

REN1001 OL - Elementary FREN I Syllabus

CRN: 81420

Instructor: Anne-Françoise Le Lostec

Course Description:

FREN 1001 OL – Elementary French I offers an introduction to listening, speaking, reading, and writing in French and to the culture of French-speaking regions.

Learning Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Use French to communicate with peers and the instructor both orally and in writing to create a shared community experience.
2. Employ strategies to comprehend texts (in written, aural, and video form) written by and for French speakers.
3. Employ strategies to express ideas orally and in writing related to familiar topics in presentational contexts.
4. Employ strategies to express ideas in interpersonal contexts in culturally appropriate ways, including identifying and signaling comprehension breakdown, asking and answering questions, and requesting information.
5. Understand and communicate the basics of French-speaking cultures, modes of life, and customs.
6. Develop intercultural awareness through the study of the similarities and differences among and the relationships between language and culture systems.
7. Be prepared to continue developing French language skills and cultural understanding in FREN 1002.

Evaluation Criteria

Online Homework (VHL-Supersite)	30% (6 units / 5% each)
Unit Tests + Final exam (Canvas)	42% (6 units /7% per test)
Skits (Canvas)	14% (7% each)
Oral Exam (zoom / (Canvas)	14% (pre-requisite: reading assignment)

Description of Graded Components:

Homework on VHL-Supersite (30%)

VHL Online homework will include grammar & vocabulary tutorials and activities, cultural readings, Flash culture videos, and lab activities. The homework needs to be done on a regular basis to help you understand new features in vocabulary and grammar (VHL preview activities) as well as to help consolidate your knowledge of vocabulary and grammar (VHL repetition activities) through additional practice.

Unit tests / Final exam (42%)

There will be 6 unit tests during the semester. They will test the knowledge gained upon completion of each unit. Unit 6 test will be taken during Final exam week.

All tests will be taken on Canvas and will follow the same format. They will include sections such as writing, grammar, vocabulary, and culture.

Skits (14%)

This assignment will be posted on **Canvas** with clear guidelines and expectations.

This is collaborative work: you will pair up with one or two classmates to create two skits covering topics covering the relevant units. You will then upload your recorded skits **on Canvas**. Grading follows a rubric with the following criteria: adherence to the assignment requirements, pronunciation, vocabulary and grammatical structures, creativity, and inclusion of relevant cultural elements. You will be graded individually.

Oral Exam (14%)

Pre-requisite to the Oral assessment: recorded reading assignment (**Canvas**) to help you work up your skills to an easily intelligible level. At the end of the semester, you will engage in an online conversation (on zoom) with your instructor in which listening and speaking skills, as well as your understanding of the course content, will be assessed (grading rubric provided on Canvas). Cameras and microphones must be in working order to take the test.

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be assigned as a letter grade according to the following scale:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

Course Materials

PROMENADES, by Mitchell-Tano, Vista Higher Learning (VHL), Boston 2025. **5th edition.**

Each package has 2 elements: a textbook (hardcover or digital) and access to Web-SAM (gradable workbook/lab manual). Do NOT purchase the workbook/lab manual in book form!

Recommendation: *The all-digital version (ISBN: 978-1-66993-425-7) will give you access to the e-textbook, its multi-media platform, and graded exercises (Homework). The purchase is valid for 24 months and will also cover the next course in the sequence (Elementary French II).*

Alternative: *There is a 12-month option (ISBN: 978-1-66993-424-0)*

This option is fitting if you manage to take FREN 1002 within the time constraint, i.e. during Spring semester 2027.

The all-digital options are the best price options.

Week-by-Week Schedule

Weeks 1-3 - Unit 1 (Salut!)

- Basic rules of French pronunciation
- **Grammar** lessons on nouns, articles, numbers up to 60, **être** in the present tense, adjective agreement.
- **Vocabulary** building related to introducing yourself, greeting and meeting people, describing your work environment as well as the people around you.
- **Cultural Lessons** on the cultural differences in the way of greeting people in France and francophone countries, discovering **Paris** and introducing the wide variety of French speaking countries '**le monde francophone**'.

Weeks 4-6 - Unit 2 (À la fac)

- **Grammar** lessons on present tense of regular **-er verbs**, forming questions and expressing negation, present tense of **avoir**, telling time.
- **Vocabulary** building related to campus life, schedules and studies and your likes and dislikes.
- **Cultural Lessons** on the similarities and differences of the university system in France and the USA. Cultural video on **Les études**.

Week 7-8 – Unit 3 (La famille et les copains)

- **Grammar** lessons on descriptive and possessive adjectives, numbers 61-100, prepositions of location and disjunctive pronouns.
- **Vocabulary** building related to friends and family relationships, to physical and personality traits.

- **Cultural Lesson** on the complexities of family structures in francophone societies and the USA. Introduction to *la Belgique et la Suisse*.

Week 9-10 – Unit 4 (Au café)

- **Grammar** lessons on the verbs *aller, prendre, boire*, interrogative words and partitives.
- **Vocabulary** building related to being out in the city and ordering food.
- **Cultural Lesson** on which leisure time activities are popular in francophone countries in comparison with the USA. Emphasis on café culture and its ties to philosophical and literary production in different parts of the Francophonie. Introduction to *Le Québec's* history and culture.

