



Intermediate French 1

FR 0103

3 Credits

Description: This course is Intermediate College French 1. High School students will take this course as their fourth-year French course.

Prerequisite: The school will determine who is eligible to take this advanced course.

Grading: The grade is determined by the student's performance on homework, attendance and participation, oral interviews, chapter compositions, and chapter tests

Textbook: The required text and materials for this course are: (a) *Controverses*, Manuel. Larbi Oukada, Didier Bertrand, and Janet Solberg (2011—second edition) Cengage Learning Publishing. (b) Listening CD to accompany *Controverses* (included with book). (c) *Controverses, Cahier*. Larbi Oukada, Didier Bertrand, and Janet Solberg (2011). Heinle Cengage Learning. (d) Folder or notebook for journal entries. (The earlier [2006] edition of *Controverses* is acceptable.)

Additional Information: Instructors must cover FOUR chapters in the book and workbook (chapters 1-4) to meet the requirements for Pitt's French 0103 course.

Bienvenue! Welcome to the Department of French and Italian. We are pleased that you have chosen to continue your study of French. Allow us to take this opportunity to tell you a bit about our program and to make you aware of some of the resources that you should keep in mind as you pursue your study of the French language and francophone cultures.

Language-Learning Goals: Our goal in the French and Italian language programs is to guide you in the **development of literacy skills in French through the communicative acts of reading, writing, and creating discourse around texts of all types**. Because you might have limited opportunities to speak or hear French outside of class, classroom time is devoted to developing your competence in these areas.

This means that your instructor will speak only French to you during class, and you will be expected to do the same with your instructor and classmates. Should you need additional explanations or wish to discuss matters not directly related to course content, your instructor will be happy to speak to you in English before or after class and during office hours.

Course Objectives for French 0103:

- Speak French well enough to ask and answer questions on a variety of topics important in francophone cultures beyond those needed to “survive” in the foreign culture. Indeed, you will gain the ability to talk about more than yourself and your immediate surroundings; you will be able to talk about politics, social issues, the future, and the media. Gradually, you will find it easier to add detail to your statements and to link ideas together into more complex sentences. You should see an increased ability to reference past or future events with less hesitation and greater accuracy.
- Understand French well enough to grasp main ideas and some supporting details in short conversations (spontaneous or recorded) pertinent to topics mentioned above.



- Read and understand main ideas and many details of literary and non-literary texts.
- Write longer and more cohesive paragraphs than you wrote as a beginner.
- Make comparisons among francophone cultures' products, practices, and perspectives as defined by ACTFL and between them and your own.
- State the main grammatical structures of French: word-formation, sentence structure, gender resolution, agreement.

Our approach to teaching and learning: The approach used in our courses can be characterized as **communicative** and **integrated**. "Communicative" means that the focus of the course is on language use in realistic settings, not on performing exercises, which have no immediate justification other than the practice of a particular procedure. "Integrated" means that the various aspects that make up the language-learning experience are not separated or isolated but will be treated as complementary to one another. In one single activity, you may learn some facts, practice certain grammatical structures, and communicative strategies. Our approach is also "integrated" in the sense that language and culture are not treated as separate but inter-related: You are learning about French culture not only when you listen to a song or analyze a cultural document but also when you and your instructor use the language itself which is a social and cultural tool.

Your role. Much of the responsibility for learning a language falls on you, the student. A large part of your grade is based on **attendance** and **participation**. Because it is not realistic to expect to communicate in a new language if you are not physically present to practice it, it is essential that you attend class regularly. A few other suggestions that will ensure optimal benefits from your French class:

- **Observe:** Try to develop comprehension strategies to deal with the language-learning environment and to understand what is expected of you in class. Study the gestures people make when they talk; watch others who may know more than you do and use them as models. Ask for clarifications or explanations—in French!
- **Listen:** Realize that you need to understand the *general meaning* of messages, but you should resist the urge to identify each word separately or translate things into English. Try to associate meaning directly to what you see and hear so you may develop an understanding of French "from the inside."
- **Speak:** Even if you feel you will make mistakes, speak as much as you can. We consider making mistakes a necessary part of the learning process! Do pay attention to correct usage, and you will learn from your errors. Always remember that the superior language learner is a risk-taker.

