

SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES PROSPECTUS SPRING 2023

FREN 0300 (FORMERLY FREN 130)

INTERMEDIATE FRENCH I – RACONTER PARIS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

- French 0300 is the first half of a two-semester intermediate sequence designed to help you attain a level of proficiency that should allow you to function comfortably in a French-speaking environment.
- You are expected already to have learned the most basic grammatical structures in elementary French and will review these on your own with a grammar handbook, documents posted by your instructor on Canvas and online exercises. This course will build on your existing skills in French, increase your confidence and ability to read, write, speak, and understand French, and introduce you to more refined lexical items, more complex grammatical structures, and more challenging cultural material.
- Contextualized around Paris and its art, literature, culture, restaurants, and housing, you will be asked to immerse yourselves in the life of one of Paris' *arrondissement* (neighborhood). Through this "global simulation" you will interact with your fellow classmates, write blog entries recounting your fictional life in Paris and develop your collective knowledge of the city of light and French culture.
- As in other French courses at Penn, class will be conducted entirely in French. Through the study of authentic materials such as articles, films, videos, websites, you will deepen your knowledge of the French-speaking world.
- Homework will require grammar readings and vocabulary exercises on documents posted on Canvas, weekly composition practice, frequent short writing activities, filmed speaking, and several reading assignments.

COURSE STRUCTURE<sup>1</sup>

- For the Spring 2023 semester, all sections of FREN 0300 are scheduled in person.
- The class will meet on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday for 60 minutes.
- The course is based on active learning (flipped-classroom), therefore students are expected to work on the target vocabulary and grammar (i.e. read a grammar lesson, learn a vocabulary list, and do a content activity such as reading comprehension) prior to class and class time will be spent applying those concepts through communicative tasks and pair/small group interactions.
- The semester-long calendar will be detailed in the course syllabus to be published at a later date.

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<sup>1</sup> Our goal is to provide optimal learning conditions and therefore the course is subject to change based on your feedback and periodic reassessment of how well our pedagogic goals are being achieved.

- Detailed weekly programs will be posted on Canvas in order to inform students of what they can expect to do every class meeting and what they need to do outside of class meetings (in preparation for class or as post-class assignments)
- Office hours will be bookable online in order to give everyone more opportunities to receive personal attention and additional practice.

## ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

- Your grade will be based on the following criteria:

Compositions (3)	30%
Quizzes (5)	20%
Daily Participation & Preparation	10%
Video blog (3)	15%
Oral exam (1)	10%
Weekly Canvas posts & quizzes	15%

## COURSE MATERIALS

- Students must have access to the following grammar reference book that will also be required in FREN 0400 and 1000.
  - *Contextualized French Grammar: A Handbook*, Stacey Katz Bourns, Cengage, 2013
- All other course materials and readings will be on Canvas.

## PREREQUISITES AND PLACEMENT

Students who enroll in French 0300 must meet one of the following prerequisites:

- Successful completion of French 120/0200 or French 121/0210.
- A score between 450 and 540 on the SAT II or the departmental written exam.
- A score between 369 and 405 on the [online placement exam](#).

Students having completed a previous course in French at Penn are not allowed to skip a level. Students in the College with a placement score are allowed to move up one level without seeking special permission; students in other schools who wish to move up a level must speak with the course coordinator.

Since the placement scores are based on exams using a multiple-choice format and do not measure oral and listening skills, they provide a preliminary placement level. If necessary, students will be moved up or down one level if their ability to function in the language does not seem appropriate for the level of the course. You should consult your instructor or the course coordinator if you have concerns about your placement.