

FRENCH 2130: LE FRANÇAIS DES AFFAIRES/FRENCH FOR BUSINESS I

Course description

- Whether you want to work in a Francophone country one day, be able to communicate with French-speaking business partners, develop your intercultural savviness by understanding a foreign business context better, or simply read the specialized press in French, this course is for you! This course is a general introduction to business French that will provide you with the linguistic tools applicable to any French-speaking professional context.
- After completing this course, you will have the opportunity to receive one of the official certifications offered by the *Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de région Paris Ile-de-France: le Diplôme de Français Professionnel (D.F.P.), option Affaires*. This diploma is recognized by major companies and schools around the world and is a token of your professional competence in French. The exam will be held on campus during reading days.

Prerequisites

- French 2000 highly recommended.
- No business background necessary.
- Native speakers or students with a French International Baccalaureate should register directly in French for Business II (do not hesitate to contact me if you are unsure of the right level for you)

Course materials

- A-L Dubois, B Tauzin : *Objectif Express 2 Le monde professionnel en français B1/B2.1*, Hachette Livre, 2016.
- Additional texts and materials for the course will be posted on the Canvas site.

Course structure

- For the Fall 2024 semester, FREN 2130 will be taught entirely in person, 90 min/twice a week.
- Office hours in person or via Zoom will be bookable online in order to give everyone more opportunities to receive personal attention and additional practice.
- The Chamber of commerce Business French Diploma will take place on campus during reading days.

Course objectives

- By the end of the semester, students will:
 - gain a greater understanding of the economic, social, and political context in France;
 - acquire the specific terminology that will allow you to understand and analyze economic and business-related (written and spoken) documents;
 - be able to communicate in both writing (e.g. letters, emails) and speaking (e.g. negotiations, presentations) in professional settings;
 - understand the specificities of French companies and of doing business in France;
 - develop a better intercultural competence by exploring the cultural particularities of business practices across national boundaries.

Required work

Written (4) & video (2) productions - individual

40%

During the semester, you will practice professional communication in French by writing various types of letters and reports, and producing two videos. After receiving guided feedback, you will get the opportunity to revise and improve your work. If you choose to do so, each draft will account for 50%. More details will be provided on Canvas.

Scenarios professionnels - group (3)

20%

There will be three group projects based on real-life professional scenarios.

Engagement and preparation

20%

The course is based on active learning (flipped classroom); therefore students are expected to prepare tasks (i.e. listening and reading comprehension activities, grammar exercises, Canvas discussion posts) prior to class and class time will be spent applying those concepts through communicative production tasks and pair/small group interaction. Attendance will be taken, and engagement assessed each class. You should use Course Absence Reports to inform your instructor of your upcoming absences. Tardiness disrupts the flow of the class, therefore excessive tardies may accrue to an absence. To create the best environment for communication in the target language, electronic devices are not allowed in class, unless otherwise specified for a particular activity.

Oral exam - individual (2)

10%

In order to test your interactional skills in professional settings and practice for the DFP exam, you will have two individual oral interviews based on real-life prompts and corresponding respectively to levels B1 and B2 of the DFP. Whether you want to take the exam or not, these will allow you to apply your professional French skills in authentic situations.

Business French Diploma

- The French Department at Penn has a long-standing partnership with the *Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de région Paris Ile-de-France*. After completing this course, you will have the opportunity to receive one of the official certifications that they offer: *le Diplôme de Français Professionnel (D.F.P.), option Affaires*. This diploma is recognized by major companies and schools around the world and is a token of your professional competence in French. The exam will be held on campus during reading days. Participation is voluntary and for a fee.
- For more information, please visit: <http://www.lefrancaisdesaffaires.fr/tests-diplomes/diplomes-francais-professionnel-dfp/affaires/>