

University of Southern California
Department of French and Italian

Welcome to French 220

SPRING 2023

REQUIRED TEXTS

Fren-220 Custom Edition of Réseau, 2nd Ed. (Pearson, 2018). This custom edition includes chapters 1 & 7 of *Réseau (2nd ed)* by Schultz and Tranvouez, and additional material that will be covered in class (*Court-métrage, Temps du passé, Chanson, Fable, L'Etranger, etc.*)

L'Etranger by Albert Camus (required edition available at the bookstore by Prentice Hall).

Boomalang is a service which connects you to friendly and helpful native French-speakers across the world for one-on-one live video conversations. We'll require three (15-min.) conversations focused on contextual topics that we submit ahead of time. "Boomalang Redemption Codes" are available for purchase via financial aid in the bookstore or you may enroll by credit card in our course by entering the 6-digit invite number provided in the *Boomalang Instructions* in Blackboard.

PRE-REQUISITE: Fren-150 or placement exam result.

Per university policy, students with equivalent transfer credit from another institution must take the placement test. For placement test dates and times, see the Language Center website:

<http://language.usc.edu/languages/placement.html>

LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

Fren-220 is a third-semester intermediate French course that will develop your ability to communicate effectively in French and to interact in Francophone communities with cultural competence. The course addresses the five goal areas of the *World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages* established by ACTFL (communication, culture, comparisons, connections, communities) by incorporating themes related to sociology (the city, cultural diversity, identity), politics (immigration, globalization, external views of France) and the humanities (creativity in the arts) that provide a multidimensional view of French and Francophone culture.

Class discussions focus on cultural and social issues, and draw from authentic texts across genres (excerpts from literary and non-literary texts, poems, short films, songs, a novel) as well as from students' personal experiences and opinions. You will be working individually, in pairs or in small

groups, and will engage in meaningful activities that are communicative, contextualized, and function-based. Lessons are conducted entirely in French and you are encouraged to participate fully.

The latter part of the semester is devoted to the study of Albert Camus' novel, *L'Etranger*. The novel is read and analyzed in French, and it provides a rich context for the discussion of France's colonial history, existentialist philosophy, the justice system and an introduction to literary analysis and close-reading techniques that develop critical thinking skills.

Interpretive (listening and reading): You will be able to identify the main idea in texts and presentations on a variety of familiar topics related to everyday life and personal interests as well as longer and more complex literary and non-literary authentic texts (written and oral) and a book-length novel. By the end of the semester, you will be able to:

- Summarize the main idea and some supporting information of texts on a broad range of topics dealing with French and Francophone culture;
- Ask and answer factual as well as more nuanced questions about texts;
- Reconstruct a storyline;
- Identify the point of view in texts on issues related to cultural attitudes in the French-speaking world;
- Compare some important French and Francophone products, practices, and cultural perspectives (e.g., important authors and historic events, literary and non-literary genres, values) with those of your own culture.

Interpersonal: You will show an increased ability to express opinions, develop arguments, and make cultural comparisons about oral and written authentic texts. By the end of the semester, you will be able to:

1. Converse and ask questions about a variety of familiar topics related to everyday life and personal interests in the past, present and future;
2. Describe people, places and things;
3. Talk in detail about events and experiences in the past, present and future with some accuracy;
4. Express opinions, needs and motivation;
5. Handle social interactions in everyday situations;
6. Use your language to handle a situation that may have a complication;
7. React to peers' observations and opinions.

Presentational (speaking and writing): You will be able to make generally organized written and oral presentations using connected sentences on familiar topics (e.g., school, work, community) and topics related to the French and Francophone cultures that you have researched. By the end of the semester, you will be able to:

1. Make a presentation about personal and social experiences (e.g., academic topics, social events, past experiences, plans for the future);
2. Make short presentations on an aspect of French or Francophone culture that you have learned about and researched (e.g., historical events, famous persons, current issues);
3. Present your point of view and provide reasons to support it;
4. Write 1-2 page expository compositions about texts and topics discussed in class.

COURSE ORGANIZATION

Homework

Before each class session, you'll need to complete a series of activities. It's important that you complete these activities in preparation for the following session. The activities may include readings, grammar exercises, written assignments, and audio/video activities.

Class time

Our class meetings will be primarily devoted to active learning activities. I'll answer your questions and provide clarification and explanations, you'll do interpersonal activities in pairs, work with other students on small projects, make individual or group presentations, and contribute to class discussions. It's therefore imperative that you do the homework before class so that you'll be prepared to participate fully in class.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Relax and enjoy the progress you make and insights you gain about your own culture as well as the francophone world. Listen closely in the French-only classroom, but do not expect to understand every word you hear or read. Part of the process of foreign language study is learning to "read" and understand a context without comprehending every word. The curriculum allows maximum success for all students if the following suggestions are followed:

1. HOMEWORK (15%)

Learning a foreign language requires **daily study and practice**. Read out loud, think and speak French whenever possible. Homework assignments must be completed before the following class. It is ESSENTIAL that you complete the homework assignments and activities prior to class so that you're able to participate in the class activities. As a general rule, you should make up missed assignments but you will not receive credit for them unless you have a valid reason for not completing them before the deadline (See details in *French Language Program Make-up Policy*, p.4) It is important that you follow the assignment schedule on your syllabus to prepare for class and gain the most benefit.