Resources in French. Over the course of the semester, your instructor will introduce you to a variety of multimedia materials. You will be using the Web to access information about French-speaking countries in audio, video, and written formats.



FR 0103 Course Policies

Assignments: You are responsible for doing the exercises in the workbook on your own and for self-correcting them by using the answer key at the end of the book. You may also be given other homework assignments. All homework assignments (whether self-corrected or not) must be completed and handed in on time.

Academic Integrity: Plagiarism is a serious ethical matter and an infraction of University Policy. Students should familiarize themselves with both the University Policy on Academic Integrity (available at www.as.pitt.edu/fac/policies/academic-integrity) and the Department of French and Italian Plagiarism Policy (www.frenchanditalian.pitt.edu/undergraduate/plagiarism.php). Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Use of human or online translators (i.e. Google Translate)
2. Unauthorized editorial help (asking a friend in an upper level course for help)
3. Unattributed use of an author's ideas (theft of intellectual property)
4. Unattributed use of an author's words (lack of proper citation)

Sanctions for first-time violations typically result in an 'F' or zero for the assignment. Second violations may result in an 'F' for the course.

Table with 2 columns: Evaluation and Percentage. Rows include Examinations (45%), Writing: Formal (10%), Journal (10%) (20%), In-Class Participation and workbook checks and other homework (20%), and Quizzes (15%).

Final Exam: The final exam is a cumulative exam.

Table with 2 columns: Grading scale and corresponding scores. Rows include A+ (98), A (93), A- (90), B+ (88), B (83), B- (80), C+ (78), C (73), C- (70), D+ (68), D (63), and D- (60).

Oral Exams: Two oral exams will take place during the semester with your instructor.

Participation: Since participation is a large component of your final grade in this course your daily efforts to arrive punctually, come to class prepared, and participate in all class activities are essential. Your instructor will keep track of your participation and will keep you informed of your progress.

Writing Assignments: There are two types of writing assignments in this course. Throughout the term, you will be given journal assignments as a more informal way of working on your written French. These assignments will also serve as a vehicle for in-class participation, so you are expected to complete journal assignments in a timely way. The formal writing assignment (composition) serves as a different writing format that involves more reflective written work. For each formal writing assignment, you will spend time in class organizing and developing your ideas with your teacher's help.



Additional course credit information for FR 0103:

At the University of Pittsburgh, course credits can count in three ways: toward the requirements for a major, toward elective requirements, and/or toward the total number of credits needed to graduate. For this course:

- **Majors:** This course counts toward departmental majors and minors.
- **Electives:** Individual Schools and Colleges of the University (such as Engineering, Arts & Sciences, Business, Computing & Information, and so on) have different policies about elective credits and may count this course as an elective. Students interested in studying at the University of Pittsburgh should contact their School/College of interest to see if this course would be counted.
- **Graduation:** This course's credits count toward the number of credits needed for graduation.

Academic Integrity: All College in High School teachers, students, and their parents/guardians are required to review and be familiar with the University of Pittsburgh's Academic Integrity Policy located online at www.as.pitt.edu/fac/policies/academic-integrity.

Grades: Grade criteria in the high school course may differ slightly from University of Pittsburgh standards. A CHS student could receive two course grades: one for high school and one for the University transcript. In most cases the grades are the same. These grading standards are explained at the beginning of each course.

Transfer Credit: University of Pittsburgh grades earned in CHS courses appear on an official University of Pittsburgh transcript, and the course credits are likely to be eligible for transfer to other colleges and universities. Students are encouraged to contact potential colleges and universities in advance to ensure their CHS credits would be accepted. If students decide to attend any University of Pittsburgh campuses, the University of Pittsburgh grade earned in the course will count toward the student grade point average at the University. At the University of Pittsburgh, the CHS course supersedes any equivalent AP credit.

Drops and Withdrawals: Students should monitor progress in a course. CHS teacher can obtain a Course Drop/Withdrawal Request form from the CHS office or Aspire. The form must be completed by the student, teacher and parent/guardian and returned to teacher by deadlines listed. Dropping and withdrawing from the CHS course has no effect on enrollment in the high school credits for the course.