

FREN 401 Advanced French Language

School of Languages & Cultures

Trimester 1+2, 2009

30 points

STAFF

Course Coordinator

Myreille Pawliez

Email: myreille.pawliez@vuw.ac.nz

vZ 511

tel. 463 5789

Office hours: by prior arrangement

TRIMESTER DATES

Trimester 1: 2 March – 9 April and 27 April – 5 June 2009

Trimester 2: 13 July – 21 August and 7 September – 16 October 2009

COURSE AIMS

FREN 401 is a full year 30-point fourth year language paper entirely taught and assessed in French which aims to approach educated native-like communicative competence in speaking, listening, reading, writing. It is the compulsory paper for BA (HONS) in French.

Building and expanding on FREN 315 & FREN 316 (or FREN 311), skills such as compréhension écrite, dissertation, bibliographie, résumé d'un texte écrit, résumé d'un texte oral, compréhension orale, expression orale and exposé are covered. Learning techniques are revised to improve autonomous learning and foster refined use of French. Grammatical revision is integrated in the teaching as needed. See 'Programme du cours' in the studyguide for details.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the year, students should:

- have gained full autonomy in writing, reading, speaking and listening skills in French
- be aware of the subtleties in meaning of contemporary French
- be able to cope with any situation and any communicative interaction involving speakers of French, including more specialised fields
- have expanded their knowledge of French vocabulary and idiomatic expressions in areas studied
- have an excellent grammatical knowledge of standard French
- have reached excellent accuracy and fluency of oral and written expression in French
- have further developed their critical thinking and writing in French
- have a good knowledge of French cultural background
- be able to use French in a more idiomatic way
- be able to present a whole argument the French way in a written or oral form.

COURSE MATERIAL

Students are requested to acquire the FREN 401 studyguide from Student Notes **for the first class of the year**. The course covers four themes (famille, sida, religion & laïcité, drogue). The studyguide provides a list of recommended materials and guidelines for independent learning and includes learning notes and class exercises. Model answers may be given out at the end of the class.

For reference, students can consult grammar books, good monolingual French dictionaries (e.g. *Le Nouveau Petit Robert*, *Le Petit Larousse*), and *Pièges et difficultés de la langue française* (Jean Girodet, Bordas, 1988) in the French Library (VZ 605). Students should also use the multimedia materials available at the Language Learning Centre (VZ, level 0) and the resources at the Alliance française.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

In line with the Faculty workload guidelines, students are expected to do **12 hours** of study per week during the whole year. Besides attending the two scheduled classes each week, students are required to do preparation work before classes, to participate in class, to work regularly in an autonomous way (in a study group or/and on their own) and to complete all assignments and tests as requested. Students should also regularly read and listen to French in the Language Learning Centre (VZ, level 0) in their own time. There are computer/CD-ROM programmes in French for remedial and autonomous work (grammar, pronunciation, listening comprehension, reading) and a French spell-check, the videos *TV-France magazine* for listening comprehension practice and general cultural knowledge, as well as current issues of *Ça m'intéresse*. Students should also regularly use the resources available at the University Library, the French Library (VZ 605) and the Alliance française. A complete list of recommended material for the course is provided in the studyguide to help students to work autonomously.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Further course information can be found on the course noticeboard (VZ level 5) or may be passed on in class. It is the responsibility of the student to keep up-to-date.

COURSE DELIVERY

Students must attend two hours a week:

Tuesday	4.10 – 5.00pm	VZ 510 speaking
Wednesday	4.10 – 5.00 pm	VZ 510 reading, writing, listening

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Full class attendance is expected. A minimum of 80% of class attendance is required to complete the course.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

As learning a foreign language is a cumulative process, all assignments are designed to encourage students to work regularly in class and on their own, to ensure that grammar, vocabulary, culture and skills are assimilated as the course progresses and to promote a communicative use of French. Students' attainment level in speaking, reading, writing and listening is assessed in summative tests at the end of the year. Refer to 'Programme' and 'Contrôle' in the studyguide and 'Assessment Dates' below for details.

Completion of all assignments and tests on due dates (see 'Assessment Dates' below) is required.

Any problem regarding deadlines for assignments and tests should be discussed **as early as possible** with the Course Coordinator. Extensions for assignments should be requested from the course-coordinator **as early as possible before the deadline**. (see 'Assessment Dates' below).

Late assignments may be accepted to complete the requirements of the course but will be assigned a zero mark if no prior arrangement is made.

Tests should be sat at the scheduled time (see 'Assessment Dates' below). Prior arrangement or a certificate is needed to be allowed to sit an alternative test and requests should be addressed to the Course Coordinator **as early as possible before the deadline or, if not foreseeable, within a week after the scheduled time**. Failure to sit a test is failing one of the course requirements.

Assessment Dates for 2009

• assignment	exposé	15%	date arranged in class	
• assignment	dissertation	15%	week 7	29 April
• assignment	compréhension écrite	5%	week 9	13 May
• assignment	compréhension orale	5%	week 12	3 June
• assignment	résumé texte écrit	10%	week 17	12 August
• assignment	résumé texte oral	10%	week 21	23 Sept
• test	compréhension orale	10%	week 21	23 Sept
• test	compréhension écrite	10%	week 22	30 Sept
• test	résumé texte écrit	10%	week 23	7 Oct
• test	expression orale	10%	week 24	12 Oct

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

Copying work from another student or any other text or part of a text without proper acknowledgment is not permissible. While students are encouraged to work together in study groups and re-use some of the vocabulary and idiomatic phrases from French authentic texts, all assignments and tests must entirely be the student's own work. Students are not allowed to re-use whole clauses or sentences

and must work **entirely** on their own. In case of difficulties, students should consult the course-coordinator. **Copying and plagiarism will result in a mark of zero for the whole work and may lead to disciplinary action for the student(s) involved.**

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES AND STUDENT EVALUATIONS

The Course Coordinator will facilitate the election of a class representative. Student reps are a valuable means of communication between teaching staff and students. Each trimester student reps of SAELC courses will meet together with the Head of School. At the end of the course all students will be asked to fill out questionnaires prepared by the University's Teaching and Development Centre in order to evaluate individual lecturers' performance and/or the course as a whole.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Coordinator for students with disabilities Dr Richard Millington	Room vZ 613	Tel 463 5976
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Coordinator for Pacific & Maori students Dr Richard Millington	Room vZ 613	Tel 463 5976
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GENERAL UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS, POLICIES AND STATUTES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

This website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates.