

Débutant 1

This course, delivered through a thematic approach, offers the basics of conversational French. There will be a focus on oral skills listening and speaking with some integration of reading and writing activities. The environment is enjoyable, relaxed, and risk free. No prerequisite for this course. This course is conducted in French.

At the end of the course participants will be able to:

Greet someone and say goodbye

Introduce self and others (family and friends)

Be familiar with everyday expressions such as those related to weather

Tell how one is feeling (expressions related to parts of the body)

Ask and answer simple questions about personal details

Give description of self and others (including clothing) using basic descriptive words such as color

Give and ask for basic information such as name, e-mail, phone number, age, nationality, profession, etc

Express likes and dislikes

Briefly talk about daily and weekend activities in the present

Discuss hobbies

Use expressions related to shopping and price

Give and ask the date and time

Give orders and follow instructions

Ask for and give directions

Become familiar with vocabulary related to “the house and home”

Conduct an interview

Débutant 2

This course, delivered through a thematic approach, builds on the content of Débutant 1. There will be a focus on oral skills listening and speaking with some integration of reading and writing activities. The environment is enjoyable, relaxed, and risk free. Débutant 1 or similar experience with French is a prerequisite. This course is conducted in French.

At the end of the course participants will be able to:

Express personal needs

Indicate quantities

Talk/write about past events

Express opinions, ask for opinions and give compliments

Talk about food

Discuss daily routine present and past

Ask for, give and refuse permission

Express obligation

Accept and refuse a proposition

Read /write an ad

Explain how to succeed in an activity

Express likes and dislikes

Express frequency and intensity

Give advice

Talk/write about pastimes

Talk/write about vacations

Talk about a recent happening

Talk on habitual events in the past

Describe circumstances of past actions

Talk about childhood memories

Talk/write about future events

Talk about the weather forecast

Intermédiaire 1, 2 and 3

These courses are intended for those who have a basic knowledge of French and would like to build on previous learning experiences to improve their level of competency. All four skills: listening , speaking , reading and writing, are developed in a relaxed, friendly, non-threatening environment. Since classes are small, students have ample opportunity and are encouraged to actively participate to their fullest ability.

Basic French grammar is reviewed as the need arises and is tailored to meet the individual needs of the group. New grammar points are taught in the context of the articles, surveys, advertisements and theme being studied.

These are great refresher courses for anyone interested in improving his /her communication skills in French as well as for those who are meeting this level of proficiency for the first time. These courses are taught in French. Beginner2 or appropriate exposure to French is prerequisite for the Intermediate 1 course. Intermediate 1 or the appropriate experiences with the language would be prerequisite for Intermediate 2. Intermediate 2 or the equivalent of a university minor would be the pre-requisite for Intermediate 3.

The grammatical content of these courses is as follows:

- the relative pronouns qui and que
- the demonstrative pronouns celui, celle ,ceux and celles
- the demonstratives ce, cet , cette and ces (reviewed as needed)
- the position of adjectives
- the passé composé (reviewed as needed)
- the imperfect (reviewed as needed)
- the future proche and future simple(reviewed as needed)
- the present conditional
- the relative pronouns où ,dont , auquel , duquel
- the comparative and superlative
- the possessive pronouns le mien, le tien etc.
- the use of passé composé versus the imperfect
- the formation of adverbs
- the use of the negative
- expression de la conséquence
- l'accord du participe passé
- le discours rapporté au présent
- l'opposition et la concession
- Ce qui and ce que
- the direct and indirect pronouns and the use of "y" and "en"
- the present subjunctive
- expressions idiomatiques

Some broad topics which are covered are:

- family , home, clothing, childhood recollections, origins
- health, exercise, making resolutions
- work , unemployment
- recreational activities, travel

Advanced Conversation and Grammar

The primary goal of this course is to give students the opportunity to improve on the precision, accuracy and fluency of their already developed French language skills. The instructor uses magazine and newspaper articles, songs, poems, recipes and other realia to stimulate conversation among class members. While oral comprehension and production are the key components, the instructor takes advantage of all teachable moments to highlight grammatical elements throughout the materials used, and to respond to inquiries from members of the class.