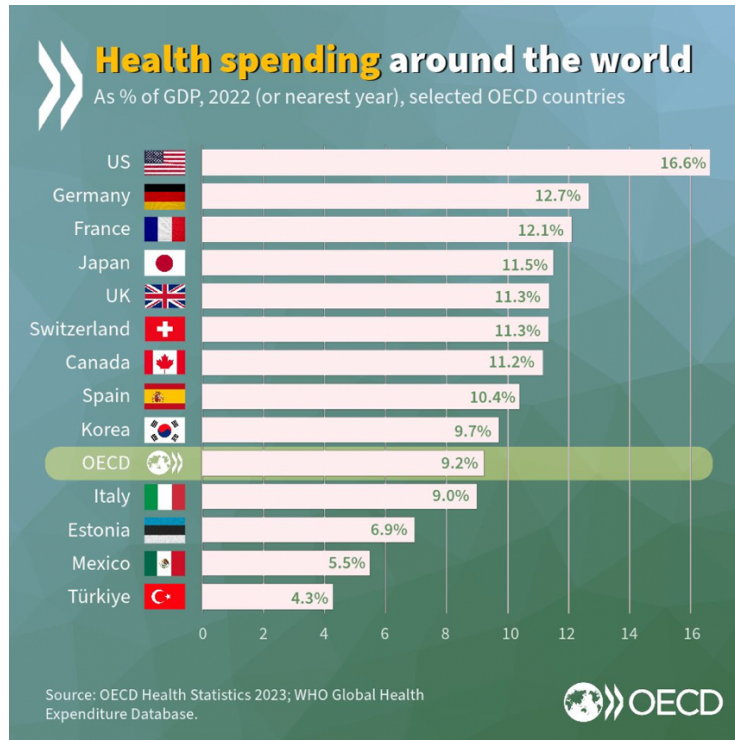


# French 3823- Medical French Syllabus Summer 2026

3 credits



## Instructor Information

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**Instructor:** Eric Bulakites

## General Course Information

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### Description

The goal of this course is to provide you with the fundamentals of medical French, to prepare you for reading medical texts, and to use medical language in everyday and professional situations. This course gives you the opportunity to discover not only medical terminology and its practical application, but also healthcare systems and current issues in medicine in the French-speaking world. We will also study the cultural, social, and historical dimensions of health care. By using a variety of media, materials, and assignments, and by asking you to conduct research and contribute to the course based on your own interests and medical knowledge, we aim to thoroughly prepare you to work in health care in a French-speaking country or region.

## Course Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate an ability to converse in a variety of professional medical setting sin French, such as welcoming patients, describing symptoms, administering first aid, and discussing medical research.
2. Students will analyze and articulate informed opinions on contemporary medical and ethical issues in the French-speaking world (e.g., organ donation, antibiotic overuse, AIDS policy, etc.) using evidence from French-language sources.
3. Develop the vocabulary needed to discuss and analyze common medical conditions and illnesses impacting different systems of the body.
4. Explain the basic structure of France’s public healthcare system and identify where patients should go for particular health care needs.

## Required Course Materials

Textbook: Erickson, Lars, and Heather McCoy. *La santé globale*. Georgetown University Press, 2024.

Other texts will be provided on Canvas.

## Grading Policy:

Participation and homework		
20%		
Care video	10%	
Quizzes		15%
Midterm		20%
Article Presentation		10%
Final practicum		25%

## Description of Graded Components

**Homework:** Each week, there are exercises to complete on Canvas. They are a great way to learn new vocabulary and prepare for quizzes. After completing an exercise, you are strongly advised to review your results and study the correct answers to the questions you missed.

**Quizzes:** After each module, you must take a short quiz (less than 15 minutes). The purpose of these quizzes is to check that you have completed the homework and readings carefully, that you have understood what was discussed in class, and that you have learned the vocabulary.

**Care video:** You will work with a partner to record a video on how and where one would go about finding care for two hypothetical health problems in France. Possible problems could include: hypertension, broken bone, IBS, anxiety, cancer, heart attack, diabetes, eczema, asthma, etc. In your presentation, you should identify the health care professionals you will visit, indicate the wait times, describe possible courses of treatment, calculate an estimated cost, and compare/contrast finding care for this problem in the U.S. and France.

**Midterm:** There will be a midterm exam to assess what you have learned during the first half of the semester. The exam content will come from homework, readings, videos, in-class activities, vocabulary lists, etc.

**Article Presentation:** Each student will present an article of their choice—preferably related to the week’s topic. For this presentation, you must:

- Prepare a short vocabulary list with definitions of unfamiliar terms to distribute in class.
- Write a brief summary of the text.
- Explain what the article is about, the importance of the topic or findings, and the problems or questions it raises, etc. You will have 10-15 minutes. You should end the presentation with either discussion questions or an activity for your classmates to discuss the topic. After your presentation, there will be a short discussion during which your classmates and I may ask you questions about the article and ask you to clarify points. You must send me the article one week before your presentation date.

