

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 2010
SPRING 2013**

**THE DETAILED SYLLABUS IS
AVAILABLE ON BANNER**

French 2010 is the third level of four semester French courses. This course helps students develop functional proficiency in French, including:

- the ability to cope with conversation in French: asking and answering questions on topics of daily life
- the ability to extract meaning from authentic print and visual documents including video
- the ability to write coherent sentences in French with reasonable accuracy and to compose paragraphs that describe and 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

A student completing French 2010 with a C or better will be able to perform as stated in each of the following skills:

Listening: Understand a native who is speaking slowly about general, but concrete topics

Speaking: Engage in communication beyond familiar and basic topics

- Ask questions and answer beyond yes/no
- Discuss simple and general issues relevant to the studied topics
- Communicate basic desires/preferences and problems to a monolingual native speaker

Reading: Understand simple connected text, e.g. a short story, newspaper article, train/bus schedule or email

Writing: Write a simple narrative to describe or write a poem or a letter

Culture: Elaborate on basic information about the countries in which the target language is spoken

- Know historical facts about people who speak the target language.

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 your notes and complete assignments prior to coming to class.

In Class: Contribute actively to the activities being practiced.

In the language lab: check out cassette tapes to complete assignments from the workbook.

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

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 Banner. In any event, the posted, electronic, online versions of the syllabus and schedule of classes are authoritative, taking precedence over any printed version.

Required texts: Heilenman, Kaplan & Tournier. *Voilà! An Introduction to French* (5th ed.)

Heilenman, Kaplan & Tournier. *Voilà! Cahier d'activités écrites et orales*

Evaluation:

- 1) **3 Written Tests @ 15% each → 45 %** (each test is based on the content of 2 chapters in the textbook. A test is 50 minute-long and covers both chapters.). No makeup test without an approved medical excuse.
 - If you have to schedule a doctor's appointment during our class time, let me know in advance and bring me a signed note from your doctor after the appointment. Doctor's note alone (without prior notification of the appointment) cannot constitute an approved excuse.
 - In case of an emergency trip to the hospital, bring your physician's signed note within a week of your return to class.

Tests dates: All 3 tests are scheduled during regular class meeting time. Dates may change; in the event they change you will receive advance notice before the test.

NB: You may take tutorial quizzes before each scheduled test by going to: www.tnstate.edu/faculty/ckonkobo then click on the QUIZ link.

Send the instructor an email of your completed quiz and you may earn 2 bonus points on your test grade for each chapter quiz you take (you may earn 4 bonus points total on your test grade). Note that you must answer all the questions right to earn these points (you will always have the possibility of going back to correct your mistakes before submitting the quiz). Send your completed tutorial quiz to ckonkobo@tnstate.edu

- 2) **Workbook → 10%.** Exercises are from the workbook: both *Cahier d'activités écrites* (Written exercises) and *Cahier d'activités orales* (Oral Exercises). THESE ARE 2 DIFFERENT SECTIONS IN THE SAME WORKBOOK. (A copy of the workbook is available on **Reserve at the University Library**)
You will need to listen to audio input to *complete the oral section of the workbook (you do not however need audio for the written section)*. To complete your oral exercises, you need to open your browser at www.tnstate.edu/faculty/ckonkobo, click on "HOMEWORK AUDIO FILE" and follow the instructions.
You have the possibility of turning in your exercises any time before the deadline; for that reason, **absolutely no late homework will be accepted.**
- 3) **Homework + Quizzes → 10%** (There are regular homework assignments (check the table below) and unannounced oral or written quizzes. No makeup for homework or quiz. You may email me your homework in advance. If you bring an approved medical excuse, the quiz can be dropped. YOUR HOMEWORK MUST BE TYPED. NO HANDWRITTEN ASSIGNMENT WILL BE ACCEPTED.
- 4) **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. The oral exam is scheduled on the syllabus. If you miss your time, you will not be allowed to make the exam up.
- 5) **Participation → 5%** (daily preparation for activities + oral participation in class)
- 6) **Attendance → 5%** (Being physically present in class and read to participate in the learning process)
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).
- 7) **Final exam → 15%** (This exam is cumulative; it covers all chapters studied this semester). This is a 50 minute exam. Check the University schedules of Final Exams to find out the date and time of your exam.

It is your responsibility in this class to make advanced arrangements to complete all assignments on time.

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

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.