring

Tutors are also available in the Foreign Language Resource Center (Pilcher 134) at no charge to the student.

Cell Phones

Turn OFF all cell phones, beepers, pagers and any other potentially disruptive noise makers when you arrive in class.

French Club www.freewebs.com/kennesawfrenchclub

Kennesaw University's French club offers a number of activities, most importantly a weekly conversation table, to help improve your French and explore Francophone culture.

GRADING POLICIES

Class Participation/Preparation 5%
Homework (Supersite, etc.) 15%
Quizzes 5%
Major tests 25%
Final Exam (written and oral) 20%
Writing Assignments (rédactions) 15%
Oral Presentation 15%

Class Participation and Preparation (5%)

Students are expected to attend all classes and are expected to arrive on time and to remain in class for the entire seventy-five minutes.

- There are no "excused" absences; for each absence in excess of two, 5 per cent will be deducted from the student’s final grade.
- You are responsible for all information, including announcements or changes to the syllabus, etc., made during your absence or even tardiness.
- Class time will be used to develop all four basic skills (listening comprehension, speaking, reading comprehension, and writing) and culture. However, a special emphasis will be put on speaking. You are expected to study and practice at home as part of your daily preparation. Use the study guides posted on Supersite Announcements and WebCT-Vista to help you prepare for each class session. To do well (a B grade), you should plan to spend at least 2:30 a week preparing. To excel (an A grade), you should spend at least an hour a day (5 hours a week) preparing.
**Homework (15%)**

This category includes both Supersite assignments and various assignments that you complete outside of the classroom (such as posting rédactions to your blog and commenting on others – see below). All of these assignments are completion grades and **cannot be made up.**

**Supersite**

The online workbook portion of your text is an essential part of this course. It prepares you for new material to be covered in class and then reinforces that material after we explore it.

- Check the Announcements section **every time** you log-on.
- You must complete all Supersite assignments by **9:00 A.M. the day of class.** It's best to avoid using the “Next 10 assignments due” frame; instead, click on the Unit we are currently studying and complete the activities with a due date.
- You can find the *Roman-photo* episodes by looking under the “Downloadable Resources” frame on the right. Click on the “Streaming Video” link, then select the appropriate Unit.

**Quizzes (5%)**

There are five quizzes over the course of the semester, all of them announced on the tentative course schedule below. Quizzes are short (10 minute) written assessments of vocabulary and grammar that we have just covered. Though they focus on specific lessons, quizzes are cumulative: you are expected to be familiar with all previous material.

- Use the Practice Quizzes posted on Supersite and WebCT-Vista to prepare.
- **Bring your own paper:** quizzes are projected on the screen.
- **Quizzes cannot be made up.** However, if you are absent on the day of a quiz, it does not count as a 0 (zero). Instead, that quiz is removed from your pool of quiz grades.
- At the end of the semester, the instructor drops the lowest quiz grade.

**Major Tests (25%)**

There are two major tests during the semester, one for Units 1 and 2, the other for Units 3 and 4. The dates are announced on the tentative course schedule below. Both major tests have the same six components: listening comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, culture, reading and composition. You have the entire class session (75 minutes) to take a test. Remember: tests **cannot be made up.** Unlike quizzes, a missed test is not removed from your pool: you lose 10 points from your final grade. Though they focus on specific units, tests are cumulative: you are expected to be proficient with all previous material.

**Final Examination (20%)**

The final exam is **cumulative** and has two parts.

- The first part is a short (about 5 minute) oral interview with the instructor. This interview will take place in my office (Pilcher 251) during exam week. You will sign up for an appointment using a Google Document common to all of my students. At the beginning of the interview, you select 5 cards at random. Each card has a single, simple question that practices the vocabulary and/or grammar we covered during the semester. You are graded with a rubric similar to that of the oral presentation (see below).
- The written portion of the exam is on **Monday, May 4, 9:30 – 11:30 AM** in the usual classroom. This portion of the final exam is similar to a Major Test, with the same six components. Failure to take the final exam at the time, date and place scheduled will result in a final grade of "F." Exceptions to this policy must be requested in writing by the student, endorsed in writing by the instructor, and approved, in writing, by Department Chair. Requests must be submitted two weeks prior to the end of the current semester.
- The dates and times of all final exams are posted on the University Registrar's website: [http://www.kennesaw.edu/registrar/Spring2009/final_exam_schedule.shtml](http://www.kennesaw.edu/registrar/Spring2009/final_exam_schedule.shtml)
**Written Assignments (Rédactions) (15%)**

During this semester, you will write 3 short compositions (100 – 200 words) in French. Each rédaction has two steps: a rough draft (brouillon) and a final draft (correction). Submitting the the brouillon on time counts as a completion homework grade. For the first rédaction, you will review a film screening during the French film festival this semester. For the second, you may choose from the topics listed below. The third rédaction is a script for your Oral Presentation (see below).

