**THE INDIANA ACADEMY FOR SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS, and the HUMANITIES**

**Intermediate French, Fall 2025**

Instructor: Dr. Maria Slocum

Office hours: MW 9:30-10am, MWF 1-3pm, Thurs 1-2pm, and 2 hours by appointment on Tues.

Office: 151 WagonerI am also available by appointment.

Please check Canvas for class updates including office hours.

Class times: MWThF 10-10:50am or 12-12:50am

Class location: BU215

Phone: 765-285-7401 (office)

Email: mlslocum@bsu.edu

This course is available for dual credit through Ball State University. (You must complete Academy FR 201/202 for Dual Credit in BSU FREN 201.)

**Textbook**: Tufts and Jarausch, *Sur le vif,* troisième édition. Boston : Heinle and Heinle, 2001.

**Workbook:** Tufts and Jarausche, *Sur le vif,* troisième édition : cahier d’exercices écrits. Boston : Heinle and Heinle, 2001.

*Huis Clos* by Jean-Paul Sartre

Other materials: **a French dictionary**.

**Course description**: French 201 will continue to develop students’ knowledge of the language and culture of the francophone world. Emphasis will be placed on improving proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the intermediate level. This course may include readings from the textbook, films, presentations, and other activities. In-class activities focus on active language use, which involves interacting meaningfully with other class participants and developing communicative strategies.

This course is conducted primarily in French, and students are expected to use French as much as possible. It is natural that you will not understand everything that you read or hear, but if you are patient and committed, you will make progress over the course of the semester. If you have any questions or would like to discuss your progress in the course, please make an appointment to meet with me in my office.

**Course goals:**

**1.**  To develop listening comprehension and oral proficiency in French through class discussion, lab work, and small group activities designed to encourage the use of French.

2. To improve written communication through compositions and guided writing assignments.

3. To deepen cultural understanding and heighten sensitivity to cultural differences by reading literary and cultural texts, viewing films, and researching contemporary topics in the francophone world.

4. To develop reading comprehension and expand vocabulary through reading assignments and in-class discussions.

5. To review and expand upon French grammatical structures necessary to support communicative skills and develop greater accuracy in spoken and written French through a sequenced study of linguistic structures, in-class activities, and related homework assignments.

**Grading scale:**

**93-100 A**

**90-92 A-**

**87-89 B+**

**83-86 B**

**80-82 B-**

**77-79 C+**

**73-76 C**

**70-72 C-**

**0-69 D\***

**Grading components:**

Written exams 40% (there will be a chapter test after each chapter)

Homework 20%

Participation 25%

Oral activities (skits, creative projects, conversation activities, or oral exams) 15%

**Written exams**: Chapter exams will be given after we complete each chapter in the textbook. Exams normally include sections focused on grammar, vocabulary, writing and/or reading. There are no make-ups on exams without an approved excuse. It is your responsibility to contact me if you would like to make up an exam due to an excused absence. No make-up exams will be allowed when you miss class with an unexcused absence. Make-up exams in the event of an excused absence must be completed within three working days of the original exam date and will be taken during office hours. For example, if the original exam date was on Wednesday, you must complete your make-up exam by Monday of the next week. There may be multiple versions of the exam. Students making up an exam on a different day should expect to take a different version of the exam than the one given to the class during the original exam date.

**Homework/ preparation**: Practice is essential for learning a new language. Therefore, work done outside the classroom is central to the learning process. This includes assigned exercises and studying or practice that you will do on your own outside of class. Think of ways that you can practice regularly such as having conversations with classmates in French, watching a film in French, listening to French music, reading a book in French, reviewing material from previous chapters, and studying each chapter’s vocabulary and structures. I post homework assignments on Canvas; you are responsible for checking Canvas daily and submitting your work on time. **Homework will be submitted on Canvas by the beginning of your class time on the due date. You must have your work completed by the beginning of class to earn full credit.**  I will drop the lowest homework grade at the end of the semester. In addition to completing homework assignments, you are expected to learn the new vocabulary in each chapter and to keep current with vocabulary from previous chapters. You are also expected to study the “structures” pages in each chapter at the end of your red textbook, to take notes, and to review the grammar. Each chapter has specific vocabulary about a theme, such as “les études” and “les jeunes,” which you are responsible for learning and using in class activities. Each chapter focuses on specific grammatical structures that you will need to learn and use in homework assignments, in-class activities and projects. This semester, you will review conjugation patterns of regular verbs and several common irregular verbs in the present tense. You will also learn to use the passé composé, imparfait, and plus-que-parfait. You will review adjectives and the comparative/ superlative in French.

**Oral activities** **may include skits, oral conversation exams, creative projects, and cultural presentations**.

**Skits and creative projects** allow students to use the language in a creative way by combining structures, vocabulary, and themes that they have studied during the semester.

**Oral exams** give students an opportunity to have a conversation in French with a partner. Possible topics for the conversation and more details will be given a week or so before the oral exam.

**Cultural projects/ presentations** are short presentations on a topic of your choice related to French and Francophone cultures. You will research a topic of interest to you and share what you have learned with the class. These presentations will take place at the end of the semester.

**Attendance Policy** You are expected to attend all classes. You will be considered tardy if you arrive after the beginning of class. If you are fifteen minutes late or more, you will be considered absent, but are invited to attend the class session anyway so you will not fall behind.

#### Course Expectations

**Please come prepared for class each day by bringing:**

1. Any homework that is due
2. A folder or binder for French
3. Loose-­‐leaf paper
4. French text(s) including your textbook, workbook, and French dictionary
5. Writing utensils (pencil, pens – blue or black ink for assignments, plus red or green for corrections)

**Be Prepared**, focused and ready to learn something new in every class.

**Be Proactive**, spend time outside of class preparing for the day. Make flashcards, watch videos, and ask questions when you don’t understand.

**Participate.** Engagement and participation in class are highly encouraged. Be brave and try out your new skills. Speak French in class every day.

**Be Responsible.** Take responsibility for your learning by seeking outside opportunities to strengthen your language skills. Ensure all assignments are submitted according to deadlines. Class attendance is also important to help you benefit from the course.

**Be Respectful** towards teacher, classmates, and the environment. Encourage one another and stay united as a team!

**How to succeed in this class:**

1. Arrive in class on time and be prepared to participate. Please be seated and have your books and materials ready before class starts.
2. Put away your cell phones and other electronic devices (including headphones, airpods/earbuds) before class starts and refrain from using them during class.
3. When your instructor or a classmate is talking to the class, pay attention and listen. Use French as much as possible in your class activities and interactions.
4. Bring the required materials (textbook, paper dictionary, pencils, and paper) to class every day.
5. Check Canvas daily. Keep up with your assignments by working on them every day and submitting them on time. Read the assigned pages, take notes, and do the homework. Check your answers. Make corrections. Learn from your mistakes. Ask questions in class. Practice every day.
6. Note that each test covers the material in that chapter (vocabulary, grammar, listening comprehension, and writing). Doing the homework and making corrections, completing the practice exercises, and reviewing activities in the chapter will give you a good idea of what to prepare.
7. Study and review vocabulary and verbs every day.
8. Find ways to practice French outside of class and develop your skills. For example, you could read a book in French, listen to French music, or have conversations in French with your classmates.
9. Participate actively in all class activities with enthusiasm. Take your time when practicing writing or new grammatical structures and verbs. Check your work. Ask questions. Ask for feedback. Volunteer every day.
10. Speak French during class activities and take advantage of all opportunities to practice. If you finish an activity before your classmates, use the time productively to write (more) in French, study your vocabulary, verbs, and new grammatical structures.

**Participation** You cannot learn a language without taking risks and speaking it in class. Your participation in class is very important, and will have an effect on all aspects of your grade. You will receive a participation grade on top of any formative and/or summative assessments. See *Barème de Participation.*

**Use of Technology All electronic devices are to remain off unless otherwise instructed**. The authorized online dictionary is [www.wordreference.com](http://www.wordreference.com/) and its downloadable app. The use of Google Translate or other translating sites, devices or software is strictly forbidden. (See Academic Integrity below). **Use your paper dictionary and textbook for your in-class writing assignments and homework.** Do not use any other resources for your assignments. **The unauthorized use of a device will negatively affect your class participation grade (see participation rubric).**

**Electronic communication** I will post the course syllabus, schedule changes, practice exercises, additional activities and announcements on Canvas. You are responsible for checking Canvas and PowerSchool on a regular basis so you do not miss anything.

**Indiana Academy attendance policy and class conduct:**

Attendance is mandatory. Students may receive excused absences at the  
professional discretion of the school nurse, the associate director of mental  
health services, the associate director of college counseling and student  
engagement, the director of academic affairs, and the executive director of the  
Indiana Academy. Unexcused absences occur when students miss class without prior  
approval from the aforementioned designated school officials. Continued absences  
(both excused and unexcused) from Academy classes increase the likelihood of  
unsuccessful completion. Alongside steady attendance, students are expected to maintain consistent healthy habits of decorum, respect, and kindness towards their classmates,  
instructors, and teaching assistants. When students fail to meet these classroom  
behavioral standards and academic habits, it is the expectation faculty engage  
appropriately to bring quick and immediate resolution. When students consistently fail to meet these behavioral standards and academic habits in the classroom, an administrative consequence ladder will be adopted, and recorded, in attempt to administratively address, engage, and rectify ongoing challenges.

**Class attendance and unexcused absence policies:**

You are expected to attend every class. Assignments, presentations, projects, and tests missed due to absences will be handled according to the late work policy of this class **(see make-up work and late work policies below).**

**All work missed due to an unexcused absence will be a zero. Unexcused absences will negatively impact your participation grade.**

**Make-­‐up Work** It is your responsibility to find out what announcements and assignments have been missed after an absence. **Whether excused or unexcused, you may not use an absence as a reason for not being prepared or failing to turn in work**. It is your responsibility to check Canvas or with a classmate to learn what we went over and what to prepare for next time. If your absence will be excused, you must provide me with appropriate, timely documentation in advance of your absence. If an emergency causes your absence, notify me immediately and supply appropriate, timely documentation in order to schedule a make-­‐up or receive credit for late work. This is only allowed in extreme cases. **Make up tests will be given during office hours. All work missed due to an unexcused absence will be a zero.** **This includes exams, oral activities, presentations, projects, homework, and in-class activities.**

**Late Work** Late assignments will be accepted for **half credit** if you submit them the NEXT DAY. Remember that this is still a “D\*,” but it is better than a zero. Work handed in more than one day late will NOT be accepted for a grade.

**Indiana Academy wireless device policy:**  
Pursuant to Indiana Code 20-26-5-40.7, The Indiana Academy for Science,  
Mathematics and Humanities prohibits student use of wireless communication  
devices for non-instructional purposes in the classroom. As such, any and all  
portable wireless devices, that have the capability to provide voice, messaging,  
or other data communication between two or more parties, must only be used for  
academic purposes directly tied to the classroom activity or related educational  
task. Exceptions to this wireless device policy are eligible through academic  
accommodations, individualized education programs, or with instructor approval  
permitting the use of a wireless device for justification related to health, safety, and/or well-being. The improper use of a wireless device in an active classroom setting is subject to disciplinary action including but not limited to; a verbal warning, temporary seizure of said device by a school official, an unexcused absence for the class in question, written communication to parent/guardian, among other elevated consequences for repeated improper use.

