

Tennessee State University
Department of Languages, Literature and Philosophy
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Office Hours: Thursday: **8:00 am - 2:00 pm**
Monday **1:40-3:00** and by appointment

FRENCH 2020
SPRING 2013

French 2020, the last level of 4 semester French courses, helps students develop functional proficiency in French. This includes:

- The ability to cope with conversation in French.
- The ability to extract meaning from authentic print and audio-visual documents, including video.
- The ability to write coherent sentences in French with reasonable accuracy and to compose paragraphs that describe and that narrate.
- Knowledge of the structure of French, verb conjugations, use of the present past tenses, pronouns, adjectives, agreement, etc.
- Knowledge about France and the Francophone world and the ability to find out more information.

A student completing French 2020 with a C or better will be able to perform as stated in each of the following skills:

Listening

- Understand native who is speaking to a normal pace about general, but concrete topics

Speaking

- Engage in communication discussing unfamiliar basic topics
- Ask questions and answer elaborating on their output
- Discuss general issues relevant to daily life topics
- Communicate general desires/preferences and problems to a monolingual native

Reading

- Understand connected text beyond a short story, newspaper article, train/bus schedule or email

Writing

- Write a simple essay on specific assigned topics relevant to those studied

Culture

- Discuss issues and facts about the countries in which the target language is spoken based on historical events and previous cultural knowledge of the target culture
- Draw comparisons between societies based on authentic truthful information

The objectives above can be realized only through your active participation, both in and out of class. You are expected to do the following:

At home: prepare your homework and read the rules of grammar and reading assignments prior to class period. Review what is being practiced in class and do the activities related to each assignment.

In Class: Contribute actively to the activities being practiced.

In the language lab: Practice listening comprehension. Ask the professor for help in the choice of audio/visual material.

In the instructor's office: go during office hours or make appointments to get help with lessons studied in class; sign up for your oral practice.

Students are expected to attend class regularly and to prepare/ study outside of class. Unexcused absences will reduce the participation grade, and therefore affect the final grade. It is reasonable to expect to spend two to three hours outside of class for each hour spent in class (i.e. a total of ten to fifteen hours a week); some students may need to spend additional time in order to achieve the grade they desire.

Syllabus changes

Dr. Konkobo reserves the right to alter this syllabus whenever the actual process of teaching and learning requires such changes. Changes to the syllabus will be announced on both Banner and the instructor's website at www.tnstate.edu/faculty/ckonkobo. In any event, the posted, electronic, online versions of the syllabus and schedule of classes are authoritative, taking precedence over any printed version.

Evaluation:

3 tests @ 15% each → 45 %

1st exam= Chapters 19, 20 *Voilà! An Introduction to French*

2nd exam = answer questions based on reading textbook *C'est la vie!* + Translation of sentences from the same book.

3rd exam = answer questions based on reading textbook *C'est la vie!* + Translation of sentences from the same book. No make-up test without an approved medical excuse.

Reading Assignments + Homework → 20% No late work will be accepted. You may email me your homework in advance. **YOUR WORK MUST BE TYPED. NO HANDWRITTEN ASSIGNMENT WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Participation → 10% (attendance + daily preparation for activities + oral participation in class)

You will receive daily attendance grades (2.5 points) and daily participation grades (5 points). When you are absent, your participation grade will be zero. Two tardy equal one absence. If you are more than 5 minutes late, you will be recorded as absent. Leaving early without prior approval of the instructor will be recorded as an absence (get instructor's approval to leave early before class starts).

Oral Exam or French Table: 10 % → You can either take an **oral exam** or attend **6 French Table meetings** (2 meetings on average per month). The French table will meet for one hour every Thursday from 1-2 pm. It is your responsibility to get signed in whenever you attend a meeting. If you choose to take an oral exam, you will have a topic to prepare orally and make a 10-minute presentation in Dr. Konkobo's office. Two weeks before each oral exam, you will receive a signup sheet along with details about the test. If you miss your time, you will not be allowed to make the exam up.

Final exam → 15%: Project: Details to be handed out two weeks before final exams date.

Grade Scale: 90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; 59 or below = F

Required text:

- Heilenman, Kaplan & Tournier. *Voilà! An Introduction to French*
- Evelyne Amon. *C'est la vie! A French Reader*. (Mac Graw Hill) [**detailed reading assignments for *C'est la vie* to follow**]

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is mandatory. Disruptive behavior will result in your being asked to leave early, and your participation grade will be zero.

This is a 3-credit hour course. University policy defines “excessive absences” as “one class in excess of the number of registered hours.” Therefore, having more than four unexcused absences will result in a lower grade. For each unexcused absence beyond the fourth, the final grade will be lowered by one percentage point, for example, from 70 to 69. Bear in mind that even excused absences can make it harder to keep up in class. For those students with no absences or tardiness, the lowest daily participation grade is dropped.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING: plagiarism, cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. Students guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly through participation or assistance, are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. In addition to any other disciplinary sanctions which may be imposed through the general institutional procedures as a result of the academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign an F or a ZERO for the exercise or examination, or to assign an F in the course. If the student believes that he or she has been erroneously accused of academic misconduct, and if his or her final grade is affected as a result, the student may appeal the case through the appropriate institutional procedures. (First the instructor, if not satisfied, then the head of the Department of Languages, Literature, and Philosophy, then the Dean of Arts and Sciences, then the Vice President for Student Affairs).

ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN CLASS: The use of electronic devices like beepers, cellular phones, or radios is not allowed in class. Turn them off and put them away before you come to class. **Do not leave the classroom to use these devices during class. Cameras are not allowed in the classroom without the prior approval of the instructor.**

PER UNIVERSITY POLICY, NO FOOD OR DRINK IS ALLOWED IN CLASSROOMS. NO SLEEPING OR WORKING ON WORK FOR OTHER CLASSES DURING THIS CLASS.

You are expected to be respectful to all persons in the class at all times. Rude or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated. Your instructor reserves the right to determine what is considered to be rude or disrespectful behavior.

Disability: The Department of Languages, Literature, and Philosophy in conjunction with the Office of Disabled Student Services, makes reasonable accommodations for qualified students with medically documented disabilities. If you need an accommodation, please contact Dan Steely of TSU’s Disabled Student Services Office at 963-7400 (phone) or 9634-5051 (fax), preferably by the fourth day of class.