



French 1302- T/Th 1:30 PM

Course Syllabus and Expectations, Spring 2023

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Office Hours: [T/R 9–10:30 AM and by appointment; LART 212](#)

Overview

The course is designed to help students progress in the four major language skills—oral comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing— and to introduce them to different aspects of the French-speaking world and culture.

Course Materials

Required materials:

- 1) MindTap for Atelier (by Jansma/Kassen/Denié-Higney)

How to buy your Course Materials for FREN 1301

You may purchase MindTap through the UTEP bookstore or directly from the publisher. To purchase directly from the publisher:

Step 1: Sign into **Blackboard** and click on the FREN1301 course link.

Step 2: Click on the Cengage link: **MindTap for Atelier - eBook and online assignments.**

Step 3: Create or sign into your Cengage account to access or purchase the materials for this course.

Need help? Visit <https://startstrong.cengage.com/mindtap-blackboard-ia-no/> for step-by-step registration instructions and videos.

Purchasing Cengage Unlimited to access **MindTap for FREN1301**, will allow you to keep access for the FREN 1302 course even after your Cengage Unlimited plan ends. However, any physical textbook rental is due back by the end date of your Cengage Unlimited plan.

Beware of sites that are selling discounted codes. These sources are likely unauthorized sellers who have acquired access codes illegally, and transactions with such sources may pose a risk to your personal information.

FAQ's:

- No Course Key is required. If prompted for a Course Key, you need to access your course materials via Blackboard.
- Purchase your Cengage Unlimited subscription with the same email as your Cengage Username. (If you sign into Cengage using your UTEP email address, purchase with the same email address.) If you have any issues accessing the textbook, **please** join Cengage Student Office hours - https://www.cengage.com/coursepages/Fall2022_Students2

2) **You must bring a personal laptop or tablet to class every day.** Some quizzes and other assignments will be completed online on the computer. Any student may check out a laptop for the day from the Technology Support Center on the 3rd Floor of the Library.

3) Additionally, you should always bring paper and something to write with.

Course Objectives

The scope of the course is *Atelier* Modules 5–8.

This course builds on the introductory language skills acquired either in French 1301 at UTEP or elsewhere if students placed into the course. In this course, students will learn to:

- Make social engagements and communicate over the phone
- Order in cafés and restaurants
- Discuss the weather
- Discuss personal goals, desires, abilities, and obligations
- Ask and respond to questions
- Discuss and tell stories about past events
- Discuss current news events
- Discuss food
- Follow recipes
- Compare quantities and people
- Formulate complex sentence structures

Conversational French skills are of utmost importance to students of French who plan to use their French during future travels, business deals, etc. These skills are also difficult to learn outside of a classroom setting, so the course will include a lot of seemingly-idle conversation with the aim of enabling students to *produce* sentences in French. Though these conversations

may focus on “everyday” subjects, they are an important part of the class, and participation is required.

Academic Integrity

Your instructor will adhere strictly to the university’s policy on academic integrity. The following section from the College of Liberal Arts website gives a full explanation of the college’s policy regarding Academic Integrity:

The University of Texas at El Paso prides itself on its standards of academic excellence. In all matters of intellectual pursuit, UTEP faculty and students must strive to achieve excellence based on the quality of work produced by the individual. In the classroom and in all other academic activities, students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Any form of scholastic dishonesty is an affront to the pursuit of knowledge and jeopardizes the quality of the degree awarded to all graduates of UTEP. It is imperative, therefore, that the members of this academic community understand the regulations pertaining to academic integrity and that all faculty insist on adherence to these standards.

Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, and any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Proven violations of the detailed regulations, as printed in the [Handbook of Operating Procedures \(HOP\)](#) (available through the [Dean of Students Office](#)) may result in sanctions ranging from disciplinary probation, to failing a grade on the work in question, to a failing grade in the course, to suspension or dismissal, among others.

In a language class, it is essential not to use online translators for any of your writing submissions, though you may look up a few individual words in a dictionary such as linguee or wordreference. **Do NOT write a paragraph in English or Spanish and then pass it through an online translator. This constitutes submitting work that is not your own and is plagiarism.** All plagiarism will be taken seriously and may result in disciplinary action at the university level.

