

Foundation Year in **INTENSIVE FRENCH**

COURSE CATALOGUE FOR THE 2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

Designed for non-French-speaking students, the Foundation programme in Intensive French provides students with the linguistic and academic skills they need to be enrolled in undergraduate studies in French.

The programme is offered over a period of one to four semesters, depending on the students' level of French and performance.



Intensive French

Programme Code: 4-DP-INFR

Level: Foundation year

Credits and Duration: 0 credits taken over 1 semester, 1 year, 1.5 years or 2 years.

Delivery Language: French

Learning Outcomes

PLO 1	Demonstrate an understanding of French grammar, vocabulary, cultural insights.
PLO 2	Communicate effectively orally and in writing.
PLO 3	Analyse spoken and written texts in French.
PLO 4	Synthesise information from various sources in French.

Foundation Year in Intensive French

Academic calendar 2025-2026

AUGUST

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- 25-27 Aug: DU catch-up
- 27 Aug: French placement test for non beginners
- 25-31 Aug: Orientation week

SEPTEMBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

- 1 Sep: Start of Semester 1 for FLE
- 4 Sep: Prophet Muhammad's Birthday
- 29 Sept: Start of Semester 1 for FLE Evening classes

OCTOBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

- 13-17 Oct: Semester 1 Break for all FLE students (Morning and Evening classes)

NOVEMBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

- 5 Nov: Astrolabe Career Fair

DECEMBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

- 1 Dec: Commemoration Day
- 2-3 Dec: UAE National Day
- 11 Dec: SUAD Networking Night
- 15 Dec-11: Jan Winter Break
- 25 Dec: Christmas Day

JANUARY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

- 1 Jan: New Year
- 12: All faculty report / Semester 1 resume for FLE students
- 19-23 Jan: Semester 1 exams for FLE students
- 26 Jan: Start of Semester 2 for FLE students (Morning and Evening classes)

FEBRUARY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	1

- 11 Feb: Employability Day
- 16 Feb: Start of Holy Month of Ramadan

MARCH

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
23	24	25	26	27	28	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- 18-21 Mar: Eid Al Fitr
- 23 Mar-5 Apr: Spring Break

APRIL

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

MAY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- 1 May: Labor Day (Day off)
- 26 May: Arafat's Day
- 27-29 May: Eid Al Adha

JUNE

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

- 12 June: End of classes for all FLE students
- 15-19 June: Revision for FLE students
- 17 June: Islamic New Year
- 22-26 June: Semester 2 exams for FLE students
- 29 June: End of Academic Year for FLE Students

- Classes
- Academic Holiday
- University summer closure
- Orientation week
- Revision Week
- Exam period

All National & Religious Holidays are tentative and subject to change

Programme Overview:

The Foundation Year in Intensive French is designed to assist students acquire French proficiency and develop academic skills. The programme is delivered over one to four semesters (Fall and Spring) depending on students' level in French, academic profile and performance.

The French as a Foreign Language (FLE) department provides non-French speaking students with the French language education that they need to succeed academically and professionally. Dedicated to preparing students for an undergraduate degree in French, this programme ensures that the students have the required language level whilst providing vital insight into French Higher Education.

The courses focus on each of the four skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking with an emphasis on vocabulary and grammar development. They promote intercultural awareness through the discovery of the French and Francophone cultures and civilisations. Students also attend methodology courses and get familiarised with academic methods and techniques, such as note-taking and research writing. The ICTE (Information and Communication Technology for Education) course provides a stimulating learning experience and aims to develop students' digital literacy skills through language learning. The programme offers also a big variety of elective courses such as cinema, film analysis, theatre, creative writing, singing, mobile learning, debate club, etc.

The curricula are developed in line with the objectives and the levels as described in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The courses are delivered by a team of qualified professors specialised in teaching French as a Foreign Language (FLE). Upon successful completion of the Foundation Year, students sit the University Diploma in Intensive French (DU), which demonstrates that they have the appropriate level of French Proficiency for admission to an undergraduate programme taught in French.

