French 235x Fall 2025 Intermediate Conversational French: Culture, Society and Communication MW 1-1:50



Course description

The goal of this course is to make you a great conversationalist. To that end, you will improve your speaking and listening skills as you discover socio-cultural and socio-political realities of contemporary France and the francophone world through oral presentations, guided discussions, and debates based on authentic readings, film clips, blogs and online media.

Topics include the current political climate and the cultural importance of cinema, literature, art, music, sport, fashion and cuisine. You will discuss these aspects of French culture and compare them with your own personal experiences and American culture.

Course objectives

- Improve functional skills: asking for advice, describing, narrating in all time frames, explaining, comparing, supporting an opinion and hypothesizing.

- Expand vocabulary, and improve range and complexity of oral expression and comprehension.

- Improve pronunciation and intonation.

Required Reading

Olivier Magny. DESSINE-MOI UN PARISIEN. Éditions 10/18.

Julia Chamberlin email: jcchambe@usc.edu THH 177