**Grading**
The following criteria are designed to help determine the overall comprehensibility of the student’s message:

- **Content** Is the argument, or content, clearly defined? Are ideas connected, clearly presented in a logical, straightforward manner and supported by examples where appropriate?
- **Organization** Does the writing sample present ideas and a conclusion in a logical sequence that clearly indicates how one idea leads to the next? Are transitional devices used appropriately for this level of study? In other words, does the writing sample have a clearly stated theme, perhaps even a thesis statement, as well as a beginning, middle and end?
- **Vocabulary** Does the student demonstrate appropriate use of vocabulary in context for this level of language learning?
- **Accuracy** Does the student demonstrate an appropriate use of grammar at this level of language learning?
- **Revision** Does the student take feedback into consideration and make appropriate changes?

**Submission**
You are strongly encouraged to use Google Docs <http://docs.google.com>. You can save and work on your composition from any computer and share it with the professor (profmcLaughlin@gmail.com). Dr. McLaughlin will place color-coded comments directly into the document. To revise your rough draft, do not create a new document. Just make the suggested corrections and then erase the highlighting and inserted comments in the original document you shared. (Google Docs keep track of all changes.)

- If you prefer to print out and submit your rédaction by hand, that's fine. Regardless of how you submit your work, it must be done before class on the due date.
- Please format your work so that it is easy to read, even on Google Docs. My preferred format is double-spaced using Serif (Times New Roman) 12-point font.
- The final step of submitting your work is posting it on a blog. Google Docs allows you to post your composition directly from that application. With a Google account, you automatically have an account at Blogger.com. When you post your corrected draft, go to WebCT-Vista and post the link to your blog in the Blogs messageboard in the Rédactions folder. You have one week to then read and comment on three of your fellow classmates’ submissions. This is a completion homework grade.

**Rédaction no. 1 Compte rendu d’un film - Brouillon 23 February | Correction 2 March**

A compte-rendu is a critical summary. It succinctly summarizes the story of a text or film and concludes with a brief analysis, often the opinion of the writer supported with specifics from the plot. For your first rédaction, you must attend one of the movies shown during the film festival this semester and write a compte-rendu of it. More than the plot, you must also talk about the discussion that takes place after the film. Don’t forget to conclude your compte-rendu with your own opinion supported with specifics.

**Rédaction no. 2 - Brouillon 18 March | Correction 25 March**

1. **L’horaire d’enfer.** Describe the worst possible study and work schedule you can imagine (maybe your own!) The aim of this composition is to convince your reader that this schedule is the absolute worst ever, so organize your argument well. [Pages utiles: 38, 52, 62]

2. **Ode à ma famille.** An ode is a celebratory poem dedicated to a certain person or event. Write an ode (at least 20 lines) about your family or a special member of your family. Try to use the classic structure of thesis (My mom is great), antithesis (She’s not a lazy like my dad) and epode (synthetic conclusion: My mom inspires me to be great, too.) [Pages utiles: 74, 82, 84]
**Oral Presentation (15%)**

At the end of the semester, you will make a group presentation on a cultural topic of your choice, selected from the options below. The goal of this assignment is two-fold: 1) demonstrate your knowledge of a facet of French or Francophone culture that you research outside of class, 2) demonstrate your ability to speak comprehensibly in French.

**Grading**

The following criteria are designed to help determine the comprehensibility of the student's message:

- **Vocabulary.** Is it appropriate for this level and is the student able to use it in context?
- **Pronunciation.** Is pronunciation accurate enough so as not to interfere with comprehension by an individual accustomed to dealing with non-native speakers of French?
- **Fluency.** Is the delivery so slow and halting that it interferes with comprehension, or is it beginning to be smoother and more like normal speech even though utterances may be quite brief?
- **Accuracy.** Although speech may not be error free, is it correct enough to make sense, to be understood by individuals accustomed to dealing with non-native speakers of French?
- **Presentation.** Does the presentation clearly address the assignment and topic? Does it include visuals to engage the audience? Does the presenter make eye-contact with the audience?

