Prerequisites and Placement:

Students who enroll in French 121 must meet one of the following prerequisites:

- Students with a placement score between 380 and 440 on the French Achievement Exam (SAT II)
- Students with a score between 281 and 368 on the departmental placement test

Students who completed French 110 at Penn should enroll in French 120. Students having completed a previous course in French at Penn are not allowed to skip a level. Students in the College with a placement score are allowed to move up one level without seeking special permission; students in other schools who wish to move up a level must speak with the course coordinator.

Since the placement scores are based on exams using a multiple-choice format and do not measure oral and listening skills, they provide a preliminary placement level. If necessary, students will be moved up or down one level if their ability to function in the language does not seem appropriate for the level of the course. You should consult your instructor or the course coordinator if you have concerns about your placement.

All students must confirm their placement by filling out the departmental credit regulation form: https://www.sas.upenn.edu/roml/credit/french.html

Code of Academic Integrity:

The Department of Romance Languages fully supports and adheres to all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity (cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, etc). The work you submit in this class is expected to be your own. If you submit work that has been copied without attribution from some published or unpublished source including the Internet, or that has been prepared by someone other than you, or that in any way misrepresents someone else's work as your own, you will face severe discipline by the university.

For more information consult:

University Code of Academic Integrity: http://www.upenn.edu/academicintegrity/
The Office of Student Conduct: http://www.upenn.edu/osc;
The Department of Romance Languages handout on academic integrity (posted on the Canvas site for this course).

Required Materials: Available at the Penn Book Center (130 South 34th Street; 215-222-7600)

Access code for MyFrenchLab.com
Bilingual French-English dictionary (provided with Français-Monde package)
Canvas site for this course
Course Description:
French 121 is an intensive one-semester language course for students who have studied French before but who can benefit from a complete review of elementary French. This course will provide a re-introduction of the basic structures of French, with intensive work on speaking and listening designed to prepare students to take Intermediate French. Due to the nature of the course, the first half will progress rapidly with more difficult material presented after the midterm period.

As in other French courses, class will be conducted entirely in French. You will be guided through a variety of communicative activities in class that will expose you to a rich input of spoken French and lead you from structured practice to free expression. You will be given frequent opportunity to practice your newly acquired vocabulary and grammatical structures in small group and pair work that simulate real-life situations, so please prepare each day’s lesson attentively. See “Preparation for each class” below for additional details. The course will introduce you to French and Francophone culture through authentic materials including written documents, simple articles, songs, films, videos, and conversations between native speakers. Out-of-class homework will consist of aural comprehension exercises in the online SAM as well as regular writing practice. The course will also invite you to explore the Francophone world on the Internet in the final stage of the semester.

Goals:
By the end of this course, you should be able to meet a variety of day-to-day needs in a French-speaking setting and to handle a range of basic travel transactions. You will be able to engage in simple conversations on familiar topics such as family, lodging, daily routines, leisure activities, etc. You will begin to be able to speak and write in the past, present, and the future, make comparisons, and describe people and things in increasing detail. You will develop reading skills that should allow you to get the gist of simple articles and you will more readily discern information when you hear native speakers talking in a simple fashion about topics familiar to you.

Required Work:

Preparation for each class:
Each day’s assignments appear on the weekly course program. You should carefully review the pages in the textbook (designated by the letter “M,” for manuel) before class and certainly before completing the homework from the Student Activities Manual (designated as SAM). The homework assignments include audiovisual as well as written exercises. You may access the audiovisual assignments on the Français-Monde website (MyFrenchLab.com). Conscientious preparation of the homework exercises will greatly facilitate your ability to participate in the communicative activities that your instructor will implement each day.

Participation & Attendance:
Active participation in class is vital toward your progress in learning French. Because of that, your instructor will assess your participation grade daily. The grade will be based on your ability and willingness to engage in class activities and to demonstrate that you have studied the vocabulary and grammar assigned.

Regular attendance in class is also required and will be recorded daily. Absences should be reported through the Course Absence Reports system (see below). Please note that there are no “excused absences.” You may have a maximum of five absences during the semester before a penalty is assessed. Your absences are to be reserved for short illnesses, participation in sports events and other extracurricular activities, holiday travel, emergencies, etc.
Your instructor will talk to you after three absences and send a Course Problem Notice to your school office after four absences. After five absences your final grade for the course will be lowered by one
sign (i.e., a final course grade of B+ will be lowered to a B). For each additional absence, your final grade will be lowered an additional sign. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out assignments and be prepared for class. In order for us to take into consideration any medically-related absences after you exceed five, you will need to speak to your advisor, explaining why you missed class. Your advisor will likely want to see documentation. He or she will then contact your instructor.

