



Université McGill

Faculté des arts

Centre d'enseignement du français

Syllabus - FRSI 332 - Intermediate French : Grammar 01

FRSL 332 - 001

Fall 2023

3 credits

Local : ARTS 230

Instructor : Dolly Abi Mansour

Office hours (virtually or in person) : by appointment 13 h – 14 h Tuesday or Thursday

Course coordinator : Dolly Abi Mansour → dolly.abimansour@mcgill.ca

Prerequisites → placement test or recommendation by an instructor

Understanding	Pretty good understanding of spoken French and of simple texts.
Expression	Ability to talk about feelings, intentions, past and hypothetical situations, about daily and cultural topics; ability to direct a conversation. Ability to write short texts in French.
Grammar	Pretty good knowledge of grammar and syntax rules, but in need of reinforcement, especially for application.
Vocabulary	Generally adequate vocabulary in conversations, but needs to enrich and nuance expression.

1. Course overview

French as a second language : Grammar review, using both a theoretical and a practical approach. Reading materials, in addition to their cultural interest, are selected to illustrate grammatical usage, provide models of writing techniques and aid in vocabulary development.

2. Learning objectives

The objective of this course is to help students develop the necessary skills and declarative knowledge that will allow them to exercise control when speaking or writing so that they can correct themselves, especially in relation to grammar. During the term, the student should develop the following skills:

Strategic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop work and learning strategies enabling them to continue to progress on their own after the course; - Develop strategies for anticipating errors and self-correction.
Metalinguistic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acquire a good knowledge of grammatical terminology; - Be able to analyze texts to understand the relationship between overall structure, grammatical forms and meaning.
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write descriptive, narrative, directive, expressive and argumentative texts thanks to an increased control of grammar and an enriched vocabulary.
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand a greater number of authentic documents, of various genres and subjects, as well as certain subtleties of meaning transmitted by grammar.
Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use a richer vocabulary; - Be able to understand their mistakes when corrected and be able to rely on their new knowledge to control the form in which they express their messages.
Listening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand more sophisticated types of speech in terms of vocabulary and syntax.
Cultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better understand journalistic culture and the daily interests of Francophones as perceived through newspapers.

3. Teaching

3.1. Instructional method

Learning will occur through communicative and collaborative tasks, practices and assignments, the development of autonomous learning skills and strategies (e.g. proofreading), and reflective practice about the functioning of the language.

A flipped classroom approach is adopted in the course: it's a learner-centered model in which time in the classroom is used to explore topics in greater depth and create meaningful learning opportunities while students are initially introduced to new topics outside of the classroom. Thus, as homework, students will watch video lectures, read any materials relevant to the synchronous class beforehand, and complete exercises, in order to maximize oral and written practice and interactions during fixed sessions.

At any moment throughout the semester, you are encouraged to communicate with me if you feel overwhelmed by your workload; we will address together your preoccupations and find a fair solution.

3.2. Course content

Learning sequence for the semester

Module 1 - **Informer**: Notions de base en grammaire (*Basic grammatical notions*)

Module 2 - **Décrire** : Le genre et l'accord

Module 3 - **Raconter**: Le système de conjugaison (*The conjugation system*)

Module 4 - **Argumenter**: Le mode (*Grammatical moods*)

Module 5 - **Expliquer**: L'interrogation directe et indirecte (*Indirect questions and indirect speech*)

Learning sequence for class sessions

0. Readings and homework before class

1. Feedback about a previous evaluation (if relevant)

2. FAQ grammaire → your questions regarding grammar, vocabulary, etc.

3. Interactive presentation about new content

4. Practice of new content

5. Oral or written comprehension tasks; reflection tasks; oral or written production tasks → individually or in teams

6. Instructions regarding an upcoming evaluation (if relevant)

3.3. Calendar

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	Cours 1 : Le 31 août ▫ Présentation du cours + Test diagnostique
Cours 2 : Le 5 septembre MODULE 1 : Informer	Cours 3 : Le 7 septembre
Cours 4 : Le 12 septembre * Add-drop deadline https://www.mcgill.ca/importantdates/key-dates	Cours 5 : Le 14 septembre
Cours 6 : Le 19 septembre MODULE 2 : Décrire	Cours 7 : Le 21 septembre Quiz 1 – AMLF*
Cours 8 : Le 26 septembre	Cours 9 : Le 28 septembre
Cours 10 : Le 3 octobre Remise de la composition 1	Cours 11 : Le 5 octobre Quiz 2 - AMLF