Intake	Programme Duration	
Late January	One semester (Spring)	Intermediate students of B1- level may undertake one semester and sit the DU exams at the end of the academic year (June).
September	Two semesters (Fall and Spring)	Beginners may undertake one year of Intensive French and sit the DU exams at the end of the academic year (June).
Late January	Three semesters (Spring Y1, Fall Y2, Spring Y2)	Beginners may undertake one year and half of Intensive French and sit the DU exams at the end of the second academic year (June).
September	Four semesters (Fall Y1, Spring Y1, Fall Y2, Spring Y2)	Beginners may undertake two years of Intensive French and sit the DU exams at the end of the second academic year (June).

Programme Structure:

Beginner Groups (1-14)	Course code	Course name	Coefficients	Hours
	INFR-A10	Français général	5	11
	INFR-A11	Production écrite	2	1.5
	INFR-A12	Compréhension orale	1	1
	INFR-A13	Compréhension écrite	1	1.5
	INFR-A14	Production orale	1	1.5
	INFR-A15	Grammaire	1	1.5
	INFR-A16	Phonétique et lecture	1	1
	INFR-A17	FLE et TICE	1	1
	INFR-A18	Civilisation	1	1.5
Total hours				21.5

Intermediate Groups (15-19)	Course code	Course name	Coefficients	Hours
	INFR-B30	Français général	5	9
	INFR-B31	Production écrite	2	1.5
	INFR-B32	Compréhension orale	1	1
	INFR-B33	Compréhension écrite	1	1.5
	INFR-B34	Production orale	1	1.5
	INFR-B35	Grammaire	1	1.5
	INFR-B37	Phonétique	1	1
	INFR-B38	Civilisation	1	1.5
	INFR-B39	Atelier	1	1.5
Total hours				20

Programme Structure:

	Course code	Course name	Coefficients	Hours
Two-year Groups (20-22)	INFR-V00	Français général	5	10
	INFR-V01	Production écrite	2	1.5
	INFR-V02	Compréhension orale	1	1
	INFR-V03	Compréhension écrite	1	1.5
	INFR-V04	Production orale	1	1.5
	INFR-V05	Grammaire	1	1.5
	INFR-V06	Phonétique et lecture	1	1
	INFR-V07	FLE et TICE	1	1
	INFR-V08	Civilisation	1	1.5
	Total hours			

Syllabi Courses

Foundation Year - Beginner Groups

Course code and title	INFR-A10 – <i>Français général</i>
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	163
Course description	<p>This introductory French course (Français général) is designed for complete beginners and aims to help students achieve CEFR Level A1. While all four language skills are addressed, the primary focus is on building a solid foundation in grammar and vocabulary to support accurate and meaningful communication. Students will learn to understand and use common expressions, talk about themselves and others, and exchange basic information. Through structured activities, students will develop the linguistic tools needed to interact in everyday situations. This course prepares students for further study in French and is open to learners from any academic background. No prior knowledge is required.</p>
Evaluation	100% CA, 100% FA

Course code and title	INFR-A11 – <i>Production écrite</i>
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	21
Course description	This course is designed for beginner learners (CEFR levels A1–A2) and aims to develop their written communication skills in French. Through guided activities and structured writing tasks, students will learn to summarise information, write short personal texts, and adapt their writing according to purpose and audience. The course covers everyday topics such as family, food, travel, and professional life, and supports learners in producing simple messages, emails, descriptions, and forms. Emphasis is placed on vocabulary acquisition, sentence structure, and coherence, enabling learners to complete common written tasks with clarity and accuracy.
Evaluation	100% CA: 90% 2 or 3 Writing tests + 10% Classwork, 100% FA