Classroom Guidelines

- a) **Respect.** Students will be expected to adhere to all policies outlined in the student handbook. Students will be expected to show respect for the teacher and other students, participate in class, arrive prepared and on time, with all required materials and a constructive attitude. Students who are absent for any reason are responsible for completing missing assignments and obtaining class notes.
- b) **Be willing to participate in all classroom activities.** You ARE expected to participate in conversations, answer questions, etc. during class. Please consult the professor if you have concerns about your ability to speak in front of the class or in smaller groups or pairs.
- c) **Complete HW assignments on time.** You will have homework assignments after each class. Most will be done on Mindtap, others can be accessed directly from blackboard, and still others will be handed out in class. **You will not receive any points for HW completed after the due date. Consult blackboard after each class for accurate information on what assignments must be completed and when they are due.**
- d) **Prepare for each class.** This class is designed to be a “flipped classroom,” in which the concepts studied that day are initially introduced the day before as part of online HW. In addition to completing specific assigned homework, you should spend a minimum of 10–15 minutes reviewing new material prior to each class, mastering vocabulary and structures as best you are able in order to be able to actively use this material in class. One student’s lack of preparation affects the ability of the other students to participate in conversation with the unprepared student or pair with them for group assignments, so this matter is taken very seriously. You are permitted to come to class unprepared twice during the semester, but you must notify the professor at the beginning of class, you will not receive participation points for that day, and *you may be dropped from the class for the sake of the other students if it becomes a frequent occurrence.*
- e) **You must bring a personal laptop or tablet to class every day.** Some quizzes and other assignments will be completed online on the computer. Any student may check out a laptop for the day from the Technology Support Center on the 3rd Floor of the Library.
- f) **Cell phones should always be turned off and put away during class and especially during exams.** Having your phone out during a test could suggest impropriety and lead to allegations of academic dishonesty. Remove earbuds during class. Please notify me

during the first week if you will need access to your phone during class (e.g. if babysitter needs to be able to text you).

- g) Regular attendance is required.** It is essential that all students be present and punctual in a language class. Do not leave class during the class period unless absolutely necessary. Late arrivals and leaving class are a disturbance for other students and will affect attendance points.

Attendance Policy

During the course of the semester, you are allowed two absences, but you will not receive class attendance or participation points for those days unless you submit documentation to prove that the absence is excused or the result of illness.

Attendance will be taken starting from the second week of class. Every late arrival or early departure will be counted as half of an absence. If you arrive late, it is your responsibility to notify the instructor that you were present. Please let the instructor know if you have some special circumstance that will prevent you from being on time to class.

You will be dropped from the class after your 6th unexcused absence.

Excused absences include University business, hospitalization of the student, jury duty and the death of an immediate family member. If you experience health problems during the semester, you will need documentary proof of your doctor/hospital visits for your instructor.

You may also be dropped for lack of effort. This includes not having course materials. You will be dropped from the class if you have not registered in your instructor's online class by the end of the second week of class.

Accommodations

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass

French at UTEP

The only way to improve your ability to understand and express yourself in French is by exposing yourself to the language as much as possible. This is a challenge in El Paso, so regular attendance in class and frequent use of the website is important. The Internet has a wealth of material for language learning also, so explore and share good things you've found with your classmates.

The **basic French language sequence at UTEP** is made up of 4 courses – FREN 1301, 1302, 2301 and 2302. Please consult your academic advisor to know exactly what the language requirement is for your degree plan.

Although it is possible to continue to the next level of French if you receive a “D” in your course, it is not at all recommended. **If you have difficulty in your French class, please meet with your teacher during office hours and/or the tutor for help.**

The **Club français (French Club)** meets regularly and offers many opportunities to increase your knowledge of French language and culture and to meet other French students and perhaps students from France. The time and place of meetings will be announced at the beginning of the semester.

We encourage you to think about a **minor, a major or a double major in French**. The requirement for the minor is four courses beyond F2302. These could include Advanced Composition, Advanced Conversation, Phonetics, and other language and culture courses and some of these may count as block electives. You may speak to Dr. Jane Evans, the French Academic Advisor, about these possibilities (LART 126; jeevans@utep.edu).

Finally, UTEP encourages all students to take advantage of **study abroad** opportunities – for the summer, a semester, or an entire academic year. There are many possibilities in French speaking locations. Some financial aid and scholarship may be available. Visit the Study Abroad Office in the Office of International Programs on the second floor of the Union for more information.

Assessment

In this course, you will be assessed on a point system. The more points you earn in the class, the higher your grade. Grades will be assigned as follows:

900 points or more----- A, 4.0

800–899 points-----B, 3.0

700–799 points-----C, 2.0

600–699 points-----D, 1.0

Below 600 points-----F, 0.0

How to earn points?

~ 400 points will be available to earn on exams.

~70 points on each of 4 chapter exams

~130 points on the final exam

As many as 700 non-exam points may be available over the course of the semester, but there is a cap: a maximum of 600 non-exam points will count towards your total.

