

Instructor : Christian Fantoni

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Office Hours : Tuesdays,Thursdays 8:30-9:30; 12:45-2:45

LG 326: Advanced French Grammar and Conversation

Fall 2009

Course description

LG 326 consists of a comprehensive review of French grammar coupled with practice in conversation using various levels of the spoken language from slang to formal speech. Grammar is reviewed by students, not taught during class by instructor, while most of the class time is devoted to developing conversational skills.

Textbook

Required: Ollivier et Beaudoin, *Grammaire Française*, 4^e éd., available at the bookstore.

Course Prerequisites

LG 212, 213 or equivalent

Course Objectives

The objective of the course is to hone the basic skills in all four areas of proficiency in language learning: speaking, understanding, reading, and writing. Ideally, the course is taught entirely in French.

Procedures for Assessment of Student Achievement

Homework: Homework comes in the form of graded Home Assignments. Because there are 30 chapters in the textbook, and because you will have one graded Home Assignment per chapter, you will give me 30 Home Assignments in all. One Home Assignment is due every Tuesday and every Thursday. We will also cover 2 chapters of your textbook per week. It is important that you spend a considerable amount of time on these chapters at home before writing your Home Assignments. Most grammatical points have already been studied during your first four semesters of French. So, much of the material will be familiar to you. While grammar will not be taught in class, the instructor will clarify any questions that you may have.

Written Tests

You will have one written test per week. Each test will bear upon the last two chapters you reviewed in your textbook. Tests are scheduled on Tuesdays, so as to give you ample time to prepare between Thursday and Tuesday. Tests will have the form of Home Assignments, and will not be very long. Regular graded Home Assignments and Tests are meant to help you and guide you in your work. It is very important for this course, at the advanced level that is yours now, that you study very seriously every day, and that you establish a steady rhythm of work with which you are comfortable.

Dictées

A dictée will be given in every class. Dictées given on Thursdays will be graded. Short passages will be read by instructor, while students write what they hear. Texts will be chosen from different sources, such as literature and the media, and will cover different topics, so as to expose students to a varied vocabulary. This exercise should not take more than 15 minutes of class time.

Oral Tests

Because such an important part of this course is given to oral skills, in addition to the conversational work that will be done in the classroom, several oral tests are scheduled during the semester. These tests will take place during the office hours of instructor. They will be of different natures, and they can be in the form of a group of two or three presentation, or in the form of an extended verbal exchange between you and your instructor.

Last but not least, Participation in Conversations:

As previously mentioned, most of the work done in class will be geared toward conversation. One of the major goals of this course is to make you better at speaking French, to boost your confidence, and to equip you for conversational French. I expect every student to participate fully in class conversations, and to take advantage of every opportunity to speak.

Since this is an interactive course, attendance is essential. You will be graded daily on your participation in classroom activities. You will earn full credit only when you arrive on time and prepared for class and when you participate actively in all aspects of the class. Lateness or other disruptive behavior including speaking English will result in a lower participation grade. Absent students will earn no points for participation.

Evaluation and Grading		Grading Scale	
Participation:	20%	90-100	A
Home Assignments:	25%	80-89	B
Oral Exams:	20%	70-79	C
Chapter Tests:	20%	60-69	D
Dictées	10%	00-60	F
Written Final	5%		

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with *bona fide* disabilities will be afforded reasonable accommodation. The Office of Special Student Services will certify a disability and advise faculty members of reasonable accommodations. If you have a specific disability that qualifies you for this program, please notify your instructor and provide certification from the Office of Special Student Services, directed by Ms. Bernita Pulmas and located in room 270 of the Student Center (telephone: 460-7212).

Since all classes do not progress at the same rate, the instructor may wish to modify these requirements or their timing as circumstances dictate. For example, the instructor may wish to change the number and frequency of exams, or the number and sequence of assignments. However, the students must be given adequate notification.

As a community of students and scholars, the University strives to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All members of the community are expected to exhibit honesty and competence in academic work. This responsibility can be met only through earnest and continuing effort on the part of all students and faculty. Any dishonesty related to academic work or records constitutes academic misconduct including, but not limited to, activities such as giving or receiving unauthorized aid in tests and examinations, improperly obtaining a copy of an examination, plagiarism, and misrepresentation of information, altering transcripts or university records. Academic misconduct is incompatible with the standards of the academic community. Such acts are viewed as moral and intellectual offenses and are subject to investigation and disciplinary action through appropriate University procedures. Penalties may range from the loss of credit for a particular assignment to dismissal from the University. Faculty, students, and staff are responsible for acquainting themselves with, adhering to, and promoting policies governing academic conduct.