

**Fall 2011 UC Center Program in French and European Studies
PCC 12B – Beginning Grammar and Conversation**

Pamela Diaz

M, W, TH
9 am- 10:30 am

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Office Hours
Wednesday 10:30 - 1:30

COURSE MATERIALS

Jansma, K., *Motifs: An Introduction to French*, Heinle, 5th Edition, 2011

COURSE OBJECTIVES & REQUIREMENTS

Introduction

This beginner's French class builds on the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills emphasized in the practicum. We will cover Modules 5-10. To immerse you in the language, **only French will be spoken in class**. Lessons will be explained in French during class, where you will have a chance to immediately put them to use, but in the evening you will have the opportunity to review everything covered in class with the textbook. Make sure to read the grammar explanations attentively, and to start studying the vocabulary immediately. Try keeping a note-card in your pocket with vocabulary, as you can easily review this when you are in the metro or waiting in line at the supermarket. Lessons will be reviewed at the beginning of the following class, so you will need to **be diligent**. Although you are not expected to understand every word, try to follow the gist by paying attention to context. You will find your comprehension increasing as the course progresses.

ATTENDANCE: Daily attendance is mandatory. This class will continue to move at a brisk pace. New topics with associated grammar and vocabulary will be presented every day. *Please carefully review the UC Study Center's policy on attendance and absences. Absences may only be excused for illness, in which case a doctor's note is required.* Any unexcused absence will automatically lower your final grade.

PARTICIPATION: 20% of your grade is based on your oral work in class, a combination of your proficiency and overall effort. Please note that participation also includes factors such as coming to class on time and prepared (i.e. having reviewed the previous lesson), having the book, paying attention to both the instructor and classmates, taking notes, asking relevant questions, making the effort to paraphrase in French for words you don't know, etc. Don't always wait to be called on. Initiate! Questions are always welcome. Follow up on the comments of others. Say the unexpected. Listen to your classmates so that you can ask questions and respond. Silently answer all questions, whether directed towards you or not. Your participation grade may go down for speaking English in class (even to answer a question with a translation), having side-conversations, coming to class late, not paying attention, or disrupting the lesson with irrelevant questions, etc.

HOMEWORK: Homework will be assigned, completed and collected regularly. Each day, you are expected to complete all of the exercises (unless otherwise indicated by the instructor) in the Structures section of the Module that correspond to the structures studied in class that day. These should be completed before the next class meeting. As part of the homework, you are also expected to study (i.e. memorize!) the relevant new vocabulary, and any new grammatical paradigms, for the next class meeting. You should be reading *both* the chapter sections covered *in class*, *and* the corresponding explanations at the *end* of the chapter. Every written assignment must include the following: your name, instructor's name, date, page(s) and exercise number. All exercises should be **written out neatly** (for ex., do not *only* give the exercise number and the letter for the answer in multiple choice exercises; *also* write out the sentences to practice writing in correct French). Answer keys to exercises can be found at the back of your textbook. You are expected to complete the exercises on your own first, and then immediately check the accuracy of your responses using the answer key at the end of the book, and correcting all errors with a different-colored pen. **In order to receive full credit (a score of 10), your homework must not**

only be complete but also corrected with the different-colored pen. Pay special attention to accents – they are not for decoration! Also look out for agreement (at the ends of words) and articles! (Caveat for shortcut-seekers: keep in mind that if your homework is perfect every time, I will expect your quizzes and exams to be of similar quality! If not I can only conclude you copied the key.) **NO LATE HOMEWORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Homework should be turned in at the beginning of class (leave it on the instructor’s desk as soon as you arrive) – anything handed afterwards will be considered late. Please note that other non-textbook, open-ended exercises may also be assigned throughout the semester to target problem areas.

COMPOSITIONS: Compositions are an opportunity for you to use French creatively, pulling together everything you have learned in class. An “A” composition will be accurate, thoroughly address the topic and express something unique about what you think and why. Do try to limit yourself to the grammatical structures and vocabulary learned in class so as not to lose points for structures you are not expected to know (paraphrasing will become a key skill!). Compositions are to be typed, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman (or similar) font, regular margins (1-1.25 inches.). Compositions will not be accepted electronically, so be sure to plan accordingly, as printers at the Accent center will often be in high demand just before class. Expect to do peer-editing and revisions of compositions. Corrections on essays will be provided when it is deemed impossible for the student to figure out how to express a specific idea; otherwise, grammatical errors will be circled and vocabulary errors underlined when students should be able to determine the correct form using the current or previous lessons. Please try to correct these using class notes and the textbook before coming to office hours with any questions (and do come to office hours to verify!).

QUIZZES and EXAM: There will be 4 quizzes throughout the semester (“interro” in French) and a final exam at the end. The final exam will be cumulative, addressing all of the grammatical structures discussed in class and practiced in homework exercises.

Grading

Attendance, participation	20%
Homework	10%
4 Compositions	25%
4 Quizzes (“interros”)	25%
Final Exam	20%

Grade Equivalences

97-100	A+	87-89	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+	0-59	F
94-96	A	84-86	B	74-76	C	64-66	D		
90-93	A-	80-83	B-	70-73	C-	60-63	D-		

PLAN DU COURS

semaine	lundi	mercredi	jeudi
1 (12 – 15 sept)	Récapitulation du Practicum ; Introduction : Module 5	5.1 & 5.2	5.1 & 5.2 (5.3)
2 (19 – 22 septembre)	5.3 – 5.5	5.3 – 5.5	Interro 1 : Module 5
3 (26 – 29 septembre)	Rendre Composition 1 ; Introduction : Module 6	6.1, 6.2 & 6.5	6.1, 6.2 & 6.5
4 (3 – 6 octobre)	6.3 & 6.4	6.3 & 6.4	Interro 2 : Module 6
5 (10 – 13 octobre)	Rendre Composition 2 ; Introduction : Module 7	7.1 – 7.4	7.1 – 7.4
6 (17 – 20 octobre)	7.5	Introduction : Module 8	8.1 & 8.5
7 (24 – 27 octobre)	8.1 & 8.5, 8.3	8.2 – 8.4	8.2 & 8.4
Vacances ! (31 octobre - 3 novembre)			
8 (7 – 10 novembre)	Interro 3 : Modules 7,8 ; Rendre Composition 3 ; Atelier d'écriture	Introduction : Module 9	9.1 & 9.2
9 (14 – 17 novembre)	9.1 & 9.2	9.3 & 9.4	9.3 – 9.5
10 (21 – 24 novembre)	9.5	10.1 & 10.2	10.1 & 10.2
11 (28 novembre – 1 décembre)	10.1 – 10.3	10.3 & 10.4	Interro 4 : Modules 9,10
12 (5 – 8 décembre)	Rendre Composition 4 ;	Rendre les révisions de	Révision générale

	Atelier d'écriture	la Composition 4	
13 (12 – 15 décembre)	Révision générale	Examen Final	Pot de fin du semestre

** Please note that the syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. If this should occur, students will be given prior notice.*