Students are expected to come to class on time. Repeated tardiness will also affect your participation grade. Three tardy arrivals of ten minutes or more will constitute one absence. See course policies for additional details.

Course Problem Notices (CPNs)
Your instructor will send a CPN not only for excessive absences or tardy arrivals, but also for poor performance on quizzes, exams and compositions and for inadequate class participation.

Course Absence Reports
You must use the new Course Absence Report (CAR) system to report absences. The purpose of the CAR system is to facilitate communication between instructors and students when a student misses class. The system allows students to inform instructors about absences and makes it easier for instructors to manage information about absences in a course. If you have a family or medical emergency that will cause you to miss more than a week of class, you should contact your home school's advising office for assistance and to discuss the academic implications of a longer absence. Your school advisor will contact your instructor after verifying your documentation.

The Course Absence Report system should not be used for days on which exams, quizzes and/or compositions are scheduled.

Students can enter the Course Absence Report system, and submit and review Course Absence Reports for this course, through the following link on Penn InTouch:


PLEASE NOTE: Cell phones and iPods are not conducive to a good learning environment in the foreign language classroom. The use of these devices will not be permitted. Upon entering your classroom, please silence the ringer of your cell phone. However, your instructor will advise you in advance if you will need your laptop for class.

Written Homework:
Written homework will consist of grammar, vocabulary and aural comprehension exercises in the online Student Activities Manual. All written homework must be submitted by the beginning of your class time for teacher verification. There are no make-ups. These exercises and their due dates are found in the weekly programs. Be sure to print or at least consult these programs every week, as they contain pertinent information. You can expect to do up to 1-2 hours of work outside of class for every hour in class. You will also complete several online reading assignments using Canvas (“C” on programs).
Oral and Aural Preparation:
Because of the heavy emphasis on the development of oral and listening comprehension (aural) skills in this course, it will not be sufficient to study the assignments silently from the book at home. Listening exercises figure regularly in the exercises that you will complete online. In addition, you can listen to any section of your textbook marked by a megaphone symbol by going to the e-book of Français-Monde on www.MyFrenchLab.com. You should absolutely make use of this resource when preparing each day’s lesson.

Ateliers d’écriture and Compositions:
On several occasions this semester, you and one or two classmates will improve your timed-writing and proofreading skills during our ateliers d’écriture (writing workshops). These diagnostic sessions will also demonstrate your preparation and understanding of the grammatical concepts that you have studied. Your instructor will ask each group to write a paragraph in 10 to 15 minutes, using a dictionary only when necessary. Someone in the group will then email the paragraph to the instructor, who will gather several paragraphs (without your names) for in-class correction the following day. On workshop days, you should bring your laptop to class.

You will also write four graded compositions this semester. These compositions will allow you to implement the structures, vocabulary and themes you have studied in a highly personalized and creative manner. **Compositions are due at the beginning of class, as a hard copy. Your instructor will not accept electronic submissions. Late compositions will not be accepted.** If you don’t submit a composition, you will receive a zero. You will submit a revised version for the first three, while you will complete the final composition in class. Your instructor will make available on Canvas the composition topics, correction symbols and grading rubrics. Please use the correction symbols when revising your compositions. In addition, you must submit and sign the grading rubric with each version of your composition. Finally, **the use of online translation programs and consulting with native speakers are strictly prohibited in French 121.** If you have questions or need assistance, please see your instructor.

Final project:
**Written version:** You will prepare travel information for an assigned city of the francophone world. For this assignment, you will be asked to explore the internet and various other resources in order to create a guidebook entry that highlights important tourist information for American student travelers. Such information includes, but is not limited to, transportation, lodging, tourist sites, restaurants, nightlife, activities, etc. **Be creative! Please note the due dates on both the course calendar and weekly program. Late submissions will not be accepted.**

**Oral version:** To accompany your written entry, you will prepare a PowerPoint presentation highlighting a particular city of the francophone world. Your presentation should be marketed to a student demographic and should promote the city in a manner that encourages them to visit. You will present your PowerPoint during the final weeks of the semester. On the day of your presentation, you must also submit a hard copy of your slides. **Make-ups on the oral presentation are prohibited.**

Quizzes:
You will have weekly quizzes that will evaluate your listening comprehension and your understanding of the vocabulary and grammatical structures from the chapter. The lowest of your quiz grades will not count in the calculation of your final grade. **See the calendar and programs for dates.**
Exams:
You will have three exams that will evaluate reading comprehension, writing skills and mastery of the vocabulary and grammatical structures from those chapters. Please note the dates of these exams on the course calendar and the weekly program.