Week 11-13 – Unit 5 (Les loisirs)

- **Grammar** lessons on the verb *faire*, irregular *-ir* verbs, numbers 101 and higher, spelling change in *-er* verbs.
- **Vocabulary** building related to free time, leisure activities, the calendar, and the weather.
- **Cultural Lesson** on the popularity of sports like football and cycling and of sports icons like *Zinedine Zidane* and *Laura Flessel*. Introduction to *L'Algérie, le Maroc et la Tunisie*, their history, art and traditions.

Week 14-15 – Unit 6 (Les fêtes)

- **Grammar** lessons on demonstrative adjectives, *passé-composé* with *avoir*, indirect object pronouns, regular and irregular *-re* verbs.
- **Vocabulary** building related to celebrations and clothing.
- **Cultural Lesson** on traditions of *Carnaval* in francophone countries and the fashion industry in France, highlighting the life and work of the stylist *Coco Chanel*. Introduction to *l'Afrique de l'Ouest et l'Afrique centrale*, their history, traditions, musique, art.

Course Expectations & Guidelines

Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. For information on Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, please visit <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/> or <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/>.

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing an assignment, project or exam will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services at (404)894-2563 or <http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>, as soon as possible, to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an

accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Primary learning tools are VHL and CANVAS:

'Promenades' and the VHL learning platform are your primary learning/practicing tools for homework.

Your Canvas modules offer you everything else: guidelines to get started, overviews of each unit, announcements, e-mail, assignment dates, rubrics relevant to the assignments, helpful learning tools, additional documents, videos and cultural highlights, access to Zoom (to schedule meetings with your instructor).

Please download the Canvas App and enable the notification preferences on your Canvas account (Canvas >Account > Notifications > Announcement)

Participation

To help you maintain a schedule, there is a due date for all VHL activities on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and late submissions will incur a 5% penalty per day. Please remember that timely preparation (homework) and active participation in collaborative work are key to your success in this course, as well as that of your classmates.

Engagement

During the semester, you will have the opportunity to show engagement by participating in French-related activities:

- Regular one-on-one practice sessions (15 minutes each) or group sessions (30 minutes each) / **0.5 point on your final course grade** for attending 5 sessions, 1 point for attending 10 sessions etc... Extra credit points over the semester will not exceed a total of 1.5 points on your final course grade.
- Each meaningful contribution to the Discussion Thread: **1 point on your upcoming Test.**
- Extra-credit points will be offered to students participating at the Table Francophone, French Club meetings, French related cultural activities or for doing an agreed upon creative activity of your choice: **2 points on your upcoming Test.**
- I welcome creative additional work for EC: skits, songs, poetry etc... (Get in touch with me with your proposals)
- An extra **2 points** will be awarded to everyone in the class **on your final exam grade** if 90% of the students complete the Course Assessment at the end of the semester (CIOS). This is a very valuable tool for perfecting the course form and I really value your honest evaluation.

Collaboration

Language learning occurs in a community of people. You are warmly encouraged to form work groups. This semester, you will create and record two skits with one or two partners.

The work should be your own and stay within the constraints of what you've learned in the course at the time of the assignment: using existing skits, AI, or translating directly from another source and especially **using electronic translation programs** to write the skit are not allowed.

These restrictions apply to any work turned in for this course, even daily homework assignments. The issue of digital plagiarism has raised concerns about ethics, student writing experiences, and academic integrity. GT subscribes to a digital plagiarism detection program called Turnitin, which may be used to check assignments submitted in this course.

OL office hours and conversational practice

An individual introductory meeting on zoom at the beginning of the semester is mandatory and regular subsequent meetings highly recommended.

You are invited to reach out to your instructor whenever you need guidance, have questions or want to practice. This can be done by e-mail or during office hours. You will choose a time from a list of days and times on zoom (canvas) and book individually.

Each time slot is 15 minutes long and can also be used as reading and conversational practice sessions with your instructor.

Extensions, Late Assignments, & Re-Scheduled/Missed Exams

Make sure now that you will be able to take all tests on their respective dates: in case of conflicting schedules, contact your instructor at least 24 hours in advance to change the time of the examination. Late assignments or extensions may be granted in case of illness or exceptional circumstances. No submission of homework activities will be credited after the date of the relevant test: Please plan accordingly.

Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

At Georgia Tech we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. See <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/22/> for an articulation of some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

Campus Resources for Students

The Center for Academic Success (success.gatech.edu/) offers a variety of academic support services to help students succeed academically at Georgia Tech (e.g. tutoring, peer-led study groups, study skills, etc.).

The Office of Disability Services (disabilityservices.gatech.edu/) ensures that students with disabilities have equal access to all programs and activities offered at Georgia Tech. They

provide documentation and officially sanctioned requests for accommodation for students, and serve as a resource for instructors as they build learning environments to meet the needs of all students.

OMED: Educational Services (omed.gatech.edu/) is the unit charged by Georgia Tech with the retention, development, and performance of the complete student learner who is traditionally underrepresented: African American, Hispanic, and Native American. OMED's programming and academic support services are aimed at equipping all students with strategies to navigate the Georgia Tech environment.

Support for Students in Distress

Counseling Center counseling.gatech.edu/ 404-894-2575

Dean of Students (Student Life) studentlife.gatech.edu/ 404-385-8772

GT Police police.gatech.edu/ 404-894-2500

Stamps Health Services health.gatech.edu/ 404-894-1420

Star Services (Support in case of Financial Distress)

<https://star.studentlife.gatech.edu/>