

Fall 2015

FREN 3031

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Recommended Citation

Bourderionnet, Olivier, "FREN 3031" (2015). *University of New Orleans Syllabi*. Paper 569.
<https://scholarworks.uno.edu/syllabi/569>

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FRENCH CONVERSATION MW 3:30–4:45 LA 120



This course focuses on developing stronger speaking skills and oral comprehension through a multimedia experience that will expand your knowledge of contemporary French and francophone cultures. No text needs to be purchased, as most documents will be made available through the UNO media server and Moodle, or shared via USB flash-drives. However, having access to the basic Netflix streaming service will greatly help with film screening assignments. Students will have a chance to work with film, radio, popular music, comic strips, video and more. Some homework assignments will involve recording yourself. Your instructor encourages you to bring your laptop to class, as some activities will require access to streaming and other Internet resources.

Course Work: You will be required to watch French language films on a regular basis. You will also read press articles, prepare topics of discussion and vocabulary lists. Some sessions will be dedicated to discussing documents (film, show, etc.) while others will be devoted to cultural and media-based activities (listening and comprehension, short reading assignments in teams, short presentations, performances, etc.). Every Monday, students will come to class having prepared a report on “l’actualité culturelle” a brief topic of presentation typed on a sheet of paper. This sheet will include the title of the topic, a reference (such as web address) and a carefully prepared vocabulary list of 15 words minimum. Students will take turns presenting their topic to the class. At the end of the semester you will compile your “cultural or news reports” into a file that you will submit to your instructor. Separate from the “cultural or news report,” students will give a longer oral presentation (10 minutes) in the semester. Topics and format must be approved by your instructor.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will:

- Build a stronger vocabulary in French and reach a higher level of fluency
- Develop more confidence when speaking publicly in a foreign language.

Gain deeper understanding of cultural differences between French culture and your own.
Become more familiar with contemporary aspects of the Francophone world.

Assessment:

Attendance and Participation (25% of final grade). Any absence after 3 excused or unexcused absences lowers your attendance grade by 25% (6 absences earn you an F for attendance). Regular participation and active engagement in classroom work will be key to a successful experience. Your instructor will monitor attendance as well as involvement in every session. You are expected to have a positive attitude during group activities as well as show support for your classmates. Good participation involves coming prepared to every class, having **completed and printed** all weekly assignments and being ready to “play the game” of conversing in French.

Early project: “Self portrait” in video (10%) We will work on presenting ourselves in French and we will practice preparing a self-portrait. Each student will complete a 3 to 5 minute self-portrait and submit it via Youtube as an “unlisted” document.

Vocabulary tests (20%) 2 tests in the semester worth 12.5% each

Oral presentation (15% of final grade) Students will be expected to prepare and submit in advance written supportive materials (vocabulary list and short sentences describing topics in their presentation) but will not be graded on writing skills. It will be the students’ responsibility to make sure that any material presented to the class is free of typos and grammatical errors. Your instructor will assist you with the final format of your presentation. The presentation will last 10 minutes.

Final Vidéo Project (15%) 10 min. video clip featuring yourself as interviewer of a French speaking person.

Final Portfolio Project (15%) The collection of your “cultural and news reports” will be reviewed and evaluated for a grade.

Encouragement:

If you are interested in improving your French, you need to practice:

active listening and awareness

curiosity - feel free to ask questions to clarify material

risk taking - do not feel foolish. We are here to learn

repetition - use expressions over and over again in a variety of contexts; re-read a passage many times; correct written assignments.

Imitation - feel free to echo aloud French speech patterns in class and at home

Cultivating the will to overcome obstacles. Instead of saying “This is hard. I give up,” say “This is challenging”

Daily study skills-study a little bit every day. The cramming method of studying is ineffective when learning a foreign language.

Course policies:

