

TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY
Department of Foreign Languages
FREN 1010 – Elementary French I
3 credit hours; pre-requisites: none
Section 001: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays
9:05am – 10:00am
Oakley Hall 214

Instructor: Dr. Elena Kazakova

Office: Oakley Hall 218

Email: ekazakova@tntech.edu

Phone: 931-372-3776

Office Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays 12:00pm – 2:00pm [on Zoom \(no appointment needed\)](#)

If you would like to speak with me at a different time, please schedule an appointment over email.

Texts and References: *Espaces* (4th edition) and accompanying online workbook from Vista Higher Learning.

Course Description: Essentials of French, developing listening and reading comprehension, oral and written communication, and cultural understanding.

Course Objectives:

Through their efforts on notes, homework assignments, assessment activities, and in-class activities, the students will work towards the following goals:

1. Open and close conversations, observing basic courtesy requirements and basic demands of the French culture.
2. Make introductions, observing basic courtesy requirements.
3. Name people, objects, and places around the classroom and around the city.
4. Describe people, objects, and places in the present.
5. List familiar everyday actions in the present.
6. Ask and answer oral and written questions on familiar everyday topics, including school, family, calendar, eating out, and preferences.
7. Present information on familiar everyday topics, both in writing and orally, using simple sentences with minor grammatical errors that do not impede communication.
8. Identify the general topic and basic details of a written text and a conversation on familiar everyday topics.
9. Speak with pronunciation sufficiently accurate as not to impede communication.
10. Maintain a spontaneous short conversation on familiar everyday topics without long pauses that impede communication.

Methodology:

The course is in-person. We will meet every scheduled day of the semester in the classroom. Social distance and other safety precautions will be respected during our in-person meetings.

This is a flipped class. Before each meeting, students are expected to go over the assigned material in the textbook, take notes on grammar and vocabulary, and complete homework exercises for the day on the VHL Supersite. Class time will be used for practice and clarification.

Materials:

Course materials will be available on iLearn and the VHL Supersite. The material covered each day and homework for each class will be specified on iLearn on Monday morning of each week for the entire week.

Topics: *Espaces*, Unités 1.A-4.A

Grading criteria:

25% - assessment activities
20% - homework
20% - notes on grammar and vocabulary
20% - class participation
15% - final project

Grading scale:

A = 92.51 – 100
A- = 89.51 – 92.50
B+ = 86.51 – 89.50
B = 82.51 – 86.50
B- = 79.51 – 82.50
C+ = 76.51 – 79.50
C = 72.51 – 76.50
C- = 69.51 – 72.50
D = 60.00 – 69.50
F = 0.00 – 59.99

Attendance Policy:

Due to the ongoing pandemic, attendance will be taken, but will not affect the final grade in the course. Students are strongly encouraged to stay home if they don't feel well. Absences and tardiness will not negatively affect the final grade in the course.

HOWEVER, students are responsible for all material covered in the classes that they miss. This includes completing all readings, notes, and exercises on the VHL Supersite and, if assigned, on iLearn.

If you are unable to complete the work missed during the absences, please contact the professor to discuss accommodations.

Participation:

Students are expected to participate each class. Participation includes coming to class having read the material and completed homework, actively participating in all activities during the class period, and showing respect towards all people present. Please make an effort to address your peers by the names and pronouns that they prefer.

The use of electronic devices is allowed for class-related purposes, such as consulting the e-book and the VHL Supersite, consulting materials on iLearn, consulting an online dictionary, completing any online activities as instructed by the professor, and taking notes. Unauthorized use of electronic devices during class includes but is not limited to: browsing the Internet when not instructed by the professor, accessing social media, texting, accessing any materials that are not related to class. Using electronic devices for non-class-related purposes will constitute disruptive behavior and will negatively affect your participation grade. **The instructor reserves the right to see, at any time, the screen of any electronic device used in class.**

A participation grade of 0-2 will be assigned after each in-person class meeting. A score of 2 is assigned when a student comes to class prepared and participates in all activities. A score of 1 is assigned when a student comes to class unprepared but still participates in all activities OR when a student participates only in some activities (this includes not repeating after the professor to practice pronunciation). A score of 0 will be assigned for any day when a student does not come to class and does not contact the professor to discuss accommodations OR when a student comes to class but does not participate in any activities. The score of 0 may be changed to 1 at any point before April 30 by completing alternative work after a discussion with the professor.

If you are unable to participate on any day, including the days when you need to be absent, please contact the professor to discuss accommodations.

The final participation grade will be the percentage of the earned participation points / total possible participation points.

Homework:

Homework refers to the exercise on the VHL Supersite and, in certain cases, on iLearn. These exercises are meant to help you practice the material that you will have read and taken notes on. Each exercise has unlimited number of attempts before the score is submitted. The score on the Supersite is only there to give you an idea of how well you understood the material. It will not automatically appear in the actual gradebook on iLearn. Homework is not graded on the number of correct and incorrect answers.

Exercises will be scored out of 10, with the score of 10/10 for each lesson when all the exercises in a set (see below “Understanding choices for homework”) have been completed, 0/10 for each lesson when no exercises have been completed, and a score lower than 10 and higher than 0 for each lesson when some of the exercises in a set have been completed. Any score of lower than 10/10 can be increased by completing the missing exercises.