Du 6 au 11 octobre: pas de cours – Action de Grâce - Congé	Cours 12 : Le 12 octobre MODULE 3 : Raconter
Cours 13 : Le 17 octobre	Cours 14 : Le 19 octobre
Cours 15 : Le 24 octobre	Cours 16 : Le 26 octobre Remise de la composition 2
Cours 17 : Le 31 octobre Quiz 3 - AMLF	Cours 18 : Le 2 novembre MODULE 4 : Argumenter
Cours 19 : Le 7 novembre	Cours 20 : Le 9 novembre
Cours 21 : Le 14 novembre	Cours 22 : Le 16 novembre Quiz 4 - AMLF
Cours 23 : Le 21 novembre MODULE 5 : Expliquer	Cours 24 : Le 23 novembre Remise de la composition 3
Cours 25 : Le 28 novembre	
Cours 26 : Le 5 décembre Quiz 5 - AMLF	

* AMLF : Arts Multimedia Language Facility – Rm MS - 10 McLennan Library Building 3459 McTavish Street

3.4. Evaluations

Due dates are **not** flexible : all late hand ins will result in a penalty of 5 % per day, unless a prior agreement has been made with the instructor. That being said, accommodations may be established in extreme cases such as sickness or family tragedy.

In order to obtain a passing grade and credits for a course, **students must complete all assignments and evaluations** listed in the method of evaluation contained in the syllabus :

Evaluation	Due dates	%
Composition 1	October 3rd	13,33 %

Composition 2	October 26th	13,33 %
Composition 3	November 23rd	13,33 %
Quiz 1	September 21st	10 %
Quiz 2	October 5th	10 %
Quiz 3	October 31st	10 %
Quiz 4	November 16th	10 %
Quiz 5	December 5th	10 %
Participation (participation in activities, presentations, etc.)	continuous	10 %
Total		100 %

Note that all learning activities will take place on campus within the 26 planned calendar days and planned hours (except compositions and homework).

3.5. Course material

Workbook: *La nouvelle grammaire en contexte – Notions et exercices niveau Intermédiaire*
S. Bertrand-Savard, M. Cayouette, C. Minet et S. Beaulieu
 ISBN 978-7617-9545-6

The book is available at the **Le James Bookstore**. 680 Sherbrooke O, Qc H3A 0B8.

Documents in Mycourses

Optional material

- Conjugaison : <http://vatefaireconjuguer.com> (available as an app) [free]
- In-context translation tool : <http://www.linguee.fr> [free]
- Bilingual dictionary : <http://www.wordreference.com> (available as an app) [free]

3.6. Technologies necessary for participation

You will need to bring a computer or digital tablet to work in class. In case you would need it, you can rent a PC from McGill : https://mcgill.service-now.com/itportal?id=kb_article&sysparm_article=KB0010885).

The technologies that will be used for this course are myCourses and a quizzing platforms such as Polling@McGill.

For more information about myCourses and the technological resources offered by McGill, here are a [guideline regarding teaching, learning and evaluations](#) and some [learning resources](#).

3.7. Work time expectations

To complete this course, you can expect to work approximately 6 to 9 hours per week outside of class. Those hours include time spent working on homework, assignments, preparation, and revision.

3.8. Student participation

Active participation (answering your instructor's and peers' questions, volunteering spontaneous interventions, doing all exercises, speaking only French in class, etc.) at each class is strongly encouraged since interactions with your instructor and peers are essential for second language acquisition.

You must always come to class adequately prepared (homework, study, assignments). It is your responsibility to plan your semester adequately in order to avoid last-minute issues.

In order to adequately follow the course progression, it is your responsibility to check your McGill email and myCourses before and after each class to keep up with announcements, reminders, new content, etc. Emails will be sent at name.lastname@mail.mcgill.ca. According to McGill policies, an email sent to a student's McGill account is considered read.

You may consult me by email, during office hours or by appointment (individually or in small groups). Meetings can take place in person or virtually (Zoom).

I will answer your emails within 2 regular working days.

You are encouraged to book a consultation if you feel a need to clarify some notions, however, office hours are **not** an alternative to in-class activities : you are to come prepared with **clear questions**.

3.9 Policy regarding absences

If you have missed an evaluation, you must provide a supporting document. Failure to do so will lead to a "zero" for said assignment. The only admissible reasons are :

- Family tragedy;
- Medical issue;
- Other situations outside of your control and deemed justified by the instructor.

Students registering for language courses during the add/drop period (after classes have commenced) are required to make up missed assignments and assessments. It is the student's responsibility to catch up on work missed during the add/drop period. Any request for make-

up regarding assignments and exams due/held during the add-drop period should be made to the instructor within 10 days of course registration. As for the participation grade, students will only be penalized for lack of attendance from the moment of their official registration.