- **Attendance:** Students are expected to attend every class. The following was adopted by the Foreign Language Faculty in September 2002: The class participation grade (in this case 25% of your grade), will be a D or an F, depending on the level of delinquency, if the student has had more than five absences in MWF classes.
- **Tardiness and classroom conduct:** Students are expected to arrive on time. Distracting interruptions are inconsiderate, disrespectful, and a waste of everybody's time. There is no excuse for repeatedly arriving late. Lack of punctuality will affect your participation grade. Parking is often a hassle; allow enough time for it.
- **Feel free to ask questions** of the professor during class. But please do not ask other students, as talking disturbs your instructor's concentration and that of other class members.
- **Civility in the classroom** and respect for the opinions of others is very important in an academic environment. It is likely you may not agree with everything that is said or discussed in the classroom. Courteous behavior and responses are expected.
- **Preparedness and homework:** It is the student's responsibility to come to class fully prepared. Check Moodle before every class in case your instructor has posted an assignment that wasn't mentioned in class. Make time during the week to watch assigned films, read assigned press articles or listen to podcasts and to explore the Francophone web in order to find topics for your weekly "cultural or news report."
- **Email communication:** Office hours (top front page) are the times set aside by your instructor to discuss matters related to the course and address specific questions you might have on content or assignments. It is not acceptable to email your instructor to inquire about class content and assignments after missing a class. Contact another student in the class to obtain whatever information you are missing. An appropriate level of formality is expected in all email communication and during class. A 24 to 48 hour period is the expected time it will take for your instructor to respond to questions sent via email messages. Electronic messages sent from another server that **uno.edu** will be ignored. Email communication will be handled on weekdays only and during regular working hours. I will do my best to answer all email messages within 24 to 48 hours. Should you choose to email me at 11 pm, I probably will not read your email before 9 am and it may take me until some time the next day to write back.
- **Handing in work:** work handed in late will be penalized 10% for every class day it is not turned in (including weekends and holidays). Work must be turned in on the day it is due. Work turned in late because of illness or other such exigencies will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Useful Links (a short selection)

UNO media: <http://media.uno.edu/>

Online dictionary: www.wordreference.com

Culture and news:

www.france.fr
www.telerama.fr
www.bnf.fr
www.radiofrance.fr
www.rfi.fr/afrique
www.tv5monde.org
www.lemonde.fr
www.slate.fr
www.lequipe.fr/
www.museorama.com
www.franceculture.fr

Podcasts: [rfi - le journal en français facile](http://www.rfi.fr)
<http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/rfi-journal-en-francais-facile/id114146117>

Tentative Schedule

Semaine 1

19 août: présentation du cours

Semaine 2

24 août: Travaux dirigés TBA - Actualité Culturelle

26 août: Travaux dirigés TBA **auto-portraits due today**

Semaine 3

31 août: Travaux dirigés TBA - Actualité Culturelle

2 septembre: Travaux dirigés – *Alceste à bicyclette*

Semaine 4

7 septembre: Labor Day

9 septembre: Travaux dirigés TBA - Actualité Culturelle

Semaine 5

14 septembre: Travaux dirigés TBA- Actualité Culturelle

16 septembre: Travaux dirigés – *Kings of Pastry*

Semaine 6

21 septembre: Travaux dirigés TBA - Actualité Culturelle

23 septembre: Travaux dirigés - *Persepolis*

Semaine 7

28 septembre: Travaux dirigés TBA - Actualité Culturelle

30 septembre: Travaux dirigés *2 Days in Paris* **Test Vocabulaire I**

Semaine 8

5 octobre: Travaux dirigés TBA - Actualité Culturelle

7 octobre: Travaux dirigés – *La belle et la bête*

Semaine 9

12 octobre: Travaux dirigés TBA - Actualité Culturelle

14 octobre: Travaux dirigés – *Qu'Allah bénisse la France*

Semaine 10

19 octobre: Travaux dirigés TBA - Actualité Culturelle

21 octobre Travaux dirigés – *Stromae music videos*

Semaine 11

26 octobre: Travaux dirigés TBA - Actualité Culturelle

28 octobre : Travaux dirigés TBA – *Work on French podcast*

Semaine 12

2 novembre: Travaux dirigés TBA - Actualité Culturelle

4 novembre: Travaux dirigés TBA - oral presentations

Semaine 13

9 novembre: Travaux dirigés TBA - Actualité Culturelle

11 novembre: Travaux dirigés TBA - oral presentations

Semaine 14

16 novembre Travaux dirigés TBA - Actualité Culturelle - oral presentations
18 novembre: Travaux dirigés TBA **Test Vocabulaire 2**

Semaine 15

23 novembre: Travaux dirigés TBA - Actualité Culturelle
25 novembre: Travaux dirigés TBA - oral presentations

semaine 16

30 novembre: Travaux dirigés TBA - Actualité Culturelle – oral presentations
2 décembre: Travaux dirigés TBA – **Your Actualité Culturelle portfolios and final video projects are due today.**

Moodle:

Once you have enrolled in this course, you are also automatically enrolled on Moodle, the UNO new course management system to the UNO website. You are required to have computer access to the UNO website and to Moodle. For issues regarding your email account go to <http://ucc.uno.edu/helpdesk/hdform.cfm>

Academic integrity:

Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. Refer to the UNO Judicial Code for further information. The Code is available in your student handbook or online at

http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu/studentpolicies/policymanual/judicial_code_ptI.cfm

Accommodations for the students with disabilities:

The University of New Orleans (UNO) is committed to providing for the needs of enrolled or admitted students who have disabilities under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (A.D.A). In general, University policy calls for reasonable accommodations to be made for students with documented disabilities on an individualized and flexible basis. It is the responsibility of students, however, to seek available assistance at the University and to make their needs known.