Course code and title	INFR-A12 – <i>Compréhension orale</i>
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	14
Course description	<p>This course is designed for beginner students (CEFR levels A1–A2) and aims to develop essential listening comprehension skills for understanding simple spoken French in familiar contexts. Students will learn to apply listening strategies that help them recognise key information such as names, dates, numbers, and familiar vocabulary.</p> <p>The course focuses on short and clear audio materials (e.g., announcements, conversations, interviews, testimonials, news reports), delivered at a moderate pace. Students will practice identifying the topic and main ideas, extracting specific details, and responding to basic questions based on what they hear.</p> <p>To promote realistic language exposure, learners will be introduced to a variety of French accents and speech styles. Through guided activities, they will progressively become more confident in processing oral input, especially in classroom and everyday life situations. Listening tasks will include matching, multiple-choice questions, short answer exercises, and note-taking activities, all aligned with A1–A2 comprehension descriptors.</p>
Evaluation	100% CA: 45% Reading comprehension test no. 1 + 45% Reading comprehension test no. 2 + 10% Mock test, 100% FA

Course code and title	INFR-A13 – Compréhension écrite
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	21
Course description	<p>This introductory course is designed for students enrolled in the Foundation Year in Intensive French and corresponds to CEFR levels A1 to A2. It aims to develop essential reading skills by guiding learners through simple, authentic or adapted texts such as public notices, short messages, signs, advertisements, and brief narratives relevant to everyday life.</p> <p>At the A1 level, students will learn to recognise familiar words and phrases, identify key information in predictable contexts, and understand short, formulaic texts. As they progress toward A2, they will begin to interpret slightly longer texts, distinguish between common text types, and understand the main ideas of short, structured passages.</p> <p>The course emphasises the use of basic reading strategies such as scanning for information, identifying the communicative purpose of a text, and using visual and linguistic cues to aid comprehension. By the end of the course, students are expected to read short texts with greater independence and apply these strategies with increasing confidence in both academic and real-life situations.</p>
Evaluation	100% CA: 45% Reading comprehension test no. 1 + 45% Reading comprehension test no. 2 + 10% Classwork (test in class), 100% FA

Course code and title	INFR-A14 – <i>Production orale</i>
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	22.5
Course description	<p>This course is designed for beginner learners at CEFR levels A1 to A2 and aims to develop their oral communication skills through practical, structured, and progressive speaking tasks. The course guides students from basic spoken interaction (A1), such as introducing oneself, giving personal information, and asking simple questions, to more developed exchanges (A2), including expressing preferences, making suggestions, asking for and giving directions, and describing familiar topics.</p> <p>Learners will engage in realistic and culturally relevant situations, such as shopping, attending appointments, discussing personal health, family life, daily routines, and planning leisure activities. Emphasis is placed on improving fluency, pronunciation, and confidence when speaking in French.</p> <p>A wide range of oral tasks will be used—including role-plays, guided dialogues, collaborative projects, and presentations—to enable students to interact effectively and appropriately in everyday contexts. The course supports the acquisition of thematic vocabulary (e.g., food, housing, transport, clothing, professions) and basic grammatical structures necessary for functional communication. It also fosters intercultural awareness by incorporating authentic materials and scenarios from Francophone environments.</p>
Evaluation	100% CA: 50% Presentation and projects + 50% A2 DELF-type exam, 100% FA

Course code and title	INFR-A15 – Grammaire
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	22.5
Course description	<p>This course is intended for beginner students at CEFR levels A1 to A2 and focuses on the fundamental grammatical structures of the French language in both written and spoken contexts. It is designed to support and complement the General French course by reinforcing essential grammar points through targeted instruction, guided practice, and communicative tasks.</p> <p>Students will progressively acquire and apply core grammatical features such as verb conjugations in present and past tenses, sentence structure, negation, pronouns, and agreement rules. Emphasis is placed on accuracy, clarity, and consistency in simple sentence production, both orally and in writing.</p> <p>The course includes continuous assessments and interactive activities to develop students' ability to recognise, understand, and use basic grammatical forms in everyday communication. It meets for three hours per week, divided into two 1.5-hour sessions.</p>
Evaluation	100% CA: 30% Test no. 1 + 30% Test no. 2 + 30% Test no. 3 + 10% Participation in class and classwork, 100% FA

