



Course Syllabus LFR 301 G

Advanced French I - Current Events

Number of ECTS credits: 6

Contact Details for Professor

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Course Description

Corresponding European Level: C 1. Together with an initial brief revision of basic conjugations, students will develop their vocabulary knowledge through various authentic press articles. Discussions in class on the various topics will bring the oral practice and the opportunity to learn & discuss current events. Selected grammatical difficulties will be reviewed and completed. Advanced essay writing will be practiced. Extended oral presentations and a complete study of a theater play and its author will be part of the course.

Course Prerequisites (if any)

This is one of the two advanced level language courses offered for credit at Vesalius College: it is offered in the Fall. The other one (LFR 302G - Culture & society) - is offered in the Spring. Both these advanced courses complete each other and may be taken in any order by students who pass a placement test requiring intermediate knowledge – II – of French at Vesalius College standards.

This allows any student to complete either one or two different Advanced level French Courses (for a more complete exposure, practice and achievement)

Learning Objectives

After this course you should be able to:

a) Knowledge

- Know a lot of new vocabulary in various areas.
- Master a broader knowledge, in "grammar and expression", as shown in the contents of the course.

b) Skills

- Understand spoken and written French at an advanced level in order to discuss current events among other topics.
- Express yourself, both orally and in writing, using critical thinking, newly acquired knowledge and essay writing techniques.
- Give a quality oral presentation in front of a group on a French or Belgian famous person or group or on a French or Belgian specialty.
- Have the experience of reading in full a French work of literature and watching a French theater play in town.
- Pursue and deepen your experience in French, in the various areas studied in class

c) Attitude.

- be more confident in oral and written French in order to communicate clearly and efficiently.

Course schedule

15 weeks, including final exam week, with these main contents:

Organizing the semester - Short Essay written in class

Unit 1 - Preparation to verb test 1

Decide on presentations dates

Essay 1 questions given in class

Verb test n° 1

Unit 2-

Preparation to verb test 2

ESSAY 1: hand in

Theater Play text hand out: Introduction to the reading .

Preparation to verb test 3

Oral Presentations (1):

TEST 1 (on covered grammar & vocabulary)

Verb test n° 2

Unit 3 -
Class Discussion on play-1

MID-TERM EXAM, including:

Selected Vocabulary; Imparfait vs Passé Composé , Relating past facts including with historical past., Dictation, Essay.

Oral Presentations (2)
Oral Presentations (3)
Class Discussion on play-2
Verb test n° 3
Unit 4 –Essay 2 questions given in class
Class Discussion on Play - 3
ESSAY 2 hand in
PLAY AT THEATER
Unit 5
Oral Presentations (4)
Test on play
TEST 2 (on covered grammar & vocabulary)
Last class & FINAL exam part 1

Oral and written FINAL EXAMS, including:

Putting the stress on part of a sentence: various methods , Subjunctive ;
Relative pronouns & clauses, Selected vocabulary, Essay, Dictation, Written
expression and comprehension, Oral expression and comprehension

Course Materials

Textbook:

- Une grammaire illustrée du Français faite pour vous, Anna Magnan
- Bescherelle, conjugaison française

Case Studies and Additional Readings:

- New play each semester, read and seen at the theater in Brussels
- Articles on Current events

Course Assessment

The students will be evaluated on the basis of their performance as follows :

- Quizzes
- Tests
- Homework
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In-class participation	40 %
Midterm examination	25 %
Final examination	<u>35 %</u>
TOTAL	100%

Grading Scale of Vesalius College

Vesalius College grading policy, in line with the Flemish Educational norms, is now as stated follows:

Letter grade	Scale of 20	Scale of 100
A	17.0-20.0	85-100
A-	16.1-16.9	81-84
B+	15.3-16.0	77-80
B	14.5-15.2	73-76
B-	13.7-14.4	69-72
C+	13.1-13.6	66-68
C	12.3-13.0	62-65
C-	11.5-12.2	58-61
D+	10.7-11.4	54-57
D	10.0-10.6	50-53
F	0-9.9	0-49

Further description of assessment activities and Grading Criteria

The following criteria will be applied in assessing your written work:

Students must produce:

- Correct definitions of selected words and their correct use in personal sentences
- Well planed and well presented essays with correct structures, spelling and conjugation

All written work must be 100 % personal & followed by its correction

Verb conjugations tests must be passed with a minimum of 80 % grade or necessarily retaken.

Exclusively French is used at all times.

Additional Course Policies

Late papers are accepted at the instructor's discretion, without penalty, when very occasional. Coming late to class must be avoided at all times.

Academic Honesty Statement

Academic dishonesty is **NOT** tolerated in this course.

Academic honesty is not only an ethical issue but also the foundation of scholarship. Cheating and plagiarism are therefore serious breaches of academic integrity.

Following the College policy, cheating and plagiarism cases will be communicated in writing to the Associate Dean for Students and submitted to the Student Conduct Committee for disciplinary action.

If you refer to someone else's work, appropriate references and citations must be provided. Grammar, spelling and punctuation count, so use the tools necessary to correct before handing in assignments.