

FNLG 1501F - Conversational French 1

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 42900,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Rachel Faerber-Ovaska

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Dr. Rachel Faerber-Ovaska

Instructor Professional Qualifications: Doctorate in Language, Literacy, and Culture Education, University of Pittsburgh. MAT in Teaching French, Southern Oregon University. MA in Germanic Philology, the University of Jyväskylä, Finland. BA in History and German, Oberlin College.

Instructor Office Location: Cafaro Hall

Instructor Office Phone: 330-941-1535

Course Description

1501F. Conversational French 1. An introductory course focused on developing functional conversation skills. Prereq.: None. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Optional	NO READINGS		

All written materials for this class are instructor-created and will be available to you for free in our Blackboard course. We will also consult public French-language-and-culture-related websites at times.

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Day	Date	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
Tue	8/25	Introduction, French Greetings, the alphabet	Weekly practice exercises/quiz (due by end of week)
Tue	9/1	French language basics: tu/vous, noun genders, être & avoir	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	9/8	Numbers 1-100 and telling time	Weekly practice exercises/quiz Learning Journal 1 Speaking Padlet 1
Tue	9/15	Talking about family, possessive adjectives	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	9/22	Describing with adjectives, colors	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	9/29	Food and drink; partitive articles	Weekly practice exercises/quiz Cultural Inquiry Project, Step 1 (project proposal)
Tue	10/6	Au café: ordering food and drink	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	10/13	Expressing likes and dislikes (aimer, préférer, détester)	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	10/20	Talking about the weather; the verb faire	Weekly practice exercises/quiz Learning Journal 2 + Speaking Padlet 2 Cultural Inquiry Project, Step 2

Tue	10/27	Cultural festivals & traditions across La Francophonie	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	11/3	University life and education in France OR Catch-up week	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	11/10	Ma journée: daily life & near-future plans (aller + futur proche)	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	11/17	La négation — saying no, never, nothing	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	11/24	Cultural Inquiry Project presentations begin	Cultural Inquiry Project due (Step 3, final version). In-class project presentations begin.
Tue	12/1	Final presentations & semester wrap-up (last class meeting)	In-class project presentations. La fête de la fin du semestre! (optional in-person meeting, with French snacks)
Tue	12/8	No class — exam week. No final exam: your cultural inquiry project is the final summative activity.	Learning Journal 3 Speaking Padlet 3

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.