Course code and title	INFR-A16 – <i>Phonétique et lecture</i>
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	15
Course description	<p>This course is designed for beginner-level learners (CEFR A1–A2) and aims to develop foundational phonetic and reading skills in French. Through progressive and guided instruction, students will explore the sounds of the French language, including the alphabet, vowel and consonant combinations, liaison, intonation, rhythm, and expressive reading. Students will learn to recognise and reproduce French sounds, distinguish between similar phonemes, and apply pronunciation rules in both guided reading and spontaneous speech. They will develop strategies to improve fluency, accuracy, and expressiveness when reading aloud. The course incorporates digital and laboratory tools (e.g., Sanako software, online quizzes, audio resources) to provide regular practice, reinforcement, and personalised feedback. By the end of the course, students will be able to read short adapted and unfamiliar texts aloud with clear pronunciation, appropriate rhythm, and basic expressive intonation.</p>
Evaluation	100% CA

Course code and title	INFR-A17 – <i>FLE et TICE</i>
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	15
Course description	<p>This course explores the integration of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in French language learning. It introduces students to a diverse range of digital tools and resources, including audio recordings, multimedia-based activities, and AI-powered educational chatbots designed to enhance both oral and written skills. Emphasis is placed on the acquisition of new linguistic structures and the development of communicative competence in authentic, technology-enhanced contexts. In parallel, the course fosters digital literacy in French, enabling learners to confidently navigate, evaluate, and use digital environments for language learning purposes.</p>
Evaluation	100% CA

Course code and title	INFR-A18 – <i>Civilisation</i>
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	21
Course description	This course introduces beginner-level students (CEFR A1–A2) to key aspects of French and Francophone civilisation. It covers cultural themes such as geography, traditions, gastronomy, art, literature, famous personalities, and media. The course aims to develop students' ability to understand short and simple texts or oral inputs when delivered at a slow and clear pace. Students will learn to recognise and name cultural figures and landmarks, describe basic aspects of French and Francophone traditions, and compare them to their own. They will also practice expressing personal opinions using guided vocabulary and participate in short class discussions or presentations with appropriate support. The course encourages intercultural awareness and reflection, using visual materials, collaborative projects, and structured activities tailored to the linguistic needs of A1–A2 learners.
Evaluation	100% CA: 50% Weekly short tests + 20% Homework + 10% In-class participation + 20% Oral presentation

Syllabi Courses

Foundation Year - Intermediate Groups

Course code and title	INFR-B30 – Français général
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	134
Course description	<p>The objective of this course is to help students achieve the B1 level, as defined by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The B1 level competences include a variety of competences, such as the sociolinguistic, linguistic and pragmatic competence.</p> <p>For this course, the teacher will use a textbook and a workbook as their main support. Students are required to bring both books to each class. The teacher will check students' progress in various ways, as specified in the syllabus.</p> <p>To achieve the set A2 level, students are required to actively participate during classes, and it will include:</p> <p>Socio-cultural: Introduce yourself for a job – talk about your family and your health – change your life - manage a conflict situation - understand the French-speaking media.</p> <p>Communication: Express needs and desires – give instructions – ask an appointment and information – write an invitation – say that you agree or disagree - learn argumentation.</p> <p>Grammar: Almost all verbal tenses All types of pronouns The use of linking words How to write complex sentences</p>
Evaluation	100% CA: 80% Weekly unit tests and common test + 10% Homework + 10% In-class participation, 100% FA