You will be assigned different types of written homework:

- Oral comprehension activities from your textbook.

Chapter-specific audio files can be accessed from the *Réseau Companion Website (RCW)*:

http://wps.prenhall.com/ml_schultz_reseau_cw_2/

- Grammar exercises from your textbook.

You must rewrite the entire sentence (even for fill-in the blank exercises) and self-correct using the answer key to receive full credit. All homework is due the following day unless otherwise indicated by your instructor.

- Short open-ended assignments.

These assignments will be corrected and graded by your instructor.

No late homework will be accepted for credit.

Important:

The written assignments represent opportunities for you as a student of French to demonstrate your acquired knowledge of the material we have covered. Your work should be wholly original, and only your instructor should provide feedback and corrections on it. If absolutely necessary, you may use online dictionaries to look up words (though this use should be limited and you should try to use the vocabulary you've studied). However, you may not use online translators to translate whole or partial sentences, and you may not receive help on your assignments (see *Academic Conduct* p.6)

2. CLASSWORK : PARTICIPATION, PRESENTATIONS, ROLE-PLAYS (15%)

To learn a language, you must take an active part in your learning and use the language. Come to class prepared, and participate as much as you can. Use French to communicate with your classmates and instructor at all times during class and in pair/group activities. This effort will help you make rapid progress in the acquisition of new language skills.

Another key to improving your oral and written expression is moving from strings of sentences to connected sentences and paragraph-level discourse. This implies the ability to articulate, organize, and elaborate. Therefore, you will need to increase your active vocabulary, master basic grammar structures, use connectors, and practice giving details. Do your best to elaborate and expand, and self-monitor for accuracy but your main concern should be the communication of your ideas.

Your participation grade will be a reflection of your performance in language learning activities. It is based on your level of **preparation** (completion of assigned activities prior to class), the **quantity of your participation** (engagement, effort, positive attitude) as well as the **quality of your participation** (fluency, accuracy, pronunciation). Unexcused absences will negatively impact your grade since you'll be unable to participate or show that you were prepared. Furthermore, if you appear not to be prepared, your grade will suffer. If you are prepared and do not participate, your grade will suffer similarly.

You'll be assigned three Classwork grades around the end of weeks 5, 10 and 15. Please refer to the *Classwork Rubric* (in Bb => Syllabus & Info) to see how you will be evaluated and how you can improve

Absences due to serious illness or emergencies will be excused (See details in *French Language Program Make-up Policy*, p.6).

3. 2 COMPOSITIONS (10%)

Writing is a process and you must begin thinking about your writing well before you turn in the final draft of your compositions. In implementing a process approach, we recommend (but don't require) that you do the *Journal de réflexion* to help you develop your ideas. You'll be asked to prepare a first draft of your composition and share it with your instructor. Your instructor will then evaluate your work and provide feedback and comments targeting content, organization, and grammatical accuracy.

After you receive feedback on the first draft, you will have one week to submit the final version of your composition that includes your revisions.

Both the first draft and the final version are graded. The first draft carries a weight of 34% and the final version a weight of 66%. You will receive a zero on the version (draft or final) that you fail to submit.

A rubric and correction key for grammar mistakes will be provided and should be used when making revisions.

4. BOOMALANG (5%)

Boomalang is a service which connects you to friendly and helpful native French-speakers across the world for one-on-one live video conversations. We require three (15-min.) conversations focused on contextual topics. Please see *Boomalang Instructions* in Blackboard for registration information, topics, and conversation due dates.

5. ORAL EXAM (10%)

The oral exam is a 10-15 minute guided conversation with your instructor.

6. 4 TESTS (25%, @6.25% each) and FINAL EXAM (20%)

The best way to prepare for tests is through daily attendance, study, homework, and practice. All tests must be taken on the scheduled day in class on Respondus Lockdown Browser. Please make sure your laptop is charged (instructions in Bb => Syllabus & Info)

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

Classwork (participation, presentations, role-plays)	15%
Homework	15%
Compositions (2)	10%
Boomalang (3 conversations)	5%
Tests (4)	25%
Oral Exam	10%
Final Exam	20%

No late work will be accepted for credit (see *French Language Program Make-up Policy*, p.6)
There will be no make-up exams --except in the case of serious illness or emergency with verification (see details in *French Language Program Make-up Policy* statement p.6).