ALL STATE UNIVERSITY BENIFICENCE PLEDGE:  
Ball State University aspires to be a university that attracts and retains  
outstanding faculty, staff, and students. Ball State is committed to ensuring  
that all members of the campus community are welcome through our practice of  
valuing the varied experiences and worldviews of the people whom we serve. We  
promote a culture of respect and civil discourse as evident in our Beneficence  
Pledge. As a reflection of Ball State’s commitment to respect, civil discourse,  
and the Beneficence Pledge, inclusiveness at the Indiana Academy emerges as one  
of the priorities of our living and learning community. We strive to exist  
together respectfully and compassionately, creating an environment where every  
member can thrive.

**Disabilities or Special Needs** If any disability requires course adaptations or accommodations, if emergency medical information needs to be shared with me, or if any special arrangements must be made in order to evacuate the building, please advise me at your earliest convenience.

**Academic Integrity** Honesty, trust, and personal responsibility are fundamental attributes of the Indiana Academy community. Because language should be communicative, students are encouraged to collaborate in their studying. You may make judicious use of advice from native speakers and tutors. However, this does not mean copying someone else's work or letting someone copy your work. It means working with a partner to gain a better understanding of the material, drill conjugations and vocabulary, read the literature together, etc. All work that you turn in—*in class or otherwise*—must be your own and completed without ***any*** kind of outside assistance. If you have questions about what constitutes “your own” work, please see me. **The use of electronic translators of any kind is strictly forbidden in and outside the classroom**. **Use your paper dictionary to look up words that you don’t know**. Plagiarism will not be tolerated***.*** You are not allowed to use any electronics on exams or for any of your assignments, including in-class activities. This includes phones, smartwatches, earbuds, and all other electronics. All such devices must be turned off and put away. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero for the assignment and other penalties outlined in the Student Handbook.

**HUMANITIES DIVISION STATEMENT ON AI**

The Humanities Division recognizes that artificial intelligence (AI) provides some exciting new tools for academic work. However, AI also poses significant dangers for academic integrity. Passing off as your own any research, words, or ideas which you did not create is plagiarism. That is always the case whether the source is print, internet content, or generated by AI. It is vital to read the policies your individual humanities instructors have regarding AI, and ask them any questions you may have about the use of AI in their course.

**Instructor’s Statement on AI and other electronic tools:**

The use of electronic translators, such as Google Translate, or AI tools constitutes an act of plagiarism; therefore, no credit will be given for work in which there is evidence that such tools were used. I want you to use your own words (your own vocabulary in French that you have learned in class) and your own ideas in your assignments, both in class and out of class.