NOTE: THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES OR EXAMS. IF YOU MISS ONE, YOU WILL RECEIVE A ZERO.

Midterm oral exam:
You will have an oral exam scheduled with your instructor at the mid-semester. For this oral exam, you will be paired with a classmate and be asked to role-play situations based on topics that you have covered thus far in class. Additional details will follow. There are no make-ups for the oral exam.

Final Grade:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation, preparation, homework</td>
<td>20 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compositions</td>
<td>15 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>25 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (3)</td>
<td>20 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm oral exam</td>
<td>10 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>10 %</td>
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</tbody>
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Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>99 – 100</td>
<td>A+</td>
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<tr>
<td>94 – 98</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 – 93</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<tr>
<td>88 - 89</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>83 - 87</td>
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<td>81 - 82</td>
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<td>79 - 80</td>
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<td>72 - 73</td>
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<tr>
<td>70 - 71</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Below 70</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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Please note that grades are not negotiable and that departmental policy prohibits extra credit assignments.

Learning Resources:

The Department Home Page: [http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/roml](http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/roml)

Consult the Romance Languages Department Home Page for information on additional resources, such as local radio and TV programming in French, sources for French-language magazines and newspapers, or even French pastries. The page also has links to selected Web sites that can enrich your study of the language.

The Department maintains a list of tutors who will tutor for a fee.

Language Direct: [http://www.plc.sas.upenn.edu/language_direct/](http://www.plc.sas.upenn.edu/language_direct/)

Organized by the Penn Language Center, this is “a unique peer tutoring program for foreign language learners at Penn. Language Direct consists of a network of peer tutors, supervised by graduate students, who assist foreign language learners through drop-in tutoring and online help. Tutoring is available on campus and online.” Their services are free. Request a tutor through their site.
The Maison française:  [http://gregory.house.upenn.edu/la_maison_francaise](http://gregory.house.upenn.edu/la_maison_francaise)
The Maison française, part of the Modern Languages Residential Program of Gregory House, is located in the Class of 1925 building, 3940 Locust Walk. It sponsors a program of French films as well as a weekly coffee hour in French which are open to the whole campus. It is also possible to join the residents for dinner on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and every other Thursday between 6:00 and 7:00 in 1925 Commons. For further details on these and other activities, visit their home page.

The Van Pelt Library:  [http://www.library.upenn.edu/vanpelt/](http://www.library.upenn.edu/vanpelt/)
As a Penn student, you have access to a variety of French and Francophone films in the Van Pelt Library.

The Weingarten Learning Resources Center:  [http://www.vpul.upenn.edu/lrc](http://www.vpul.upenn.edu/lrc)
The learning center provides free professional guidance in academic skills such as academic reading, writing and study strategies.

The David B. Weigle Information Commons (first floor west of the Van Pelt Dietrich Library Center):  [http://wic.library.upenn.edu/](http://wic.library.upenn.edu/)
The Information Commons supports collaborative learning and group activities using the latest technologies, provides students with group study rooms, seminar rooms, and training and equipment in the Vitale Digital Media Lab for digital media projects - including video, audio, imaging, and web publishing.

Study Abroad
The University of Pennsylvania strongly encourages students to take advantage of the variety of opportunities for study abroad. Summer, semester, and year-long programs in France are sponsored by Penn-Summer-Abroad (3440 Market, Suite 100, tel. 898-7028) and the Office of International Programs (3701 Chestnut Street, suite 1W, tel. 898-9073). The Penn-in-Tours program offers a variety of courses in language, civilization, and history at the advanced level, in addition to an intensive intermediate course sequence (French 134). Contact the program director, Kathryn K. McMahon, or visit the Web site at:  [https://www.sas.upenn.edu/summer/locations/abroad](https://www.sas.upenn.edu/summer/locations/abroad)

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