~ 168 points available for HW (~6 points per class day)

~ 30 points available for speaking assignments

~ 84 points available for compositions (about 6 points each)

~ 70 points for reviewing flashcards (about 6 points/week)

~ 84 points for weekly vocab quizzes (about 6 points each)

~ 84 points for class participation (about 3 points a day)

~ 84 points for attendance (3 points a day)

~ 20 points in Bonus quizzes (about 3 points each)

~ 10 points in Cultural opportunities

other opportunities amounting to no more than 45 points

Grading of Compositions

You will begin most compositions on paper in class. You must always bring lined paper to class with you. Once the compositions are corrected and returned to you, you will typically have the opportunity to revise them and hand them back over and over until you achieve the maximum possible points on the assignment. You may consult online and book resources when revising your compositions, but you may not use google translate or other translation services—you must revise your *own* writing, not plagiarize some other person's or machine's writing. You may not revise compositions written as part of exams.

Flashcards

During the first week of class, you will be assigned a username and password for an app called Brainscape. You may not change your username or password for this account. I will share flashcard decks with you on that app, and you will be required to review those flashcards a minimum of 6 times a week. You may review them on your phone or computer at any time during the day. You will not receive credit for reviewing them 6 times on one day or 2 times on another—the reviews must be spread out. I will be able to see the data on when and what you review, for how long, and when, and will assign class points accordingly.

MindTap also has a flashcard resource which you may use to review, but you will not receive class points specifically for that. You are also free to make your own flashcard decks for this or other classes on this Brainscape account, but I will only grade your progress on the decks I assign to you to review.

Weekly Vocab Quizzes

There will be a vocab quiz every Tuesday morning. The quiz will begin at the start of class, so be sure to be on time and have your computer open and ready to go when class starts. The quiz will close after 5 minutes. Every quiz is cumulative. Consult Blackboard for up-to-date info on what new material you will be responsible for. Certain verb conjugations may also appear on these quizzes—consult blackboard to find out. You may not make up a quiz, even if you missed it due to an excused absence, but you may ask me to identify an “other opportunity” (see below) for points instead.

Bonus Quizzes

Occasionally, I will assign surprise quizzes on grammar concepts or other concepts. These quizzes are designed to test and reward your preparedness for class, and you should be able to ace them simply by reviewing and studying before each class. You may sometimes have the opportunity to review and change your answers with classmates before submitting them.

Cultural Opportunities

I may award class points for attending lectures, staffing a table at Francophonie Week, attending French conversation groups, or watching and reviewing a French film. I will inform you of such opportunities as they arise throughout the semester.

Other Opportunities

I may assign optional worksheets, videos to watch, compositions, etc. throughout the semester, and you will earn non-exam class points for completing them. This is a good way to make up extra points if you did not complete a regular HW assignment on time or were late to class, for example.

Understanding the grading system

Example #1- Samuel Student earned 84% of the available exam points for a total of 336 points. He completed all the assigned HW and a couple of extra assignments and earned 90% of the vocab quiz points, for a total of 584 non-exam points. He earned a total of 920 points in the class, earning an A.

Example #2-Sickly Student missed 4 classes due to illness, but studied hard and came to office hours to catch up on what she had missed, so she received 86% of the total exam points for 344 exam points. She missed out on 4 quizzes and 4 class participation points opportunities, but made up for the missing 36 points by attending cultural opportunities and completing extra assignments, earning the maximum 600 non-exam points for a total of 944 points in the class, receiving an A.

Example #3- Suzy Student works very hard, but has undiagnosed test anxiety. Suzy bombed every test and the final, earning less than half the available points, for a total of 198 exam points. She also earned only half of the available vocab quiz points, but completed every HW assignment on time, reviewed her flashcards 5 times a week, and earned every possible point from cultural opportunities and extra assignments. She corrected and resubmitted every composition. So, Suzy Student earned 669 non-exam points, of which the maximum, 600, applied toward her total. So, Suzy earned a total of 798 points and received a C in the class.

Example #4- like Suzy, Sloppy Student bombed all the exams, earning 192 exam points. But he missed several class days, did not complete HW on time, and only reviewed vocab occasionally. He was almost dropped from the class for not completing HW. During the last week of class, he realized he only had 394 non-exam points and tried to complete extra assignments, gaining an extra 9 points. He only earned 595 points and failed the class.

Example #5- Smarty-Pants Student earned 95% of available exam points for 380 exam points, and earned all possible points for HW, speaking assignments, compositions, flashcards, vocab quizzes, participation, and attendance, earning a total of 604 non-exam points, of which 600 applied to her total. Smarty-Pants earned a total of 984 points and an A in the class even though they did not complete any extra assignments or take advantage of any extra opportunities.

How do I know how I'm doing in the class? Easy- log on to blackboard and look at how many points you have earned so far. Look at how many more points you would need to earn to receive the grade you want and work to earn them!