## **Course Plan => This course schedule is subject to modification in response to student needs. Any changes will be announced in class**.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Dates** | **Theme** | **ACTFL Can-­‐Do Statements** |
| **Quarter 1** | | | |
| 1 | 11-15 août | Introduction au cours  Le français dans le monde |  |
| 2 | 18--22 août | Les études | **Interpersonal Communication:** I can exchange some information about my school and my schedule.  **Presentational Speaking:** I can talk about my classes and my school.  **Presentational Writing:** I can write about differences between my school and a French school. **Interpretive Listening:** I can understand simple information about a school in a video. **Interpretive Reading:** I can identify some information from an article about education in France. |
| 3 | 25 août – 29 août  \*30 août-2 septembre: Labor Day Extended break | Les études |
| 4 | 3-5‐ septembre | Les études |
| 5 | 8 septembre-  12 septembre | Les études | **Interpersonal Communication:** I can describe myself and my friends using the vocabulary and structures from the chapter.  **Presentational Speaking:** I can describe myself, my appearance, and my personality. **Presentational Writing:** I can write a physical description of a person and also describe their personality.  **Interpretive Listening:** I can understand information from a song about fashion. **Interpretive Reading:** I can identify some information from an article about people’s experiences in France. |
| 6 | 15-­‐19 septembre | Les jeunes |
| 7 | 22 septembre- 26 septembre | Les jeunes |
| 8 | 29 septembre –  3 octobre  \*4-7 octobre: Fall break | Les jeunes | Interpersonal Communication: I can ask questions about work,  unemployment, and immigration**.** I can talk about my work experiences.  **Presentational Speaking:** I can retell a story using the past tenses.  **Presentational Writing:** I can write a letter using practiced materials  **Interpretive Listening:** I can understand simple information about immigrants from a short video  **Interpretive Reading:** I can understand a short story about a young woman’s life in Morocco. |
| 9 | 8 octobre- 10 octobre | Les jeunes |
|  | | |
| 10 | 13­‐17 octobre | Les jeunes,  Les immigrés |
| 11 | 20­‐24 octobre | Les immigrés |
| 12 | 27 octobre- 31  octobre | Les immigrés | **Interpersonal Communication:**  I can talk about transportation (driving, biking, etc)  **Presentational Speaking:** I can tell a story in the past tenses. I can express my opinions about transportation  options.  **Presentational Writing:** I can write about a topic from a lesson using pictures or photos  **Interpretive Listening:** I can understand a humorous story.  **Interpretive Reading:** I can identify the main idea of an authentic text. |
| 13 | 3-7 novembre | Les immigrés |
| 14 | 10-14 novembre | Les immigrés, En route! |
|  | 17 novembre-  21 novembre | En route! |
| 15 | 24-28 novembre | Thanksgiving break | **Interpersonal Communication:** I can talk about travel and plans for a trip.  **Presentational Speaking:** I can describe a trip I took.  **Presentational Writing:** I can write about a topic from a lesson using pictures or photos  **Interpretive Listening:** I can understand simple facts about things to do on vacation  **Interpretive Reading:** I can identify the main idea of an authentic text  I can understand descriptions of events and experiences in the past tenses |
| 17 | 1‐-5 décembre | En route!  Final projects or oral activity |
| 18 | 8-12 décembre | En route!  Final projects or oral activity |

**Exam dates (tentative):**

le 10 septembre -- chapitre 1: les études

le 15 octobre – chapitre 2 : les jeunes

le 12 novembre – chapitre 3 : les immigrés

* **This syllabus may be modified in response to student needs and abilities. All changes will be announced in class.**

**Expectations for class participation and grading rubric:**

A

Your participation is outstanding. You are always eager to speak French. You ask and answer questions, speak in complete sentences, and take risks with French. You use only French during the class period.

You volunteer and raise your hand many times during each class with very high accuracy for the material covered in class.

You are fully prepared for class with all of the homework completed on time with few errors.

You are in class on time and ready to participate.

You are cooperative and respectful towards your peers, the class, and the instructor.

Your group work is enthusiastic and busy. You go beyond the minimum and you’re always engaged.

If you use an electronic device, it is only to access assigned activities or to look up the definition of a word on wordreference.com

B

Your participation is very good. You’re always eager to speak French. You ask and answer questions some or most of the time. You speak French almost exclusively.

You raise your hand and voluntarily participate during each class.

You come to class on time and ready to participate.

You are fully prepared for class with all of the homework completed with some errors.

You are cooperative and respectful toward your peers, the class, and your instructor.

Your group work is enthusiastic and goes beyond the minimum.

If you use an electronic device, it is only to access the assigned activities or wordreference.com.

C

Your participation is satisfactory.

You rarely speak in class unless you are called on. You use English on several occasions during class. You sometimes or often do not speak in complete sentences. You rarely volunteer to participate.

You are in class on time. You have prepared somewhat for class, but could have done a better job preparing.

You are cooperative and respectful toward the class, your peers, and your instructor.

Your group work is limited in scope. You often do the minimum asked of you.

If you use an electronic device, it is only to access the assigned activities or wordreference.com

D\*

Your participation is deficient. You use more English than French.

You do not volunteer in class.

You do not participate in class activities.

You come to class unprepared. There is no evidence that you have completed your homework.

You are frequently late or absent.

Your group work is not active. You do the minimum or do not participate in group work.

