



University
of Exeter



Evening language programme 2026/27

Course title: French Beginner Part I (A1.1) – on campus

Course descriptor/objectives

This non-credit bearing weekly course is intended for complete beginners who wish to explore French for the first time. Participants will develop some basic reading, listening, speaking and writing skills through a series of task-oriented sessions and will be provided with informal formative feedback during contact hours.

By the end of the course (part I & II) participants will be able to:

1. Understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type.
2. Introduce themselves and others and ask and answer questions about personal details such as where they live, people they know and things they have.
3. Interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.

In seminars, participants will have to engage in practical exercises and group interaction in order to develop relevant language-specific learning strategies. The role of the instructor is to facilitate this process, provide useful tools and encourage participants to become independent learners and basic users of the languages too.

Language-specific information:

French is spoken as an official language in 29 countries and has over 300 million speakers

worldwide. It is an important language for intercultural communication, acting as one of the 6 working languages of the United Nations.

As a romance language, modern French is derived from Vulgar Latin, though it resembles its counterparts (Italian, Portuguese and Spanish) much less due to Germanic influences.

Culturally, French opens speakers up to a wide range of modern and established classics such as the cinema of Jean-Luc Goddard and Jacques Tati or the literary greatness of Victor Hugo and Proust.

Prerequisite:

This non-credit bearing weekly course is intended for complete beginners who wish to explore French for the first time.

Coursebook and/or learning

resources:

Bissar D. et al. *Foundations French 1*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2017 (3rd ed), ISBN 9781137579195.

Please do not purchase the book until the course is confirmed.