Course code and title	INFR-B31 – <i>Production écrite</i>
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	22.5
Course description	By the end of the course, learners will be able to understand texts from various media and sources, extract key information, and produce written texts that align with levels A2–B1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). Topics include: travel, cultural events, means of transportation, physical and personality traits, media and social networks, professional skills, art, fashion, housing, social engagement, and administrative procedures.
Evaluation	100% CA: 45% Production écrite no. 1 (120 words) + 45% Production écrite no. 2 (150 words) + 10% Participation in class and classwork, 100% FA

Course code and title	INFR-B32 – <i>Compréhension orale</i>
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	14
Course description	This course focuses on developing students' listening comprehension skills in French at the A2 level. Designed for learners with basic prior knowledge of French, the course aims to improve understanding of everyday spoken French in familiar contexts such as personal life, travel, and simple work-related situations. Students will engage with a variety of audio materials to identify key information, recognise common expressions, and follow short conversations. The course supports progress toward greater communicative competence and prepares students for further study at the B1 level. Active listening and regular participation are essential expectations.
Evaluation	100% CA: 45% Common test no. 1 + 45% Common test no. 2 + 5% Mock exam no. 1 + 5% Mock exam no. 2, 100% FA

Course code and title	INFR-B33 – Compréhension écrite
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	21
Course description	<p>This course will guide the learners through the strategies to identify, recognise, and extract useful and essential information in articles, texts and literary excerpts. I will reinforce vocabulary and grammatical structures covered in general French language classes and include a strong focus on reading comprehension. By the end of the course, learners will be able to understand texts from a variety of media and sources and extract key information effectively. Topics covered include: travelling, cultural events, mode of transportation, physical and personality traits, media and social networks, professional skills, art, fashion, housing, civic engagement and administrative procedures.</p>
Evaluation	100% CA: 45% Common test no. 1 + 45% Common test no. 2 + 10% Test conducted in class, 100% FA

Course code and title	INFR-B34 – <i>Production orale</i>
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	22.5
Course description	<p>This course will focus on speaking skills pertaining to daily life situations encountered in French speaking countries, in accordance with the level A2 as defined by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The course will include the vocabulary and grammar structures covered in General French classes in order to apply the language material in speaking situations. This course covers the concepts and theories related to the learning of skills that include:</p> <p>Socio-cultural skills: Organise an event - comment on information read in the media - tell an anecdote, a personal story - talk about your personal background, your qualities - discuss and choose a type of trip - give your appreciation of a work of art - take administrative steps to improve accommodation.</p> <p>Communication skills: Thank and apologise - ask for details - explain a project - justify a choice - express a difficulty - give advice - describe an emotion, a feeling - express dissatisfaction - express an obligation.</p>
Evaluation	100% CA: 50% Projects + 50% Mock test Mi-DU, 100% FA

Course code and title	INFR-B35 – Grammaire
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	22.5
Course description	This grammar course is designed for learners at the A2 level who have a basic foundation in French. The course aims to strengthen students' understanding and use of essential grammatical structures necessary for everyday communication. Key topics include the present, past, and future tenses, noun-adjective agreement, pronouns, question formation, and prepositions. Through contextualised exercises, students will develop greater accuracy and confidence in both spoken and written French. This course supports the development of communicative competence and prepares students for more advanced study. Regular practice and active participation are expected throughout.
Evaluation	100% CA: 30% Test no. 1 + 30% Test no. 2 + 30% Test no. 3 + 10% Participation in class and classwork, 100% FA

Course code and title	INFR-B37 – Phonétique
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	14
Course description	The purpose of this course is to become familiar with the French sounds, pronunciation and rhythm. Throughout this course, students will learn the characteristics of the French language. They will face their first difficulties in memorising new sounds and words. They will also learn how to read in French. In an Intermediate level, they will focus on the subtleties of the language and discover the natural way to read and speak in French in daily life.
Evaluation	100% CA

