ARTS2485

Exploring French Linguistics

Term Two // 2021

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Hugues Peters	h.peters@unsw.edu.au	Online, by appointment	MB 275	02 93851440 / 9065 9775

School Contact Information

School of Humanities and Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Phone: +61 2 9385 1681

Fax: +61 2 9385 8705

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

This course taught in English offers a systematic comparison of French and English as far as sounds, vocabulary, word formation, and sentence structure are concerned. It will focus on the typical difficulties encountered by learners of French in pronunciation, orthography, and grammar in order to give them the tools to improve their accuracy and become independent learners.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Apply a critical understanding of the tools and methods of linguistic inquiry.
2. Examine the various linguistic categories in French: sounds, morphemes, words, phrases and clauses.
3. Compare various linguistic categories in French and English.
4. Identify some features of linguistic diversity.

Teaching Strategies

Rationale:

This course provides an introduction to the structure of the French language and will focus on the typical difficulties encountered by English-speaking learners of French. All of our students have English as one of their languages as a native or a second language. So contrasting the two makes sense. We will also give the opportunity for students whose first language is not English to make punctual comparison with their first language in an oral grammar presentation.

This contextual studies course is integrated within the French studies program, as it builds on the learning of the structures discovered in language courses, and complements other linguistically orientated courses: The contextual studies course: The French Speaking World (taught in English), and the Professional level course: Approaches to Spoken French (taught in French). The course helps students develop their accuracy and sociolinguistic competence in the French language, and gives them the tools to become independent learners.

Teaching Strategies:

The course is taught in English as it is one of the contextual studies courses in the major in French Studies.

The Teaching approach involves class discussions as well as small group discussions during the tutorials, and during the lectures. This is achieved by means of a variety of tasks most of which require students to prepare in advance.

Assessment

Feedback on assessment normally takes 10 working days.

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Test	50%	During lecture: (i) June 22, 2021 (week 4) ; (ii) July 13, 2021 (week 7)	1, 2
Project	50%	(i) The group oral presentation is due by July 26, 2021 at 5pm (week 9); (ii) the individual written report is due during the examination period: on August 16, 2021 by 5 pm.	3, 4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Test

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: ca. 50 min. each

Details:

Two in-class tests of ca. 50 minutes each covering the content of the course via problem sets and short essay questions. The summative tests are preceded by formative weekly online and/or tutorial exercises.

Feedback via in-class discussion, error correction, and written comments.

Additional details:

The test will be conducted online.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 2: Project

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 15 to 20 minutes group presentation - 1000-word individual report

Details:

Students identify an area of the French language (sounds, vocabulary, word formation, or sentence

structure) they want to enhance.

- They make a ca. 20-minute group presentation giving an analysis of selected features of the French language and compare them with their equivalent in English and/or other languages (25%). The oral presentation can be done in class or via online means.
- After the presentation, students submit an individual report on Turnitin (ca. 1000 words). The report written in the form of an essay details their contribution to the group presentation, summarizes their main argument with in-depth analysis of the supporting examples, and provides appropriate referencing (25%).

Feedback via in-class or online discussion, marking rubrics and written comments.

Additional details:

For the oral presentation: each group of students will post one 15 to 20-minute video submission in VoiceThread (via Moodle) on a prepared topic by Monday (5pm) (week 9), then you will individually watch and ask a questions and/or make a brief comment on two other groups' posts before Week 9 tutorial discussion. For the individual written report, you will post your report on Turnitin during the exam period (via Moodle).

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

Attendance of Tutorials is mandatory in this course. Attendance to synchronous lectures is strongly encouraged and students are requested to review lecture recordings for classes missed. Unexcused absence from more than 20% of Tutorials will result in the award a fail grade. In lectures and tutorials you will actively engage with core course content, enabling you to attain CLO1 and CLO2. Attendance will result in a recorded artefact (an artefact for participation may include a post, or response to an online discussion forum, poll or quiz, while an artefact for mandatory attendance may include a record of attendance).

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 31 May - 4 June	Topic	Introduction to the lay-person's versus linguists' approach to language Exploring the French language: Chapters 1 & 2. Stereotypes about the French language, prescriptivism versus descriptivism, formal versus informal styles Seminar exercises
	Homework	Before the lecture, • Familiarize yourself with the Course Overview (CO) and all the information available on Moodle • Acquire the textbooks for the course. • Fill in the questionnaire on Moodle.
Week 2: 7 June - 11 June	Topic	The formation and etymology of Words in French Exploring the French language: chapter 3 Feminization of names of trades and professions Seminar exercises
Week 3: 15 June - 18 June	Topic	The meaning of Words in French Exploring the French language: Chapter 4 The influence of English on the French vocabulary Seminar exercises
Week 4: 21 June - 25 June	Topic	Describing the sounds of French.

		Exploring the French Language: Chapters 5 & 6
		The pronunciation of the 'R' sound
		Seminar exercises
	Assessment	TEST - 25% (50 min., online, during the lecture)
Week 5: 28 June - 2 July	Topic	The grammar of French: French morphology
		Exploring the French language: Chapters 7 & 8
		Traditional versus formal definitions of words
		Seminar exercises
Week 6: 5 July - 9 July	Lecture	NO LECTURE AND NO TUTORIAL ON WEEK 6
Week 7: 12 July - 16 July	Topic	French grammar: Word categories and phrases
		Exploring the French language: Chapter 7 & 8
		Seminar exercises
	Assessment	TEST - 25% (ca. 50 min., online, during the lecture)
Week 8: 19 July - 23 July	Topic	The grammar of French: Syntax of French
		From words to sentences
		Exploring the French language: Chapters 7 & 8
		Seminar exercises
Week 9: 26 July - 30 July	Topic	The grammar of French (Continuation)
		Comparison between French and English
		Seminar exercises
	Assessment	Group oral presentations - 25% (15 to 20 minutes, submitted online on VoiceThread via Moodle). Watch and post comments on two other groups' online presentations before week 9 tutorial.
Week 10: 2 August - 6 August	Topic	Conclusion: Descriptivism vs. prescriptivism, the grammar of French
		Feedback on oral exposé
		Preparation of the final report
		Seminar exercises

Resources

Prescribed Resources

- Lodge A. *et al*. (2003 [1997]). *Exploring the French Language*. London, Arnold.
- Additional materials provided via Moodle.

Recommended Resources

We advise you to purchase either one of the following grammar reference books written in English:

- Morton J. (2009). *English Grammar for Students of French*. The Olivia and Hill Press.
- McNab R. (2016). *French grammar made easy*. Routledge.

These books give clear explanations in English about French grammar starting from the level of absolute beginners. If you are at a more advanced level, you may want to use a more advanced reference grammar (see textbooks recommended in your French language courses).

Additionally, you should think about acquiring a good dictionary. If you intend to do a major in French, we recommend that you buy a large bilingual (French-English/English-French) dictionary. You should buy the biggest dictionary you can afford: a pocket size or concise dictionary will quickly prove inadequate. The following dictionaries are available from the Bookshop:

- Essential French Dictionary & Grammar. 2nd Ed. Harper/Collins.
- Oxford-Hachette French Dictionary. Oxford.

Course Evaluation and Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered from students using myExperience. It is encouraged students complete their surveys by accessing the personalized web link via the Moodle course site

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.
http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Bedegal people who are the traditional custodians of the lands on which UNSW Kensington campus is located.