SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL STUDIES

English and Humanities Department

COURSE OUTLINE

FREN 101 - Contemporary French I

Revised by Ali Zaidi (MAY 2015)
A. **TITLE**: Contemporary French I

B. **COURSE NUMBER**: FREN 101

C. **CREDIT HOURS**: 4 credit hours

D. **COURSE LENGTH**: One full semester

E. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED**: Fall

F. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY**: This course consists of four lecture hours.

G. **CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION**: This course will introduce the student to the sound system and grammatical structure of the French language. The focus will be on developing skills in the areas of aural comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. By the end of the semester, the student will have a basic understanding of grammar, including word formation, verb conjugations, idiomatic expressions, and cognates. This course will also discuss various cultural aspects of the French-speaking world. Four hours of lecture per week. This course is only for the true beginner or for students who have had less than three years of high school French. Students who have taken more than three years of high school French within the last three years can enroll in this course only with the permission of the instructor.

H. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-COURSES**: None.

I. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES)**: By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

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<tr>
<th>Course Objective</th>
<th>Institutional SLO</th>
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<tr>
<td>a. apply basic grammar and vocabulary to read, write, speak and understand French to exchange greetings, give personal information, follow directions to find a place, describe persons, places and the weather, express needs, and tell time.</td>
<td>1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking</td>
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<td>b. describe distinctive cultural features of the French speaking world, including France, Western Africa, Canada, Haiti, and Louisiana.</td>
<td>3. Prof. Competence 4. Inter-Intra-personal skills</td>
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J. **TEXTS**: Text to be selected by the instructor.


L. **EQUIPMENT**: Audiovisual equipment and internet access.

M. **GRADING METHOD**: A-F

N. **MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS**: Students will be graded on a combination of quizzes and exams, homework, and class participation.

O. **DETAILED TOPICAL OUTLINE**: Please see attached.
TOPICS

I. Introducing yourself, sharing basic information about yourself
   A. Language Functions:
      i. Greetings
      ii. Introductions
      iii. Saying where you are from
      iv. Exchanging addresses
      v. Exchanging telephone numbers
      vi. Telling your age
      vii. Saying goodbye
   B. Useful vocabulary:
      i. Greetings
      ii. Personal introductions
      iii. Numbers 0-100
      iv. Farewells
   C. Grammar topics:
      i. Subject Pronouns
      ii. Present tense of the verbs être and avoir
      iii. Sentence negation
      iv. The verb forms il faut and devoir to express necessity
   D. Cultural notes:
      i. Using tu and vous
      ii. Meeting and greeting others

II. Getting acquainted with others
   A. Language Functions:
      i. Identifying people and things
      ii. Indicating relationships
      iii. Telling time
      iv. Describing school-related activities
      v. Describing everyday activities
   B. Useful vocabulary:
      i. Classmates and friends
      ii. Academic courses
      iii. Telling time
      iv. Days of the week
   C. Grammar topics:
      i. Gender and plural of nouns
      ii. Definite and indefinite articles
      iii. Present tense of the verbs pouvoir, vouloir, and savoir
      iv. Constructions in French
      vi. aimer + infinitive to express likes and dislikes
      vii. demonstrative adjectives
      viii. irregular plurals: words engine in -s, -x, and -z
   D. Cultural notes:
      i. 24 hour system of time
      ii. Educational system in France
III. Describe yourself, friends, family, and what you do
A. Language Functions:
   i. Describing People and things
   ii. Describing daily activities
   iii. Indicating ownership
   iv. Defining relationships
B. Useful vocabulary:
   i. Nuclear family members
   ii. Numbers 31-99
   iii. Colors
C. Grammar topics:
   i. Agreement of nouns with adjectives
   ii. Present tense of verb + depuis to indicate duration of action
   iii. Possessive adjectives
   iv. Showing possession with contractions of de
   v. Present tense of regular -re and -ir verbs
   vi. Present tense of connaître
   vii. Expressing quantities: partitive articles (du, de la, de l’)
D. Cultural notes:
   i. Hand gestures
   ii. Conversational customs

