French Intermediate B1

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Office hours by appointment

Fall Semester 2014
Monday: 10.45-12.15
Wednesday: 10.45-12.15
Friday: 9.00-10.30

Course Materials
Reflets 2. Methode de francais, Hachette FLE
Grammaire progressive du francais, Niveau intermediaire, CLE international
Communication progressive du francais, CLE International
Exerçons-nous, Grammaire, 350 exercices Niveau intermediaire, Hachette

Note: You will work with Reflets2 + CD+ Video and Grammaire progressive Niveau intermediaire that you’ll check out from the Library. These books belong to the Bard College Berlin library and need to be returned at the end of the semester. Try to avoid writing in these loaned books. If you have to, however, make sure to use a pencil and erase your notes prior to returning the books. Or you can either copy the exercises into your own notebook or make a photocopy of the pages you’re asked to work on.
You will receive photocopies of some of the pages of the two other books.

Recommended:
• We encourage you to make use of the language learning materials on the Bard Center for Foreign Languages and Culture website at http://cflc.bard.edu/frenchlanguage
• You might find very useful the comprehensive language site : www.lepointdufle.net

Course Description
This 90 hours course is designed to help you achieve the B1 level according to the Common European Framework of reference for languages. At the end of this course, the learner:

• Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc.
Can deal with most situations likely to arise while travelling in an area where the language is spoken.
Can produce simple connected text on topics that are familiar or of personal interest.
Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.

Most classroom interaction will be in French, because input and use are the chief engines of foreign language acquisition.

• Active and consistent classroom participation is crucial to your success at acquiring the language.
• Make sure to always bring a hardcopy of your written homework to class. Assignments should be double-spaced and have margins of about 3 cm on each side for comments and corrections.

Attendance
Since interaction is critical for language learning, we take class attendance very seriously. You will be allowed no more than three absences during the semester.

Learning and Testing:
• Every week (except 1st and last week), on Fridays, you will take a short (5-10 min) vocabulary test. After each class you will receive by email a list of vocabulary to learn for the next class. These tests will not be graded, but their results will be proportioned. You will then receive a percentage number.

• The tests must be taken on the announced test days (probably on Fridays). The only acceptable means of rescheduling a test are: (a) prior arrangements with me in the case of religious holidays, pressing personal or family matters, or (b) written notification from a doctor or from the Dean of Bard College Berlin following the absence. (Tests that are missed and not excused under these terms will not be rescheduled, and will receive a score of “0%”.)

• Grammatical tests will take place after each big chapter (“Unité”). Your mid-term grade will be determined by the mid-term test taken Week 6.

• At the end of the semester there will be a final examination, contents TBA.

Grading
Your Grade will be based on class attendance, quality of participation, written homework assignments, and tests:
• Class Participation 20%
• Homework, written 20%
Please be punctual and considerate. Switch off your mobile phone before each class, and keep bathroom breaks to a minimum. Interruptions are bad for everybody's concentration.

Please note:
The learning goals of this beginner’s class B1 are in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment (abbreviated as CEFR). CEFR is a guideline used to describe achievements of learners of foreign languages across Europe. It describes what a learner is supposed to be able to do in reading, listening, speaking and writing at each level. Our class fulfils the requirements of the “B1 Threshold or intermediate” level. What this means is that once you have completed the class successfully you are able to

- understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation.
- interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party.
- produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.
**SYLLABUS**

This syllabus is subject to change. You are responsible throughout the semester for knowing what you have to do for each class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>week</th>
<th>Homework/Tests</th>
<th>Dossier 1</th>
<th>Temps de l’indicatif, Subjonctif, conditionnel, pronoms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Grammar test 1</td>
<td>Dossiers 1</td>
<td>Discours direct et indirect, le participe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Grammar test 2</td>
<td>Dossiers 2-3</td>
<td>L’interrogation, le passif</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>EVALUATION mid-term test</td>
<td>Dossiers 4-5</td>
<td>Plus que parfait, comparative, future antérieur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Grammar test 3</td>
<td>Dossiers 6-7</td>
<td>Mise en valeur, le causatif faire Conditionnel passé</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Grammar test 4</td>
<td>Dossiers 8-9</td>
<td>Subordonnées opposition, hypothèse etc, verbes dits modaux</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Grammar test 5</td>
<td>Dossiers 10-11</td>
<td>Articles, adjectifs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>FINAL TEST</td>
<td>Dossier 12</td>
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</tbody>
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Final Test: Dec 15, 9:00