

French Conversation and Culture

Last Updated: Mon, 07/28/2025

Course prefix: FREN

Course number: 3120

Section: A

CRN (you may add up to five):
91445

Instructor First Name: Sophie

Instructor Last Name: Landrieux Kartochian

Semester: Fall

Academic year: 2025

Course description:

This class is designed to help students improve their French speaking skills and use French at an advanced level. Not for beginners. Conducted in French.

Course learning outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students:

- will identify and discuss situations and challenges facing contemporary francophone countries (intercultural competence).
- will have a better grasp of the French language and cultural differences in a francophone country (intercultural competence).
- will effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance, and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts and/or of works in the visual/performing arts.
- will communicate effectively and in writing, demonstrating clear organization and structure, using appropriate grammar, and writing conventions (linguistic accuracy).
- will appropriately acknowledge the use of materials from original sources (Informational literacy).
- will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social, cultural, or geographic relationships develop, persist, or change.
- will demonstrate knowledge on specific topics through oral presentations, projects and essay/article writing (creative expression).
- will adapt their communications to purpose and audience.

Required course materials:

- **Documents and links will be shared on Canvas.**

Grading policy:

Active Participation & Course Preparation - 20 %

Oral in-class Presentation or Recorded Podcast - 10 %

Art and AI Project -15 %

Magazine Project - 20 %

Final Assessment:

Individual Oral Interview - 20%

Portfolio - 15%

If you do not turn in an assignment, you will receive **a grade of 0 for this assignment.**

Attendance policy:

Daily class attendance is expected. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each session. You are allowed 2 unexcused absences (scheduled flights or trips, picking up relatives at the airport, going to a wedding/reunion...) without penalty. **EACH additional unexcused absence** will result in the subtraction of 5 points from your participation grade at the end of the semester. You will be penalized if you arrive late to class or leave early without **notifying** your instructor first.

An absence is excused if you provide **documentation AND** if a) you are required to participate in an official GT activity b) you are under a doctor's care or scheduled an emergency doctor appointment c) you are granted a leave of absence from GT for reasonable cause by an academic dean d) documented illness or a significant life-event prevents you from attending class e) you are observing a major religious holiday f) going to a job/internship interview.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

FREN 3120-A - French Conversation and Culture - This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Humanities area.

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Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- *How do I interpret the human experience through creative, linguistic, and philosophical works?*

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance, and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts or of works in the visual/performing arts.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Ethical Reasoning
- Information Literacy
- Intercultural Competence