**La comité de présentation**

While this is a group assignment, you are graded on your individual performance. Towards the middle of the semester, you will create a group of two to four (2-4) students with whom you feel comfortable working. The role of the group – or comité – is that of peer support. You should use each other for research, brainstorming and especially a second set of eyes for your script; rehearse together and practice pronunciation.

As a group, chose a Francophone region from the textbook:

- Aix-en-Provence
- Paris
- Normandy and Brittany
- Les Pays de la Loire
- Montréal

Each member then develops a specific topic:

- **Le parler.** Research idiomatic expressions and/or special vocabulary of the region. Create an activity to teach some of these expressions to the class.
- **Les études.** Research what study abroad opportunities are available in the region. Convince your fellow classmates to go.
- **Les professions.** Research a profession unique to the region. What kind of training is necessary? What does the profession entail on a daily basis?
- **Le voyage.** Research places to go and things to see in your region. Create a travel itinerary, including prices, times and various interesting activities for a student with a limited budget and French vocabulary.
- **Le manger.** Research a particular restaurant in the region. Convince your classmates to go by presenting its succulent (and unique) dishes.
- **Les loisirs.** Research a unique leisure or cultural activity for the region such as a game, festival or location. Create an activity to teach the class information and trivia about it.
Developing your presentation

You will develop your presentation in stages throughout the latter part of the semester. Each stage (except the final one) should be submitted via Google Docs or cleanly printed on paper before class on the due date indicated.

1. **Research (23 March).** Create a bibliography of at least 3 sources, one of which must be print media and two of which must be in French. MLA format is preferred.

2. **Vocabulary Brainstorming (30 March).** List 20 useful words for your presentation; use new words you discovered in your research but also think ahead for terms or phrases that might be useful (such as the imperative or the futur proche).

3. **Outline (6 April).** Create an outline to better organize your thoughts. It must include a clear opening statement, a body of three points and a clear conclusion. Each major point should be a complete sentence.

4. **Brouillon / visual support (13 April).** Your third rédaction is actually the script for your presentation. You should also create a draft of a presentation or other visual support for your presentation.

5. **Correction (20 April).** Review and correct the rough draft that you submitted.

6. **Presentation (27 April).** Each member of the comité should speak for at least 2-3 minutes. You may not use any notes; address the audience and engage us directly. Be sure to include visual support (a PowerPoint presentation, a video, a poster, etc.)

**Grading Scale**

100-90% = A; 89-80% = B; 79-70% = C; 69-60% = D; 59% and below = F

**Extra Credit**

You can earn extra credit in a variety of ways, but you may earn a total of **only nine (9) bonus points**.

- **Cultural Events (+3 points on both major tests).** Attend at least three (3) cultural events related to French and/or Francophone culture and writing a brief account of your experience (100 words minimum per event) in French. Suggestions for cultural events include:
  - French movies (during the Movie Festival or from the Foreign Language Resource Center)
  - Activities organized by the French Club (not the weekly conversation table)
  - Special programs at Emory University, Georgia State University, etc.
  - High Museum < www.high.org >
  - Other (see the Web site of the French Consulate in Atlanta: www.cfatlanta.org )

- **Foreign Language Resource Center (+3 points on both major tests).** Spend at least 17 hours in the FLRC. Each time you visit the lab, record on the FLRC passport (found at the end of the official syllabus posted on the DFL website) how long you have been working. A FLRC tutor, the coordinator or the director of the Foreign Language Resource Center must sign the form each time. That form will be due on the day of the test if you want to receive the bonus points.

- **Learn and Serve (+3 points on Final Grade).** Take part in the Learn and Serve program. You visit a local elementary or middle school and teach the students there French language and culture. Contact Dr. Luc Guglielmi (lguglielmi1@kenesaw.edu) for more information.

- **L'Arc de Kennesaw (+3 points on Written Assignment (rédaction) average.** Publish an article in the French Club newsletter. Check the French Club's website < http://www.freewebs.com/kennesawfrenchclub/ > for more information.

- **Talent Show (+3 points on Oral Presentation Average).** Take part in the Talent Show each semester. Contact Dr. Lucie Viakinnou-Brison (lviakinn@kenesaw.edu) for more information.
Academic honesty
Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/ falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an "informal" resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum one semester suspension requirement. If a student is found guilty of plagiarism, a grade of « F » will be assigned for the class.