You are doing homework for another class, sleeping, texting, or not paying attention in class.

You use an electronic device for a reason other than accessing the assigned activities.

# Courses in French Language and the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities

French 201 is a *University Core Curriculum Course* that seeks to implement the goals of the Ball State University Core Curriculum Program. A description of the role of language courses in the University Core curriculum Program follows:

The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (A.C.T.F.L.) has developed a series of National Standards for Foreign Language Learning as part of the Goals 2000 initiative. Their philosophy is that language and communication are at the heart of the human experience. The United States must prepare students to communicate linguistically and culturally if they are to participate successfully and to maintain proficiency in English and at least one other language, modem or classical. The Council believes that, regardless of the reason for study, foreign languages have something to offer everyone. It is with this philosophy in mind that the standards task force identified five goal areas that encompass all of these reasons: **Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities** the Five C's of world language education.

1. **Communication** is at the heart of second-­‐language study, whether the communication takes place face-­‐to-­‐face, in writing, or across centuries through the reading of literature.
2. Through the study of other languages, students gain a knowledge and understanding of **cultures** that use that language and, in fact, cannot truly master the language until they have also mastered the cultural contexts in which the language occurs.
3. Learning languages provides **connections** to additional bodies of knowledge that may be unavailable to the monolingual English speaker.
4. Through **comparisons and contrasts** with the language being studied, students develop insight into the nature of language and the concept of culture, and they realize that there are multiple ways of viewing the world.
5. Together, these elements enable the student of languages to participate in the multilingual **communities** at home and around the world in a variety of contexts and in culturally appropriate ways. An ability to engage in lifelong education by learning to acquire knowledge and to use it for intelligent ends.

In addition to contributing to the realization of the A.C.T.F.L. National Standards for Foreign Language Learning, courses in French at The Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities and Ball State University reflect the goals and objectives of the University Core Curriculum program by helping students to develop knowledge, skills, and values that all graduates of the University are expected to share. By taking a class in French, students will progress toward the University Core Curriculum Goals listed in the University Catalogue. Students of French should therefore acquire:

1. An ability to communicate at a level acceptable for college graduates.

We live today in a global village and are closer than ever before to the myriad cultures of the world. The ability to communicate directly with those other peoples is more than ever the mark of an educated person. There is also considerable evidence that the study of languages improves the understanding of one native language.

1. An ability to clarify one's personal values and to be sensitive to those held by others.

Few experiences have a more profound impact upon one's understanding of the relativity of one's own cultural values and the predominance of the world of other values than a close encounter with another language. At a more personal level, the experience of studying, assimilating, and eventually emulating foreign linguistic and cultural codes provides an exceptional perspective on how modes of thinking and communicating are central to our fundamental selves.

1. An ability to recognize and seek solutions for the common problems of living by drawing on knowledge of historical and contemporary values and the elements of the cultural heritage related to those events.

The study of modern languages has always included elements of history, culture, and geography, all of which play a significant role in highlighting the problems of living encountered by all peoples, including our own. The window that a language course opens onto the intimate workings of another society provides an especially privileged view of those very problems of living that we must confront every day.

1. An ability to work with others to solve life's common problems.

In addition to providing insight into the lives of other peoples, language study offers students an unsurpassed opportunity to work cooperatively with their peers. Students often work in small groups with their classmates to use the foreign language as a vehicle for discussion as well as to share discoveries about the language and culture. The very process of language learning is collaborative.

1. An ability to assess one's unique interests, talents, and goals and to choose specialized learning experiences that will foster their fulfillment.
2. Students of modern languages are encouraged to view their acquisition of language in the context of their specialized interests. In addition to providing students with specific skills, the acquisition of which engages a unique set of aptitudes, language classes address a wide range of interests that fall outside the immediate context of language-­‐learning. These range from the traditional academic discipline, such as history and philosophy, to applied arts, such as telecommunications, music, and architecture, and they include professional careers in the liberal professions, government, and industry.