Course code and title	INFR-B38 – <i>Civilisation</i>
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	21
Course description	This intermediate-level French course explores the diverse cultures of France and Francophone countries through the study of cities, regions, art, literature, geography, and history. Students will strengthen language skills while learning to critically analyse and compare cultural elements with their own. Through standardised language and interactive discussions, students will express opinions, narrate experiences, and engage in conversations on civilisation topics. The course is designed for learners with prior foundational knowledge in French and aims to deepen both linguistic competence and intercultural understanding, preparing students to interact meaningfully with French-speaking communities and content.
Evaluation	100% CA

Course code and title	INFR-B39 – <i>Atelier - Écrire en français avec des auteurs non-natifs</i>
Instructor	Karine Germoni
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	21
Course description	This workshop will enable students to discover and write with authors who write in French even though it's not their mother tongue. We'll look at their linguistic itinerary and ask why / for what reason they write in French, and how their French is nourished, altered or hybridised by the other languages composing their linguistic repertoire. Each class session will be devoted to reading and analysing text extracts, followed by creative writing activities. This workshop is particularly interesting for FLE students, as it enables them to reflect not only on their own relationship with the French language, but also on their relations with the other languages (Arabic, English, etc.) they know and practice.
Evaluation	100% CA

Course code and title	INFR-B39 – Atelier - Écriture et métavers
Instructor	Théry Béord
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	21
Course description	This workshop is designed to develop students' writing skills through immersive experiences in the metaverse. Each week, students will explore a new theme using Virtual Reality environments, which will serve as narrative contexts for the creation of short written texts.
Evaluation	100% CA

Course code and title	INFR-B39 – Atelier - Parler comme un natif
Instructor	Tifany Bourdeau
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	21
Course description	In this workshop, learners will become familiar with French as it is spoken by native speakers. Through listening comprehension activities featuring authentic interactions, the specificities of spoken French, such as pronunciation, syntax and vocabulary variations will be explored. Each session will focus on one of the specificities of spoken French (for instance, the elision of e) which will be analysed in context. At the end of the semester, learners will have the chance to apply what they have learned by talking with native speakers invited for the occasion. The aim of this workshop is to help learners understand better French native speakers when they talk and to be more confident when interacting.
Evaluation	100% CA: 20% Presentation + 20% Reading + 20% Listening comprehension quiz, 40% FA (Interaction with native speakers)

Course code and title	INFR-B39 – Atelier - Production cinéma
Instructor	Emilie Crocq Othman
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	21
Course description	This course is a workshop to enhance student's productivity skills in French through the creating of a short movie. The course guides students through classic aspects of directing a short movie for a part 1 (writing filming acting editing) and explores AI-generated storytelling for a part 2.
Evaluation	100% CA

Course code and title	INFR-B39 – Atelier - Pratiquer l'oral en contexte : de la salle de classe à la vraie vie
Instructor	Clémence Wiley
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	21
Course description	<p>This workshop provides students with a vital opportunity to engage in active oral exchanges on subjects drawn from everyday life. The curriculum is designed to help participants rapidly master conversational French, allowing them to express themselves with greater fluency and autonomy. Each session addresses a specific, practical theme crucial for navigating daily interactions:</p> <p>Practical Transactions: Covering functional language needed for purchases, booking appointments, inquiries, etc.</p> <p>Interaction and Opinion Sharing: Developing skills to participate in discussions, voice personal viewpoints, and respond to others effectively.</p> <p>Assertiveness and Argumentation: Focusing on techniques for defending a position, asserting oneself clearly, and structuring an argument.</p>
Evaluation	100% CA: 60% Role-playing game + 30% Oral presentation + 10% Active participation

