Western University
Department of French Studies

Fre 9005: Intensive French Reading Course

Instructor: Professor Henri Boyi, hboyi@uwo.ca

French 9005 has no prerequisites.

What is this course?

A great course for you to learn French at your own pace!!

The main objective of French 9005 is to help Graduate students attain a reading knowledge of French. The course provides basic tools to understand French texts and to translate them. It is not meant to help you speak French, nor does it focus on French writing. French 9005 enables you, as a Graduate student, to fulfill your language requirement; you are evaluated on a “pass or fail” basis, 60% being the minimum passing grade.

Is this course for you?

French 9005 is geared toward students capable of independent study. If you feel you can keep up with the workload without a classroom setting and regular meeting times, and if you like the freedom of not having to show up for class, you should enjoy this course. (And in that case, welcome!) If, on the other hand, you feel the need to have face to face contact with your professors and have trouble seeing yourself learning autonomously, you may
want to rethink your decision to take this class; you may want to
explore other options available to you within the Department of
French Studies (e.g., French 1002, French 1010). If that is the
case, you should seek advice from the Department of French
Studies at french@uwo.ca.

Please note that French 9005 does not fit into a prolonged French
learning program. Because it concentrates on reading and
translating, it does not serve as a prerequisite for more advanced
French language courses.

**How does this course work?**

French 9005 is based on a textbook: *A Short Course in Reading
French*, by Celia Brickman (available at the bookstore). The
course’s structure follows the book’s chapters until Chapter 23.

This class is designed to keep you from falling behind. You will
have a limited time to complete each chapter and the
corresponding evaluation – in most cases a quiz. However, if you
so choose, you may easily work ahead. Quizzes, the midterm,
and the final exam have a fixed date. If you cannot make it for the
midterm or for the exam, you should have proper justification from
your Department.

**French 9005 Chapters:**

Required textbook: *A Short Course in Reading French*, by Celia
Brickman (Columbia University Press, 2013)

**N. B.**:

*You are encouraged to carefully read everything that is in the
tables that are indicated for each chapter.*
Chapter 1:
Nouns, Articles, and Prepositions, and The Principle of Agreements
Sections 1.1 – 1.8 (pages 1-11)

Chapter 2:
Verbs, Subject Pronouns, and the Present Tense/Présent De L’indicatif
Sections 2.1 – 2.11 (pages 13-24)

Chapter 3:
Adjectives and Adverbs
Sections 3.1 – 3.4 (pages 26-43)
Quiz #1 Due October 7th

Chapter 4:
Reflexive Verbs
Sections 4.1 – 4.3 (pages 44-45)

Chapter 5:
The Imperfect/L’imparfait
Sections 5.1 – 5.7 (pages 49-54)
Chapter 6:
Past Participles/Les Participes Passés
Sections 6.1 – 6.3 (pages 56-58)
Quiz #2 Due October 28th

Chapter 7:
Le Passé Composé/The Compound Past
Sections 7.1 – 7.8 (pages 60-69)

Chapter 8:
Direct and Indirect Objective Pronouns
Sections 8.1 – 8.9 (pages 71-79)
Quiz #3 November 4th

Chapter 9:
Additional Forms of the Negative
Sections 9.1 – 9.3 (pages 81-86)

Chapter 10:
More Irregular Yet Common Verbs
Sections 10.1 – 10.2 (pages 87-88)
Quiz #4 November 18th
Chapter 11:
Impersonal Pronouns, Demonstrative Pronouns, Impersonal Verbs, and an Introduction to the Word “Que”.
Sections 11.1 – 11.7 (pages 91-98)

Chapter 12:
The Future and Conditional Tenses/Le Futur Simple Et Le Conditionnel
Sections 12.1 – 12.5 (pages 99-106)
Quiz #5 Due December 2\textsuperscript{nd}

Chapter 13:
Present Participles and Imperatives
Sections 13.1 – 13.5 (pages 107-114)

Chapter 14:
The Passive Voice
Sections 14.1 – 14.4 (pages 115-118)

Chapter 15:
Le Passé/The simple Past. Or the Past Historic
Sections 15.1 – 15.3 (pages 120-125)
Quiz #6 January 13\textsuperscript{th}
Chapter 16:
Relative and Interrogative Pronouns and Adjectives
Sections 16.1 – 16.7 (pages 12-136)

Chapter 17:
More Compound Tenses
Sections 17.1 – 17.5 (pages 138-145)
Quiz #7 January 27th

Chapter 18:
The Causative Faire
Sections 18.1 – 18.3 (pages 147-151)

