

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
UG Course Syllabus

French language and culture for Beginner II

LANG2310

No. of Credits: 3

Any pre-/co-requisites: Students who have completed LANG1310 or have prior basic knowledge of French at CEFR Level A1.1.

Name of Course Leader: Caroline Petit

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Office Hours: Available by appointment only.

Course Information

This 3-credit course builds on LANG1310 and develops students' integrated language skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking while reinforcing vocabulary, grammar, and cultural knowledge. It is ideal for students seeking a strong foundation in French and preferring a structured and face-to-face learning environment. By the end of this course, students will achieve an A1 level proficiency according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). They will engage in basic conversations, including expressing needs and wishes, explaining past events, and talking about future plans, while also recognising and appropriately using different linguistic styles (such as polite and plain forms) in diverse social settings. Throughout the course, students will explore Francophone cultural norms and contexts and incorporate this understanding into their spoken and written communication to foster culturally appropriate interactions. This course adopts **a pass/fail grading system**.

Devices such as laptops and smart books are required in class exclusively for instructional purposes to complete the assigned activities.

Key Topics

- Module 1: Review Self-Introduction/ Daily Routine
- Module 2: Go Shopping
- Module 3: The Future & the Weather
- Module 4: Finding an Apartment
- Module 5: Health
- Module 6: University and Career
- Module 7: Holidays

Intended Learning Outcomes

In LANG 2310, students learn not only the French language but also about the cultures of French-speaking countries. It provides learners with opportunities to express themselves at an intermediate level in French, both orally and in writing. The course also presents aspects of French culture and the cultures of other Francophone countries.

After completing the course, students will be able to:

1. Engage in conversations by making and responding to common enquiries, giving opinions, understanding routine instructions, and comprehending brief public announcements about past and future events in French.
2. Comprehend and communicate about daily life, past events, future plans, personal interests, and social situations in French-speaking contexts.
3. Construct accurate and meaningful spoken and written sentences by applying fundamental principles of French pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary.
4. Develop an awareness and appreciation of French and Francophone cultures, including customs, daily life, and cultural practices.

Assessment and Grading

This course adopts a **Pass/Fail grading system** to support a low-pressure and learner-centred environment. Students must complete all required tasks and demonstrate achievement of the course's Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) to pass.

Assessment Task	Contribution to Overall Course grade (%)	Due date
Course participation • In-class participation (10%) • 7 x take-home tasks (8%) • 4 x pre-class tasks (7%) • 4 x in-class quizzes (15%)	40%	• Pop quizzes will be conducted unannounced throughout the course to encourage consistent engagement with the material. • Take-home tasks and pre-class tasks will be assigned throughout the semester.
Cultural Presentation (in-class)	20%	Week 10*
Review Quiz (in-class) • Listening • Reading • Writing • Speaking	40%	Week 13*

*Assessment marks for individual assessed tasks will be released within 10 working days of the due date.

Mapping of Course ILOs to Assessment Tasks

Assessed Task	Mapped ILOs	Explanation
Course participation • In-class participation (15%) • 7 x take-home tasks (7%) • 4 x pre-class tasks (6%) • 4 x in-class quizzes (12%)	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4	This task helps students to construct accurate and meaningful sentences all semester (ILO -3) while maintaining students focus and following their progress and active participation. It promotes active learning where students engage in conversation (ILO-1) and communicate about various

		topics (ILO-2) and develop their culture awareness. (ILO-4)
Cultural presentation (in-class) Students will be asked to make a presentation in a group and answer related questions.	ILO1, ILO3, ILO4	This task develops intercultural competence by assessing students' understanding of key cultural concepts and the interconnectedness of language and culture, fostering a broader appreciation of French-speaking communities (ILO4) while demonstrating clear and accurate pronunciation as well as sentences (ILO3). It also emphasizes effective communication and the ability to respond to questions from the audience (ILO 1).
Review quiz (in-class) • Listening • Reading • Writing • Speaking	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4	Listening Task: Students' auditory processing skills are evaluated, focusing on their ability to comprehend spoken French in real life scenarios and respond appropriately, further enhancing their linguistic understanding and accuracy (ILO1 and ILO3). Reading Comprehension: to analyze written texts and extract relevant meaning, fostering interpretive skills necessary for understanding information in real-life contexts. (ILO2). Writing Task: This component measures students' ability to produce coherent written messages that reflect linguistic accuracy, demonstrating their ability to communicate ideas effectively in written form (ILO2 and ILO3). Speaking Task: Evaluates students' ability to participate in structured conversations (ILO1) while demonstrating clear and accurate pronunciation as well as sentences

		(ILO3). It emphasizes effective interpersonal communication and the ability to respond in authentic conversational scenarios which can deepen their understanding of the historical and social contexts of French-speaking cultures (ILO4).
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Grading Rubrics

Pass Criteria:

- Actively participate in class activities, including pair work, role-plays, and interactive tasks.
- Complete all required homework, pre-class tasks, and in-class quizzes.
- Submit a cultural presentation showing thoughtful engagement and research.
- Demonstrate intermediate communicative proficiency in French during the final performance-based assessment.

Fail Criteria:

Students may fail the course if they:

- Miss or fail to participate in key classroom activities or tasks.
- Show limited or no progress in communicative ability or cultural understanding.
- Fail to attend or participate meaningfully in the final assessment.
- In addition to the criteria above, students must achieve a minimum overall score of 50% to pass the course.

Course AI Policy

We encourage students to use all the tools available to support their learning and enhance their ability to communicate effectively in French. We also expect students to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. While there is no penalty for using or not using GenAI, these tools must not be used as a substitute for a student's independent work. The use of GenAI or other tools should be limited to supplementary assistance, such as exploring vocabulary, grammar rules, or cultural insights, and not as a means of generating responses or completing tasks on behalf of the student.

Communication and Feedback

Assessment marks for individual assessed tasks will be communicated via Canvas within ten working days of submission. Feedback on assignments will include strengths and areas for improvement where relevant. Students who have further questions about the feedback, including marks, should consult the instructor within five working days after the feedback is received.

Resubmission Policy

Resubmissions are not accepted, except in exceptional circumstances.

Required Texts and Materials

- Edito A1 2ème édition Didier français langue étrangère 2022-2024
- Handouts and PowerPoints are provided via Canvas.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to adhere to the university's academic integrity policy. Students are expected to uphold HKUST's Academic Honor Code and to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. The University has zero tolerance of academic misconduct. Please refer to [Academic Integrity | HKUST – Academic Registry](#) for the University's definition of plagiarism and ways to avoid cheating and plagiarism.