Course code and title	INFR-B39 – <i>Atelier - Le grand oral</i>
Instructor	Alexis Collet et Ludivine Prenez
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	21
Course description	The Grand Oral of Sorbonne Abu Dhabi is an event organised by students of the French Foreign Language (FLE) department of the University. It aims at improving students' linguistic and communicative skills and at promoting their intercultural knowledge. The ultimate goal is for the students to realise an interview of a renowned French-speaking personality of the local community in front of a wide francophone audience. The topics covered differ with each specific guest but mainly focus on curriculum vitae studies, career paths analysis and professional experiences.
Evaluation	100% CA

Syllabi Courses

Foundation Year - Groups Villes (2-year programme)

Course code and title	INFR-V00 – Français général
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	150
Course description	<p>The purpose of this course is to study French and work on 4 main skills:</p> <p>Socio-cultural: Introduce yourself and others – Greet someone – do shopping – get dressed – introduce yourself for a job – talk about your family and your health – change your life.</p> <p>Communication: Communicate in class – wish something to someone - express needs and desires – give instructions – ask an appointment and information – write an invitation – say that you agree or disagree.</p> <p>Grammar: Subject and tonic pronouns – The articles “le, la, les” , “un, une, des” , “du, de la, de l'” – adjectives of nationalities – the verbs “être”, “avoir”, “s’appeler”, “faire”, “vouloir”, “aller”, “aimer, adorer, détester”, “mettre”, “devoir”, “pouvoir”, pronominal verbs, - the negation “ne..pas” and “ne...plus” – possessive adjectives – the comparison – the tenses: “futur proche, passé composé, imparfait, passé récent, impératif”, the questions and words for questions, the demonstrative pronouns, the relative pronouns “qui, que”, the demonstrative adjectives, the COD pronouns, the place of the adjectives, prepositions of place and time.</p> <p>Vocabulary: professions, - colors – numbers – names of countries – some feelings – sports – leisure – outings and time – the weather – places in the city and transportation – the shops and clothes – the fashion and the music – Daily activities and description of persons – the family and the house – the body and the health – the social network.</p>
Evaluation	100% CA: 20% Individual projects + 20% Quizzes + 20% Presentations + 20% Group projects + 10% Case studies + 10% Peer assessments

Course code and title	INFR-V01 – <i>Production écrite</i>
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	21
Course description	<p>This course focuses on improving learners' writing skills in French, progressing from A1 to A2 level. It will help learners develop and strengthen their language skills to write short sentences and, later, complete short texts on a variety of everyday topics and situations. The course includes brainstorming vocabulary and grammar structures from General French classes and applying them in different writing tasks. Key topics will include French culture, family and friends, sports, food, travel, French-speaking countries, art, and technology. By the end of the course, learners will be able to produce short texts, write emails and letters, and fill out forms, in line with the objectives of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).</p>
Evaluation	100% CA: 45% Common test 1 + 45% Common test 2 + 10% Participation (homework and in-class writing tasks)

Course code and title	INFR-V02 – <i>Compréhension orale</i>
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	14
Course description	<p>The purpose of this course is to empower students with linguistic, sociolinguistic, and pragmatic skills that will enable them to become effective French communicators and listeners. For this purpose, it focuses essentially on active listening of short statements and simple speeches. In so doing, it deals with simple topics related to the students, their families, hobbies, studies, and immediate environment. Throughout this course, students should demonstrate their capacities to listen, understand, and answer appropriately to questions (quiz). Also, they should familiarise both with the French language and the francophone cultures (accents, habits, practices, etc.) through the usage of authentic documents as well. Therefore, this course is designed to help students enhancing their listening skills in order to accomplish their tasks in the different contexts, domains, and situations of communications where they may find themselves. Topics include: introducing oneself; talking about one's tastes, desires, eating habits, health, and wishes; expressing one's opinion, (dis)agreement; describing people, weather, things; organising parties, etc. By the end of this course, students should be able to pass their Mi-DU exam.</p>
Evaluation	50% CA, 50% FA