Examinations, tests, tutorials, labs or other in-class activities held outside of class time might result in conflicts with regular scheduled courses. The instructor or unit responsible of such a clash with a regular scheduled French class is accountable for handling the conflict. The instructor or unit is expected to make alternate arrangements with the students. Conflicts during final examinations are handled by the Student Affairs Office.

4. Intellectual property

© All material produced by the instructor or her colleagues (reference documents, homework, assignments, PowerPoint presentations, recorded classes, summaries, exam questions, etc.) is protected by the law and cannot be copied or distributed in any shape or form without their explicit approval. As per the *Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures*, copyright violations can lead to an intervention by McGill University.

5. McGill policy

5.1. Language of presentation

“In accord with McGill University’s [Charter of Students’ Rights](#), students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded. This does not apply to courses in which acquiring proficiency in a language is one of the objectives.”

5.2. Student rights and responsibilities

- Students are required to consult the calendar for assessment dates and to read about the policies related to this course in the syllabus.
- **Add/drop period** : Students registering for language courses during the add/drop period (after classes have commenced) **are required to make up missed assignments and assessments**. It is the student's responsibility to catch up on work missed during the add/drop period. Any request for make-up regarding assignments and exams due/held during the add-drop period should be made to the instructor within 10 days of course registration.
- Attending lectures without a placement test or auditing without formal registration is not permitted.
- The department reserves the right to transfer a student to a lower-level or a higher-level language course if it is deemed that the course for which the student has registered is not appropriate for the extent of his or her knowledge of the language.

- Students are responsible for informing themselves about the university rules and regulations regarding to **Methods of course evaluation and grading procedures**.
<https://www.mcgill.ca/oasis/programs/exams-evaluations>
- Graduate students are expected to obtain a minimum final grade of B- (65%).
- Students have the right to **reasonable accommodation for religious commitments** in accordance to religious Holy Days listed in *McGill important dates Holy days* (<http://www.mcgill.ca/importantdates/holy-days-0>). Students who need such arrangement have to inform their instructor at the beginning of the term.
- Students who need **special arrangements** under the [Student Accessibility & Achievement](#) specifications have to **inform their instructor at the beginning of the term** in order to organize appropriate lab testing sessions.
- Consult <https://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/> for more information about Student Rights and Responsibilities <https://www.mcgill.ca/secretariat/node/94> and for University Policies and Regulations.
- As the instructor of this course I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me and the [Student Accessibility & Achievement](#), 514-398-6009

5.3. Grades

- According to section 3.1.7 of the [University Student Assessment Policy](#), a grade “J” will be given to the student who doesn’t complete two of the three written compositions (2X13%) or two quizzes (2x10%) or (1 compo 13% + 1 quiz 10%).
- No special permission or treatment will be given for not fulfilling a requirement (such as missing a quiz, a deadline, etc.) unless it falls into one of the categories mentioned above. Grades are granted according to actual performance and calculated based on objective data. No pressure for grade change will be accepted.
- Mercury : End-of-course evaluations are one of the ways that McGill works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the student’s learning experience. You will be notified by e-mail when the evaluations are available on Mercury, the online course evaluation system. Please note that a minimum number of responses must be received for results to be available to students.
- The [University Student Assessment Policy](#) exists to ensure fair and equitable academic assessment for all students and to protect students from excessive workloads.

5.4. Academic integrity

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures in oral or written assignments, dictations, translations, essays, oral or written presentations, summaries, projects, thesis,

research

reports,

etc.

What is not accepted?

- Copying or submitting any academic work that has been produced by another student or another person (all or in part). Allowing another student or any other person to provide answers or correct your work.
- Allowing a resource person (native speaker, language teacher, monitor, tutor, advanced student) to produce or correct your work, translate written texts to or from the target language or interpret/explain oral comprehension exercises for you.
- Handing in written work or preparing oral work largely inspired by or copied from somebody else's work without clearly acknowledging sources (books, articles, essays, course notes, films, radio programs, audio documents, Web, etc.) and showing the extent of the borrowing.
- Presenting for grading any academic work (oral or written) for which you have already received academic credit or presenting the same work for grading more than once.
- Using translation software or websites such as Google Translate and/or ChatGPT to write and/or to prepare an evaluation.

What is acceptable or recommended?

- Consulting resource persons for explanations but without receiving answers or corrections for the work to be submitted.
- Practicing language skills with qualified resource persons.
- Studying intelligently with fellow students.
- Sharing information within team members working on a group project.
- Using your own words, making up your own sentences and using quotation marks when borrowing from someone's work.
- Identifying sources and documenting information and ideas even when the material is not directly quoted.

See [McGill's guide to academic honesty](#) for more information.