GRADING SCALE

93 +	A	77-79	C+	60-62	D-
90-92	A-	73-76	C	Under 60	F
87-89	B+	70-72	C-		
83-86	B	67-69	D+		
80-82	B-	63-67	D		

FRENCH LANGUAGE PROGRAM MAKE-UP POLICY

Students who can verify that they missed class or were prevented from completing assignments are permitted to make up the work they missed if the absence is due to one of the reasons listed below. It is the students' responsibility to provide original documentation to their instructor for the following valid absences:

- performance in university-sponsored events (athletic competitions, fine arts performances, ROTC activities, etc.): an original memo from the appropriate advisor must be provided;
- a death in the immediate family: documentation from a newspaper, funeral, memorial service, etc.
- religious holidays
- jury duty

If students are ill (flu, COVID, etc.) they are expected to stay home and self-care or quarantine depending on the situation. Students are expected, to the extent possible, to keep up with the work so they don't fall behind.

Personal reasons for missing class cannot be excused. These include personal trips to attend university-sponsored events as a spectator, to visit family, to attend weddings or graduations, to attend court (except for jury duty), and other personal reasons, even when plane tickets have been purchased.

ACADEMIC CONDUCT

Plagiarism – presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Section 11, *Behavior Violating University Standards* <https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/>.

If it is suspected that you have obtained help or used online translation services, you will be asked to explain and reproduce your text.

Here are some general guidelines regarding cheating/plagiarism :

- Submitting material authored by another person but not appropriately cited (quotation marks,

footnotes, endnotes, bibliography) is plagiarism. If you borrow any words or ideas – whether you directly quote or paraphrase the material –, you must give credit to your source in your paper. This includes material derived from written sources, or from tutors, classmates, friends, or the internet. Documenting false sources or failure to credit your sources is plagiarism.

- A paper bought or taken from the Internet, or used previously is plagiarized.
- **As to your French, all sentences must be your own. Do not use online translation services.**
- When undertaking peer review or accepting assistance from a tutor or friend, remember that the resulting **text must represent your authority and abilities in French**, and not those of the persons assisting you. **You must be able to reproduce all sentences of the text on your own!**

THE FRENCH MINOR / MAJOR

Proficiency in a foreign language will stand you in good stead for any career you undertake. We encourage you to find out more about the major or minor in French by contacting our Undergraduate Advisor, Isaura Pena, at isaurape@usc.edu or our Director of Undergraduate Studies, Prof. Julie Van Dam Julie.vandam@usc.edu. They'll be happy to explore your options with you.

We also invite you to visit our departmental website. It will give you an overview of our program (Honors Program, French Honor Society, Scholarships, Opportunities, Certificates, etc.): <http://dornsife.usc.edu/fren-ital/>

STUDY ABROAD

Consider participating in one of the following USC study abroad programs :

- June in Dijon. Contact: Nathalie Burle burle@usc.edu
- Fall or Spring semester in Paris. Contact Office of Overseas Studies
- Maymester Fren-220 Intermediate French III in Martinique, France (in the Caribbean). Pre-req: Fren-150. Contact: Jennifer Misran misran@usc.edu
- Maymester Fren-307g (cat-B) Public Memory and the Ghosts of History (Paris, France). Taught in English. Contact: Guilan Siassi gsiassi@usc.edu
- Maymester MDA-444 *Teaching English as a Foreign Language* (Paris, France). Taught in English. Contact: Emmy Min emmymin@usc.edu
- Julymester Fren-333 (or Fren-499) *Teaching French as a Foreign Language* (Vichy, France). Taught in French. Pre-requisite: Fren-300. Contact: Béatrice Mousli Beatrice.mousli@usc.edu

SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Tutoring@usc offers free learning assistance and tutoring
<https://dornsife.usc.edu/languages/>

Counseling and Mental Health - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call
studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline - 988 for both calls and text messages – 24/7 on call
988lifeline.org

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7

days a week, across the United States. The Lifeline is comprised of a national network of over 200 local crisis centers, combining custom local care and resources with national standards and best practices. The new, shorter phone number makes it easier for people to remember and access mental health crisis services (though the previous 1 (800) 273-8255 number will continue to function indefinitely) and represents a continued commitment to those in crisis.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press "0" after hours – 24/7 on call

studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)- (213) 740-5086 | Title IX – (213) 821-8298

equity.usc.edu, titleix.usc.edu

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants. The university prohibits discrimination or harassment based on the following *protected characteristics*: race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, medical condition, mental disability, marital status, pregnancy, veteran status, genetic information, and any other characteristic which may be specified in applicable laws and governmental regulations. The university also prohibits sexual assault, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual misconduct, intimate partner violence, stalking, malicious dissuasion, retaliation, and violation of interim measures.

Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298

usc-advocate.symlicity.com/care_report

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office of Equity and Diversity | Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

The Office of Student Accessibility Services - (213) 740-0776 <https://osas.usc.edu/>

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

Campus Support & Intervention - (213) 821-4710

campussupport.usc.edu

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101

diversity.usc.edu

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu, emergency.usc.edu

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu

Non-emergency assistance or information.

Welcome to the USC French language program!
We invite you to relax and enjoy learning French with us.
Bon semestre!