IV. Discuss how you spend your free time
A. Language Functions:
   i. Making invitations
   ii. Expressing plans and intentions
   iii. Describing leisure-time activities
   iv. Accepting and declining invitations
B. Useful vocabulary:
   i. Pastimes and sports
   ii. Months of the year
C. Grammar topics:
   i. Present tense of the verbs dire, lire, and écrire
   ii. Present tense of irregular verbs
   iii. Describing origin: the verb venir
   iv. The verb aller + infinitive to express the near future
D. Cultural notes:
   i. Starting a conversation
V. Describe your family
A. Language Functions:
   i. Identifying family members
   ii. Describing family members
   iii. Describing actions in progress
   iv. Expressing wants and preferences
   v. Stating intentions
   vi. Describe states of mind
   vii. Describing physical conditions
B. Useful vocabulary:
   i. Family members
   ii. Marital status
C. Grammar topics:
   i. Direct object pronouns
   ii. Indirect object pronouns
   iii. The verb with adjectives
   iv. Negative expressions
   v. Reflexive verbs se promener, se laver, etc.
D. Cultural notes:
   i. The family in France and Canada
   ii. The family in the French Caribbean and Western Africa

VI. Talk and write about foods and clothing
A. Language Functions:
   i. Stating Preferences
   ii. Expressing opinions
   iii. Expressing likes and dislikes
   iv. Ordering food in a restaurant
   v. Describe clothes
   vi. Describing daily activities
   vii. Indicating specific things
B. Useful vocabulary:
   i. Main dishes, beverages, desserts
   ii. Idioms: avoir faim, soif
C. Grammar topics:
   i. Passé compose with être
   ii. Demonstrative adjectives
   iii. demonstrative pronouns
   iv. The verbs voir and croire
D. Cultural notes:
   i. French fashion
VII. Comment on the weather and describe daily routines
A. Language Functions:
   i. Describing people
   ii. Describing the weather
   iii. Specifying dates
   iv. Expressing opinions
   v. Describing daily routines
   vi. Comparing and contrasting
   vii. Expressing preferences
B. Useful vocabulary:
   i. Weather expressions
   ii. Idioms:
   iii. Seasons of the year
   iv. Numbers 100-1,000
   v. Parts of the body
C. Grammar topics:
   i. Reflexive verbs and pronouns
   ii. Comparatives and superlatives
   iii. The verbs
D. Cultural notes:
   i. The centigrade system

VIII. Describe where you live, household activities, and what activities you did recently
A. Language Functions:
   i. Describing place of residence
   ii. Expressing preferences
   iii. Describing one’s household chores
   iv. Discussing past activities
   v. Specifying how long ago
   vi. Communicating more smoothly
B. Useful vocabulary:
   i. Rooms of a house
   ii. Furniture and appliances
   iii. Household chores
C. Grammar topics:
   i. Preterite of regular verbs
   ii. The verb form
   iii. Direct object pronouns
D. Cultural notes:
   i. Housing in Canada and France
   ii. Women’s roles in French-speaking cultures
IX. Describing clothes and activities
A. Language Functions:
   i. Describing clothing
   ii. Stating Preferences
   iii. Stating clothing sizes
   iv. Speaking with store clerks
   v. Communicating more smoothly
   vi. Describing past activities
B. Useful vocabulary:
   i. Clothing
   ii. Clothing accessories
   iii. Numbers over 2000
C. Grammar topics:
   i. Passé composé of reflexive verbs
   ii. Indirect object pronouns
D. Cultural notes:
   i. Clothing sizes
   ii. Dressing appropriately

X. Describing your city and asking for directions
A. Language Functions:
   i. Describing locations in a city
   ii. Asking for street directions
   iii. Expressing negative ideas
   iv. Giving advice to others
   v. Making polite requests
B. Useful vocabulary:
   i. Places in a city
   ii. Street directions
C. Grammar topics:
   i. Affirmative and negative expressions
   ii. Formal commands
D. Cultural notes:
   i. How to get around in cities
   ii. Places to visit