Chapter 19:
Le Subjonctif /The Subjunctive
Sections 19.1 – 19.4 (pages 154-164)
Quiz #8 February 3rd

Chapter 20:
Modal Verbs and Other Common Idiomatic Verbal Constructions
Sections 20.1 – 20.4 (pages 165-172)

Chapter 21:
Changes of Tense with Idioms of Time
Sections 21.1 – 21.4 (pages 174-177)
Midterm Exam February 10th
Chapter 22:
Common Idiomatic Expressions
Sections 22.1 – 22.10 (pages 178-185)

Chapter 23:
Configuration of the Infinitive
Sections 23.1 – 23.6 (pages 187-190)
Quiz #9 February March 3rd

General Revision
Quiz #10 March 17th

Note: The quizzes can be accessed on Owl/Sakai by clicking on the “Tests and Quizzes” tab. The quizzes and the midterm may be submitted on Owl/Sakai until 11:59 p.m. of the day on which they are due.

How are students evaluated?
Quizzes 50% (10 quizzes, 5% each) Midterm 20%  Final Exam 30%

Quizzes are not cumulative and each of them covers material from previous chapters.

In addition to the quizzes and the midterm, the final exam is a compulsory evaluation for the course – all students will have to complete the final exam in order to receive a final grade.

The quizzes and the midterm are completed online. Once you start a given assessment, there is a time limit within which you will
need to finish it. (The time allotted is specified before you start the assessment.)
For each of the quizzes, you will be expected to learn the English meaning of a large number of French words, phrases, and short sentences. The idea is that you build up knowledge of frequently used words and expressions so that you are not relying excessively on the dictionary. The vocabulary is taken from the work you will be doing in the textbook. A list of vocabulary will help you prepare for each quiz.

Quizzes 1-5 contain vocabulary words and fill-in-the-blank questions where you will need to translate expressions from your word lists. In quizzes 6-10, there will be vocabulary words, phrases and short sentences and you will have to read a short article in French, and then answer a few questions based on what you’ve read. The Midterm and the final will contain a combination questions like those in quizzes 6-10.

*Important information regarding evaluations*

One important thing to remember with online evaluations: Once you have typed in your answers, don’t forget to review it, and to then press *save answers*. To submit the quiz, press *finish*.

The Final Exam (cumulative) will take place during the exam period either at Western or at an examination center if you are located outside of London, Ontario. The date of the exam will be designated by Distance Studies and will be announced before the end of the course. Accommodations to take the final exam outside of London need to be discussed in advance with Distance Studies: distexam@uwo.ca, or by phone 519-661-2111, ext. 84879. Distance Studies will not be able to arrange out-of-town exams at the last minute, so make sure you get in touch with them early enough in the session.
The final exam consists of sentences (from your textbook) provided in French for you to translate. You will also be given three articles in French that you have not encountered before, from which you will choose only two and answer questions in English based on the content of the articles.

Please note:

OWL/Sakai will allow you to access and complete your quizzes and midterm after the deadline; in such cases a penalty of 2% per late day (including weekends) will apply.

Unless adequate (e.g., medical) reason and/or documentation is provided in a timely manner, any missed evaluation will be graded zero.

**How is Owl/Sakai accessed?**

The Owl/Sakai login page can be found at: https://owl.uwo.ca/portal. This page allows you to login using your Western ID and password.

**How is the French 9005 Owl/Sakai page organized?**

When you log in to Owl/Sakai and select French 9005, you will be directed to the course home page. The home page is structured in the following manner:

Left-hand side (vertically): Here you will see a list of tabs that allow you quick access to the different course site pages. These tabs are always visible when you navigate to
and from the different pages of the course site.

Top right corner: Recent announcements. Here you will be alerted to new items in the Announcements section.

Center right: Calendar.

Bottom right: Message Centre Notifications. Here you will be alerted to new items in the Forums section. *Any questions?* For *technical questions*, please consult Western Information Technology Services Help Desk: [http://www.uwo.ca/its/helpdesk/index.html](http://www.uwo.ca/its/helpdesk/index.html). Help is available in person, online, or by phone. For *course content questions*, the Forums section of the French9005 OWL site is the preferred method of communication. As this is a Distance Studies course, students never meet with their professor. However, you are encouraged to ask questions through the Forums at any time during the course. Posting questions in the Forums will allow all students to benefit from the questions posted and from the answers provided. For *questions or concerns of a private or confidential nature*, please feel free to contact me directly by e-mail at hboyi@uwo.ca. *Welcome to French 9005!*