Grades for each lesson will appear in the gradebook on iLearn in the category “VHL Supersite” under the corresponding lesson number (1A, 1A.1, 1A.2, 1B, 1B.1, 1B.2, etc.). It is the responsibility of the students to check their grades on iLearn and to complete any missing exercises.

Please refer to the video “Understanding choices for homework” and the accompanying text document for more information about the homework exercises.

Notes on grammar and vocabulary:

Before completing homework exercises on the VHL Supersite, students are expected to go over the new material. Students will take notes, either handwritten or electronic, for each new grammar point and vocabulary for each lesson. Students may keep notes on vocabulary in any form that they find helpful (lists, pictures, sentences with new words, etc.). Notes on grammar will follow the guidelines explained in the video “How to take notes on grammar” and in the accompanying text document .

Students will submit their notes on corresponding grammar and vocabulary after each lesson. When the notes are to be turned in, it will be indicated in the homework for the day. To minimize physical contact during the pandemic, all submissions will be electronic. For handwritten notes, you may scan them or take pictures of individual sheets.

Notes on vocabulary will be scored out of 5 for each lesson (1A, 1B, 2A, etc.). Notes on grammar will be scored out of 10 for each grammar point (1A.1, 1A.2, 1B.1, etc.) A score of 10/10 means that the notes have been taken and submitted on time, grammar notes follow the guidelines, and grammar notes present all the essential information about the concept in question (rules, any exceptions, where to place it if necessary).

Scores will appear in the gradebook on iLearn in the category “Notes” under the corresponding lesson or grammar point number (1A, 1A.1, 1A.2, etc.).

Assessment activities:

There will be eight assessment activities throughout the semester. Assessment activities are a chance for the students to demonstrate their skills with specific grammar and vocabulary in specific situations. The nature of assessment activities will vary depending on the topics and grammar, as well as on each student’s individual choice. Assessments are not cumulative. Normally, there will be two options for each assessment, except for Assessments 3 and 8 and possibly Assessment 4. Assessments will take place on Mondays except for Assessment 1 and 8 which will take place on Fridays. Specific dates for the assessments are available in this document. The specific options and details about each option will be available on iLearn two days before the day when the assessment activity is scheduled. You can find more details about the assessments in the video “Understanding choices for assessments” and the accompanying text document.

Final project:

The final project is a chance for the students to demonstrate all the skills acquired throughout the semester. There will be two options for the final project. The details about each option will be available on iLearn by Monday, March 22. The final project will be **due Monday, May 3 at 10:00am** (the end of the scheduled final exam period for the course).

Academic Misconduct Policy:

Maintaining a high standard of academic integrity in every class at Tennessee Tech is critical to the reputation of Tennessee Tech, its students, alumni, and the employers of Tennessee Tech graduates. The Student Academic Misconduct Policy describes the definitions of academic misconduct and policies and procedures for addressing Academic Misconduct at Tennessee Tech. For details, view Tennessee Tech's Policy 217 – Student Academic Misconduct at [Policy Central](#).

In addition to all provisions in Policy 217, the following rule applies to the definition of academic misconduct for FREN 1010:

Any use of an unauthorized outside source to produce coursework will result in an immediate charge of academic misconduct, and a grade of zero on the assignment in question.

The term “unauthorized source” includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Online translators
- Fellow students
- Native French speakers
- Family members who speak or may have studied French
- Other professors
- Any outside source not previously and specifically authorized by the professor

Anything where you input more than an individual word (that is, a sentence, an expression, a phrase, etc.) and receive an equivalent in French counts as an online translator and is **unauthorized**.

“Authorized sources” for FREN 1010 are the following:

- English-French dictionaries, paper and/or electronic
- All materials available on the VHL Supersite
- All materials available on the course's page on iLearn
- Professor for the course

If you are not certain if a source is authorized, assume that it is not and contact the professor for clarification.

Disability Accommodation:

Students with a disability requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS). An Accommodation Request (AR) should be completed as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the first week of the course. The ODS is located in the Roaden University Center, Room 112; phone 372-6119. For details, view the Tennessee Tech's Policy 340 – Services for Students with Disabilities at [Policy Central](#).

COVID – 19

1. Students must take personal responsibility in following the recommended CDC COVID-19 guidelines. Students are expected to follow all COVID-19 directives published by Tennessee Tech including, but not limited to, notices on Tennessee Tech's webpage, building and facilities signage, and similar publications. The university's Return to Campus Student Handbook can be found at <https://www.tntech.edu/return/index.php>.
2. According to Tennessee Tech University's protocols, face coverings must be worn (covering the mouth and nose) by students in the classroom at all times.
3. Students must abide by predetermined social distancing guidelines and seating arrangements. Movement during class sessions should be limited as to not endanger other students or faculty. Students should be conscious and respectful of others and their health concerns.
4. Students who refuse to comply with university protocols on these matters will be reported to the Tennessee Tech Dean of Students.
5. Students should direct all requests for excused class absences related to COVID-19, regardless of where the COVID-19 testing is performed, to Tennessee Tech's Health Services. The Office of Student Affairs will provide notifications to faculty members of student absences and the expected length of the absence.