**Final practicum:** The final exam will not be a traditional exam that is directly related to the course content. Instead, your language skills in the field of medicine will be tested. This exam will be modeled off the exam for the French for Health Diploma administered by the Parisian Chamber of Commerce. This exam will ask you to imagine various medical situations in both a clinical and research setting and discuss them in a written and spoken format. You will also have to read and interpret health care data for the exam. Think of this exam as a sort of practicum.

**Participation:** You must contribute to discussions, take part in in-class activities, and make a genuine effort to speak only in French. Asking questions and responding to the questions and comments of your peers is expected. You must login to Zoom on time with your camera on and remain on the call for the entire class.

## Course Policies

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### Attendance and/or Participation

**Attendance is mandatory.** You have two unexcused absences to use as you wish; beyond these two unexcused absences, you will lose 5 points from your participation grade for each unexcused absence. Three late arrivals of more than 5 minutes count as one absence. If you must miss a class session, you are still responsible for completing assignments by the deadline. If you have extenuating circumstances (illness, etc.), you will need documentation from the Office of Dean of Students excusing you from class. Only written documentation from the Office of the Dean of Students requesting attendance flexibility will result in additional absences being excused.

There will be minimal lectures given in this course, and it will largely be discussion based. Good participation means actively participating in class sessions, as well as turning assignments in on time. “Good” class participation does not necessarily mean talking the most. There are ways in which both extroverts and introverts can effectively participate. Here is a list of ways you can participate:

- **Attendance/Being prepared.** Complete homework assignments and readings *before* the start of class, as this will enable you to participate in a meaningful way.
- **Asking questions.** While answering questions is a wonderful way to participate, asking questions, specifically questions for clarification, can be helpful for yourself and other students as well. Additionally, it can be helpful for quieter students to set their own speaking goals. An example of this would be setting a goal to speak at least once per session.
- **Group Participation.** If you feel less inclined to speak during full class instruction, be sure to make an extra effort during small group work when speaking may be less intimidating.

### 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. Review [Georgia Tech’s Honor Code](#) and the student [Code of Conduct](#).

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarism on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

All work submitted in this course must be your own. All outside help on tests or composition assignments, including the use of computer translation or artificial intelligence, is forbidden. Computer translation and artificial intelligence is immediately distinguishable from human composition by its distinctively coded, often incorrect phrasing and will not be tolerated for the purposes of our class.

Word reference is the only online dictionary/tool you're allowed to use. No online translators or ai are allowed. The use of any other online tool or translator (including google translate and chat gpt or similar tools) is prohibited and a violation of the honor code.

If you look a word up in word reference for a graded assignment, then you need to put it in **bold** in order to properly cite your work for your instructor.

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, [contact the Office of Disability Services](#) (404-894-2563) 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 in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

### **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. [The Student-Faculty Expectations](#) articulate 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.

### **Prerequisites**

FREN 2001 or 2002

### **Extensions, Late Assignments, & Re-Scheduled/Missed Exams and Quizzes**

You will lose one third of a letter grade for each day an assignment is late. Extensions are only granted for extenuating circumstances and must be requested more than 24 hours before an assignment is due.

If you miss a quiz, you need to make arrangements with the instructor to make it up within less than a week. Exams can only be made up for excused absences. Otherwise, missing an exam amounts to a zero.

### **Additional Course Policies**

This class is taught on Zoom. You are expected to have a working camera and microphone. You will need to login on time and remain on the call the entire session with your camera on. You are expected not to use cell phones or multitask on your computer during class so as to be able to participate and maximize your learning. You should be somewhere quiet and professional for participating in Zoom classes (i.e. do not be driving, in bed, in a loud coffee shop, etc.)

### **Campus Resources for Students**

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- Academic Support: Academic Success and Advising (a unit in the Office of Undergraduate Education & Student Success) provides free support for your courses. Students can attend scheduled supplemental review (PLUS) sessions, stop by Drop-In Tutoring, or schedule a one-on-one appointment through Knack. To explore what options work best for you, please visit us online at [success.gatech.edu/tutoring](https://success.gatech.edu/tutoring), email us at [tutoring@gatech.edu](mailto:tutoring@gatech.edu), or come see us at Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons, Suite 283.

### **Student Well-Being:**

At Georgia Tech, we are concerned about your overall physical, social, and mental well-being. A [comprehensive list](#) of wellness related resources has been compiled and maintained by the Office of the Vice President for Student Engagement and Well-being ([student-resource-guide \(gatech.edu\)](#))