The Department of Foreign Languages at Kennesaw State University considers it a breach of academic integrity for the student to use automatic translators of any kind to complete an assignment. Furthermore, no compositions or other work should be written for the student by a native speaker of the target language, by a tutor or student assistant in the Foreign Language Resource Center, or by any other individual.

Disability policy
Kennesaw State University provides program accessibility and reasonable accommodations for persons identified as disabled under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. A number of services are available to help disabled students with their academic work. In order to make arrangements for special services, students must visit the Office of Disabled Student Support Services (770-423-6443) and arrange an individual assistance plan. In some cases, certification of disability is required. It is the student’s responsibility to take care of this at the beginning of the semester.

Sequence of Courses
FREN 1001, 1002, 2001, and 2002 must be taken in sequence. That is, once a higher-level course has been completed, students may not enroll in a lower-level course in the same language. Students may not enroll in more than one course in the sequence at the same time. Students may not enroll in any course in this sequence if they have completed a course or are currently enrolled in a course at the 3000 or 4000 levels. Students not adhering to this policy will be administratively withdrawn from courses to assure compliance.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>In-Class</th>
<th>Homework / Announcements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M 12 January</td>
<td><strong>INTRODUCTIONS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 14 January</td>
<td><strong>FLRC / SUPERSITE WORKSHOP</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 21 January</td>
<td><strong>Unité 1 « Salut ! » Leçon 1 (pp. 2-15)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 26 January</td>
<td>Leçon 1 (suite)</td>
<td><strong>Quiz no. 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 28 January</td>
<td>Leçon 2 (pp. 16-28)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 2 February</td>
<td>Leçon 2 (suite)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 4 February</td>
<td><strong>Unité 2 « À la fac » Leçon 3 (pp. 38-51)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 9 February</td>
<td>Leçon 3 (suite)</td>
<td><strong>Quiz no. 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 11 February</td>
<td><strong>LE CINÉMA FRANÇAIS</strong> <strong>FLRC : GOOGLE DOCS &amp; BLOGGER</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 16 February</td>
<td>Leçon 4 (pp. 52-65)</td>
<td><strong>Film Festival</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 18 February</td>
<td>Leçon 4 (suite)</td>
<td><strong>Film Festival</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 23 February</td>
<td><strong>REVIEW – UNITS 1 &amp; 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Rédaction no. 1 (brouillon)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 25 February</td>
<td><strong>TEST NO. 1 – UNITS 1 &amp; 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 2 March</td>
<td><strong>Unité 3 « La famille et les copains » Leçon 5 (74-87)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Rédaction no. 1 (correction)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 4 March</td>
<td>Leçon 5 (suite)</td>
<td><strong>Quiz no. 3</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 9 March</td>
<td><strong>PAS DE COURS</strong></td>
<td><strong>PAS DE COURS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 11 March</td>
<td><strong>SPRING BREAK</strong></td>
<td><strong>VACANCES DE PRINTEMPS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 16 March</td>
<td>Leçon 6 (88-101)</td>
<td><strong>Rédaction no. 2 (brouillon)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 18 March</td>
<td>Leçon 6 (suite)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 23 March</td>
<td><strong>Unité 4 « Au café » Leçon 7 (110-123)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Présentation 1 : recherches</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 25 March</td>
<td>Leçon 7 (suite)</td>
<td><strong>Rédaction no. 2 (correction)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 30 March</td>
<td>Leçon 8 (124-137)</td>
<td><strong>Présentation 2 : vocabulaire</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 1 April</td>
<td>Leçon 8 (suite)</td>
<td><strong>Quiz no. 4</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 6 April</td>
<td><strong>REVIEW – UNITS 2 &amp; 4</strong></td>
<td><strong>Présentation 3 : plan</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 8 April</td>
<td><strong>TEST NO. 2 – UNITS 3 &amp; 4</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 13 April</td>
<td><strong>Unité 5 « Les loisirs » Leçon 9 (146-159)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Présentation : brouillon</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 15 April</td>
<td>Leçon 9 (suite)</td>
<td><strong>Quiz no. 5</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 20 April</td>
<td>Leçon 10 (160-173)</td>
<td><strong>Présentation 5 : correction</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 22 April</td>
<td>Leçon 10 (suite)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 27 April</td>
<td><strong>GROUP PRESENTATIONS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 29 April</td>
<td><strong>GLOBAL REVIEW – UNITS 1-5</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>