

COURSE SYLLABUS
French Upper Intermediate 1
2026-2027 Fall Session
Center for Academic Writing – Foreign Languages
Central European University (CEU)

Instructor (s): Patrícia BETÁK PhD

E-mail address: betak.patricia@gmail.com

Level: Upper Intermediate 1

Number of sessions: 20 (2x100 min./week)

Schedule: Tuesday and Thursday 19.25-21.05

For Pass/Fail or Grade

Open to all CEU students, alumni, faculty, staff and visitors

Course Description

French is spoken on six continents and has a centuries-long history as an international language of literature, culture, diplomacy and science. French is the primary or second language of many international organizations. The aim of the course is to improve the learners' oral and written communication, pronunciation, reading and listening comprehension skills during structured and dynamic classes and through a wide variety of tasks and exercises, together with authentic readings, visual and audio materials.

Prerequisite: French Intermediate or Placement test.

Goals and Learning Outcomes

- The Upper Intermediate course focuses on developing reading, writing, listening and speaking skills as well as grammar.
- In addition, there is an increased focus on cultural knowledge : students will get insight into several features of the French speaking world.
- Development of strong conversational skills and of essay writing.
- The vocabulary and structures necessary to the exposition of more abstract thought and ideas, and the discussion of political, social, cultural and economic issues.
- Main conversation topics include: talking about literature, arts, economics, politics, and cultural aspects of the French speaking world.

Course Requirements and Assessment

Regular attendance (**at least 18 sessions out of 20**) is mandatory.

The students' performance will be assessed, on a PASS/FAIL or GRADE basis, through

- 1.active participation in class
- 2.completion of required written and oral assignments and
- 3.end of the term test.

Terminal grade: 20% quizzes/assignments, 60% class performance, 20% final exam.

Format

Teaching will be done through Teams + a Google drive folder containing class notes and handouts.

Most classes will begin with a short written or oral quiz on the latest vocabulary and grammar, then discussing the problems with their homework.

Students will regularly be given specially prepared grammar and vocabulary handouts to use apart from the fundamental course book. Other readings, visual and audio materials will also be used during the classes.

The Session will be concluded with a final revision and a consultation followed by a final written exam.

The course book

authentic documents, videos, podcasts

Course Outline

Topics and proportion are subject to change according to the learners' previous knowledge, actual needs and fields of interest. Students will be informed of any modifications.

Week 1 – Summer holiday

Past tenses, revision

Week 2 – Travelling, circulation

Past tenses

Week 3 – Shopping, services

Experiences,

Week 4 – Shopping, services

Official letter

Week 5 – Sciences, technology

Areas, specific terms

Week 6 – Sciences, technology

Areas, Neologisms

Week 7 – Global warming, Environmental protection

Conditional levels, Condition and hypothesis

Week 8 – Global warming, Environmental protection

Debate

Week 9 – Final Revision-consultation

Week 10 – Written test, Evaluation

SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Grammar, Vocabulary

Marie-Pierre Caquineau-Gündüz etc. : *Les 500 exercices de grammaire B2*. Hachette, 2007.

Maïa Grégoire, Odile Thiévenaz (etc) : *Grammaire progressive du français intermédiaire* 4e édition. CLE international, 2019.

Maïa Grégoire, Odile Thiévenaz (etc) : *Grammaire progressive du français intermédiaire* 4e édition. CLE international, 2019.

Maïa Grégoire, Alina Kostucki (etc) : *Grammaire progressive du français. Perfectionnement*. CLE international, 2019.

Michèle Boulares, Odile Grand-Clément : *Conjugaison progressive du français - Niveau intermédiaire*. CLE international, 2020.

Claire Miquel : *Vocabulaire progressif du français - Niveau avancé*. 3e édition. CLE international, 2018.

2. Dictionaries

<https://dictionary.reverso.net/>

<https://dictionnaire.lerobert.com/definition/dictionnaire>

<https://www.lerobert.com/dictionnaires/francais/langue/dictionnaire-le-petit-robert-de-la-langue-francaise-edition-abonnes-3133099010272.html>

<https://www.larousse.fr/dictionnaires/francais-monolingue>

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France 24 sur youtube : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8PMI7tUDIE>

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<http://www.tv5monde.com/>
<http://www.lemonde.fr/>

<https://www.arte.tv/fr/>
<https://www.youtube.com/c/arteplus7fr>
<https://www.youtube.com/user/ARTE>

COURSE SYLLABUS

French Upper Intermediate 2
2026-2027 Winter Session
Center for Academic Writing – Foreign Languages
Central European University (CEU)

Instructor (s): Patrícia BETÁK PhD

E-mail address: betak.patricia@gmail.com

Level: Upper Intermediate 2

Number of sessions: 20 (2x100 min./week)

Schedule: Tuesday and Thursday 19.25-21.05

For Pass/Fail or Grade

Open to all CEU students, alumni, faculty, staff and visitors

Course Description

French is spoken on six continents and has a centuries-long history as an international language of literature, culture, diplomacy and science. French is the primary or second language of many international organizations. The aim of the course is to improve the learners' oral and written communication, pronunciation, reading and listening comprehension skills during structured and dynamic classes and through a wide variety of tasks and exercises, together with authentic readings, visual and audio materials.

Prerequisite: French Intermediate/French Upper Intermediate 1 or Placement test.