Course code and title	INFR-V03 – Compréhension écrite
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	21
Course description	The reading comprehension course is designed above all to reinvest the vocabulary studied during the general French course with the textbook L'Atelier. To do this, learners will study texts accompanied by questions. The texts used in the course will be in accordance with the level A1 as defined by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). They will also learn the techniques of text analysis and best strategies to adopt in order to succeed in the evaluation. Upon completion of the course, learners will be able to understand, interpret texts from different medias and sources, and they will be able to extract main information.
Evaluation	100% CA: 45% Common test no. 1 + 45% Common test no. 2 + 10% Participation (homework + in-class writing)

Course code and title	INFR-V04 – <i>Production orale</i>
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	22.5
Course description	<p>This course will enable learners to develop their speaking skills from level A1 to A2, dealing with everyday life topics. This course will encourage them to develop their linguistic skills to express themselves in a variety of situations ranging from presenting a friend to booking a room for a vacation or expressing their discontent at a restaurant. Learners will acknowledge social and cultural codes and habits as well such as greetings in different contexts (on the phone, at the train station, at the local grocery store, etc). This course will promote interpersonal communication skills, leading students to communicate in between themselves in an effective way. More precisely, the lexical areas covered will include (professions – colors – numbers – names of countries – some feelings – sports – leisure – outings and time – the weather – places in the city and transportation – the shops and clothes – the fashion and the music – daily activities and description of persons – the family and the house – the body and the health – the social network).</p>
Evaluation	100% CA: 10% Participation in class + 40% Individual interview 1 + 50% Individual interview 2

Course code and title	INFR-V05 – Grammaire
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	22.5
Course description	This grammar course is designed to reinvest the grammatical and structural points studied during the general French course with the Atelier A1 textbook. The aim is to ensure that each student correctly grasps the concepts and is able to reuse them in context. The learner sometimes takes the place of the teacher to re-explain the point and ensure understanding, systematisation exercises accompany each notion and games to practice the latter are carried out individually or in groups. The entire session is built around the action-oriented perspective proposed by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), level B1.
Evaluation	100% CA: 30% Test no. 1 + 30% Test no. 2 + 30% Test no. 3 + 10% Attendance and participation

Course code and title	INFR-V06 – Phonétique et lecture
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	14
Course description	The purpose of this course is to become familiar with the French sounds, pronunciation and rhythm. Throughout this course, students will learn the French alphabet, the characteristics of the French language. They will face their first difficulties in memorising new sounds and words. And also, they will learn how to read in French. Topics include: alphabet, French accents, few elements of grammar, the syllables and how to connect words in a sentence. By the end of this course, the students should be able to read a text by themselves using different rules of reading including rhythm and connexions.
Evaluation	100% CA

Course code and title	INFR-V07 – FLE et TICE
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	15
Course description	This course explores the integration of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in French language learning. It introduces students to a diverse range of digital tools and resources, including audio recordings, multimedia-based activities, and AI-powered educational chatbots designed to enhance both oral and written skills. Emphasis is placed on the acquisition of new linguistic structures and the development of communicative competence in authentic, technology-enhanced contexts. In parallel, the course fosters digital literacy in French, enabling learners to confidently navigate, evaluate, and use digital environments for language learning purposes.
Evaluation	100% CA

Course code and title	INFR-V08 – Civilisation
Instructor	FLE lecturers
Date	Semestrial
Course format	Weekly class
Contact hours	21
Course description	This beginner-level course introduces students to key elements of French and Francophone civilisation, including geography, gastronomy, traditions, famous people, and cultural contributions. While exploring these topics, students will gradually develop their French language skills through guided vocabulary, simple structures, and oral practice. Instruction is primarily in French, with visual aids, classroom interaction, and project-based learning to support comprehension and participation. This course is designed for complete beginners in French and aims to build both cultural awareness and foundational communicative competence from the ground up.
Evaluation	100% CA: 80% Weekly tests + 10% Oral presentation + 10% Participation

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