



University
of Exeter



Evening language programme 2024/25

Course title: French Upper-Intermediate (B2.1)

Course descriptor/objectives

The aim of the course is to help the learner to develop French reading, listening, written and oral skills for professional and academic purposes. Therefore, by the end of the courses (B2.1 and B2.2) participants will be able to:

- Understand the main ideas of a complex text on both concrete and abstract topics.
- Present clear, detailed descriptions on a range of subjects.
- Explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.
- Interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible.
- Take an active part in discussions in familiar contexts, accounting for and sustaining personal views.

Participants will develop advanced reading, listening, speaking and writing skills through a series of task-oriented sessions and will be provided with informal formative feedback during contact hours. The completion level of the course is broadly equivalent to the *B2.1* level of the [Common European Framework](#).

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 French language learners who have previously completed the B1 level or have an A'level or equivalent.

Coursebook and/or learning resources:

To be confirmed by the teacher.