For more information, please contact the Office of Disability Services:

By mail: 2000 Lakeshore Dr., Milneburg Hall, Room 159, New Orleans, LA 70148

By Phone: (504) 280-7284 / (504) 280 -3998(fax)

By email: aaking@uno.edu or jlyn@uno.edu



Important Dates*

Last day to adjust schedule w/out fee.....	08/18/2015
Semester Classes Begin	08/19/2015
Last day to adjust schedule w/fee, or withdraw with 100% refund.....	08/25/2015
Last day to apply for December commencement	09/25/2015
Final day to drop a course or resign	10/14/2015
Mid-semester examinations.....	10/05-10/09/2015
Final examinations.....	12/07-12/11/2015
Commencement	12/18/2015

*Note: check Registrar's website for Saturday and A/B sessions, and for items not listed here: <http://www.registrar.uno.edu>

Fall Semester Holidays

Labor Day	09/07/2015
Mid-semester break	10/15-10/16/2015
Thanksgiving	11/26-11/27/2015

Withdrawal Policy – Undergraduate only

Students are responsible for initiating action to resign from the University (withdraw from all courses) or from a course on or before dates indicated in the current Important dates calendar. Students who fail to resign by the published final date for such action will be retained on the class rolls even though they may be absent for the remainder of the semester and be graded as if they were in attendance. Failure to attend classes does not constitute a resignation. Check the dates on the Registrar's website, <http://www.registrar.uno.edu>. Please consult The Bulletin for charges associated with dropping and adding courses.

Incomplete Policy – Undergraduate only

The grade of I means *incomplete* and is given for work of passing quality but which, because of circumstances beyond the student's control, is not complete. The issuance of the grade of I is at the discretion of the faculty member teaching the course. For all graduate and undergraduate students, a grade of I becomes a grade of F if it is not converted before the deadline for adding courses for credit (as printed in the Important Dates Calendar) of the next regular semester including summer semester.

Repeat Policy

When a student is permitted to repeat a course for credit, the last grade earned shall be the one which determines course acceptability for degree credit. A student who has earned a C or better in a course may not repeat that course unless, (1) the catalog description indicates that the course may be repeated for credit, or (2) the student's Dean gives prior approval for documented extenuating circumstances.

Graduate Policies

Graduate policies often vary from undergraduate policies. To view the applicable policies for graduate students, see the Graduate Student Handbook: <http://www.uno.edu/grad/documents/GraduateStudentHandbookk2014.pdf>

Academic Dishonesty Policy

<http://www.uno.edu/student-affairs-enrollment-management/documents/academic-dishonesty-policy-rev2014.pdf>

Safety Awareness Facts and Education

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources here: <http://www.uno.edu/student-affairs-enrollment-management/>

UNO Counseling Services and UNO Cares

UNO offers care and support for students in any type of distress. Counseling Services assist students in addressing mental health concerns through assessment, short-term counseling, and career testing and counseling. Find out more at <http://www.uno.edu/counseling-services/>. First-year students often have unique concerns, and UNO Cares is designed to address those students succeed. Contact UNO Cares through <http://www.uno.edu/fye/uno-cares.aspx>.

Emergency Procedures

Sign up for emergency notifications via text and/or email at E2Campus Notification: <http://www.uno.edu/ehso/emergency-communications/index.aspx>. All emergency and safety procedures are explained at the Emergency Health and Safety Office: <http://www.uno.edu/ehso/>.

Diversity at UNO

As the most diverse public university in the state, UNO maintains a Diversity Affairs division to support the university's efforts towards creating an environment of healthy respect, tolerance, and appreciation for the people from all walks of life, and the expression of intellectual point of view and personal lifestyle. The Office of Diversity Affairs promotes these values through a wide range of programming and activities. <http://diversity.uno.edu/index.cfm>

Learning and Support Services

Help is within reach in the form of learning support services, including tutoring in writing and math and other supplemental instruction. Visit the Learning Resource Center in LA 334, or learn more at <http://www.uno.edu/lrc/>.

Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity

UNO is an equal opportunity employer. The Human Resource Management department has more information on UNO's compliance with federal and state regulations regarding EEOC in its Policies and Resources website: <http://www.uno.edu/human-resource-management/policies.aspx>