Goals and Learning Outcomes

- The Upper Intermediate course focuses on developing reading, writing, listening and speaking skills as well as grammar.
- In addition, there is an increased focus on cultural knowledge : students will get insight into several features of the French speaking world.
- Development of strong conversational skills and of essay writing.
- The vocabulary and structures necessary to the exposition of more abstract thought and ideas, and the discussion of political, social, cultural and economic issues.
- Main conversation topics include: talking about literature, arts, economics, politics, and cultural aspects of the French speaking world.

Course Requirements and Assessment

Regular attendance (**at least 18 sessions out of 20**) is mandatory.

The students' performance will be assessed, on a PASS/FAIL or GRADE basis, through

1.active participation in class

2.completion of required written and oral assignments and

3.end of the term test.

Terminal grade: 20% quizzes/assignments, 60% class performance, 20% final exam.

Format

Teaching will be done through Teams + a Google drive folder containing class notes and handouts.

Most classes will begin with a short written or oral quiz on the latest vocabulary and grammar, then discussing the problems with their homework.

Students will regularly be given specially prepared grammar and vocabulary handouts to use apart from the fundamental course book. Other readings, visual and audio materials will also be used during the classes.

The Session will be concluded with a final revision and a consultation followed by a final written exam.

The course book

authentic documents, videos, podcasts

Course Outline

Topics and proportion are subject to change according to the learners' previous knowledge, actual needs and fields of interest. Students will be informed of any modifications.

Week 1 – Holiday

Past tenses

Week 2 – Shopping, services

Week 3 – Shopping, services

Experiences,

Week 4 – Work and society

Week 5 – Technology, AI

Areas, specific terms, neologisms

Week 6 – Technology, AI

Areas, Neologisms

Debate

Week 7 – Man and society

Futur, futur antérieur

Debate

Week 8 – Arts, Trends

Debate

Week 9 – Final Revision-consultation

Week 10 – Written test, Evaluation

SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Grammar, Vocabulary

Marie-Pierre Caqueneau-Gündüz etc. : *Les 500 exercices de grammaire B2*. Hachette, 2007.

Maïa Grégoire, Odile Thiévenaz (etc) : *Grammaire progressive du français intermédiaire* 4e édition. CLE international, 2019.

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Claire Miquel : *Vocabulaire progressif du français - Niveau avancé*. 3e édition. CLE international, 2018.

2. Dictionaries

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<https://www.arte.tv/fr/>

<https://www.youtube.com/c/arteplus7fr>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/ARTE>

COURSE SYLLABUS

French Upper Intermediate 3

2026-2027 Spring Session

Center for Academic Writing – Foreign Languages

Central European University (CEU)

Instructor (s): Patrícia BETÁK PhD

E-mail address: betak.patricia@gmail.com

Level: Upper Intermediate 3

Number of sessions: 12 (2x100 min./week)

Schedule: Tuesday and Thursday 19.25-21.05

For Pass/Fail or Grade

Open to all CEU students, alumni, faculty, staff and visitors

Course Description

French is spoken on six continents and has a centuries-long history as an international language of literature, culture, diplomacy and science. French is the primary or second language of many international organizations. The aim of the course is to improve the learners' oral and written communication, pronunciation, reading and listening comprehension skills during structured and dynamic classes and through a wide variety of tasks and exercises, together with authentic readings, visual and audio materials.

Prerequisite: French Upper Intermediate 1/2 or Placement test.

Goals and Learning Outcomes

- The Upper Intermediate course focuses on developing reading, writing, listening and speaking skills as well as grammar.
- In addition, there is an increased focus on cultural knowledge : students will get insight into several features of the French speaking world.
- Development of strong conversational skills and of essay writing.
- The vocabulary and structures necessary to the exposition of more abstract thought and ideas, and the discussion of political, social, cultural and economic issues.
- Main conversation topics include: talking about literature, arts, economics, politics, and cultural aspects of the French speaking world.

Course Requirements and Assessment

Regular attendance (**at least 10 sessions out of 12**) is mandatory.

The students' performance will be assessed, on a PASS/FAIL or GRADE basis, through

1. active participation in class
2. completion of required written and oral assignments and
3. end of the term test.

Terminal grade: 20% quizzes/assignments, 60% class performance, 20% final exam.

Format

Teaching will be done through Teams + a Google drive folder containing class notes and handouts.

Most classes will begin with a short written or oral quiz on the latest vocabulary and grammar, then discussing the problems with their homework.

Students will regularly be given specially prepared grammar and vocabulary handouts to use apart from the fundamental course book. Other readings, visual and audio materials will also be used during the classes.

The Session will be concluded with a final revision and a consultation followed by a final written exam.

The course book

authentic documents, videos, podcasts

Course Outline

Topics and proportion are subject to change according to the learners' previous knowledge, actual needs and fields of interest. Students will be informed of any modifications.

Week 1 – Information and communication technologies

Week 2 – Information and communication technologies

Week 3 – Economics and Politics

Week 4 – Economics and Politics

Week 5 – Arts, literature

Week 6 – Revision

Written test and evaluation

SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Grammar, Vocabulary

Marie-Pierre Caqueneau-Gündüz etc. : *Les 500 exercices de grammaire B2*. Hachette, 2007.

Maïa Grégoire, Odile Thiévenaz (etc) : *Grammaire progressive du français intermédiaire* 4e édition. CLE international, 2019.

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Claire Miquel : *Vocabulaire progressif du français - Niveau avancé*. 3e édition. CLE international, 2018.

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