

FRCH 3213: French Phonetics and Pronunciation

CRN : 25141

SP 2020 – TR 2-3.15 – LAS L04

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Course description from catalogue

A scientific investigation of the French sound system including its principal phonemes and allophones. Phonetic transcription is included. Prerequisite(s): 14 hours of French.

Additional Course Information

In this course, we will explore the sound of the French language with the goal of improving oral language skills and correcting pronunciation. Students will learn the International Phonetic Alphabet and practice transcribing oral and written French into IPA in order to understand the differences in sounds, the use of the liaison, and the rhythm of French. Homework will involve listening and written exercises. The course requires attention to details, especially in the transcription system, in recognition of patterns, and in pronunciation. Although it is not a conversation course, this course will undoubtedly improve students' comprehension of the French language, their French spelling and their spoken French Phonetic transcription, syllabification, articulation of vowels, consonants and semivowels (with practical exercises aimed at training the ear and improving pronunciation and enunciation), contrastive analysis of French and English sounds, etc.

Required Text:

*D. Dansereau, '*Savoir Dire: cours de phonétique et de prononciation*'.

Course Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- transcribe French discourse using the International Phonetic Alphabet;
- use technical and semi-technical terminology related to the study of French phonetics
- demonstrate relationships between the French pronunciation and writing systems (through reading and transcribing IPA)
- appreciate differences between English and French sounds, intonation, and rhythm
- understand how each sound of the alphabet is pronounced by speakers of standard French
- identify and correct sounds and words that are difficult to produce
- identify the main uses of liaison
- demonstrate understanding of the role accents play in the pronunciation of French words

Transformational Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, it is expected that each student will achieve two goals of the central six (<http://www.uco.edu/central/tl/central6/index.asp>).

- **Discipline Knowledge** will be enhanced as students enhance their skill in and awareness of French pronunciation and tonality
- **Global and Cultural Competency** is addressed through discussion of the international elements of French vocabulary, various referents in a textual analysis, and the comparison of prosody in French and English.

Breakdown of Course Components

You can/should regularly monitor your grade on D2L. Your final grade will be based on the following criteria:

<u>Oral Activities</u>	<u>35%</u>		
• Oral exams	10%	A	90-100
• Final oral	10%	B	80-89
• Participation	15%	C	70-79
		D	60-69
		F	59 or below
<u>Written Work</u>	<u>55%</u>		
• 5 Quizzes	15%		
• Homework	10%		
• 3 Exams	25%		
• Final Exam	15%		

Assignment Overview

1. **Participation** will be evaluated based on a scale of 0-10 points, according to the rubric provided below. After each exam, that month's participation grade will be marked on D2L for you to consult.

The participation grade will be based on the following rubric:

- 9-10 Student is consistently present and participates actively in class, pays attention, and demonstrates that the assigned material has been read.
 - 7-8 Student is regularly present and participates in class, but it is obvious that the assigned material has not been read.
 - 5-6 Student is regularly present for the entire class but does not participate, pay attention, or demonstrate that the assigned material has been read.
 - 3-4 Student is not regularly present and/or does not demonstrate preparation of the assigned material.
 - 1-2 Student is present during half of the class meetings or less and does not demonstrate preparation of the material.
 - 0 Student is not present.
2. **Homework** – You will have several exercises and reading to complete each night. You will NOT become proficient in the IPA if you do not complete all of these assignments. It is easy to fall behind. The assignments are listed on each month's *emploi*, found on D2L.
 - Plan to do 2-3 hours of homework for each class meeting if your goal is an A or a B for the course. That does not guarantee an A or a B, but an A or B is not possible without doing *all the homework*. You need the practice, and sentences from homework turn up on exams.
 - Students who *work regularly* and do *every assignment* including all *oral exercises* score on average **10 points higher on exams** than those who cram for tests the night before. Put French in your calendar. Study with a buddy before exams. Establishing a routine improves grades.
 3. **Exams** – you will have 3 exams, one each month, in addition to a cumulative final exam. This will be based on rules of pronunciation, oral comprehension, and phonetic transcription. The final exam will be cumulative, but similar in content to the others.
 4. **In-Class quizzes** – these will be approximately 30 minutes long. Though individually they total a lot of points, you will see that combined, they only constitute 15% of your final grade. This means that the importance of these quizzes lies in checking for your understanding of concepts before completing the more heavily-weighted exams.
 5. **Oral exams** – You will have three individual oral exams with me during the semester. The first is non-graded and will establish a baseline from which to improve. Two additional orals will take place during the semester, then you will also have a final cumulative

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance Policy:

The oral component of this course is primary. In order to be considered present, you must arrive on time. You are permitted two “free” absence; any further absences will impact negatively on your grade; each absence will result in one full percentage point off of your final grade. Students who miss 6 classes will automatically fail the course.

Classroom Respect:

In order to maintain a positive learning environment, respect and professional courtesy are an essential part of the classroom. Students will not talk over other students or the teacher. It is important that everyone in the classroom be respectful of students’ questions and statements so that everyone may contribute to engaging discussions.

Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran’s status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationality. Class rosters are provided with the student’s legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of your preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records.

Late Work Policy:

Absolutely no late work will be accepted without **documentation** of a legitimate emergency or medical issue. If you receive accommodations for athletic, religious, or disability reasons, you must notify me the first week of class and all arrangements for make-up work **MUST** be made **in advance**, before the assignment or your absence.

Technology Policies:

- ***Absolutely no cell phones in class.*** They are distracting to me and to your classmates, and they are severely detrimental to your learning. If I see you on your cell phone in class, **I will mark you absent for the day.**
- You are expected to *check your UCO email at least once a day.* I will also use D2L to communicate important information and to give you quizzes. Log on regularly.
- **Technology issues** – Having problems with technology is **not** a legitimate excuse for late work. Throughout the semester, you will have quizzes on D2L and you will turn in papers through Dropbox on D2L. It is your responsibility to manage your time and complete assignments on time. If you don’t know how to use something, you must contact me in advance to sort out the issue. Your future employers will have the same expectations.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

1. Regents' Statement on Course Workload and Homework-OSRHE II-2-34

It is expected that a full-time college student will spend a minimum amount of time each week in class attendance and study out of class approaching a 40-hour work week. A person employed on a full time basis should not simultaneously expect to maintain a full-time academic schedule. At the undergraduate level, this means that for each hour in class, a student is expected to spend at least three (3) hours doing homework. For a three-credit class, a student is expected to spend nine (9) hours a week doing homework.

2. ADA Statement

The University of Central Oklahoma complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students with disabilities who need special accommodations must make their requests by contacting the Coordinator of Disability Support Services at (405) 974-2516. The DSS Office is located in the Nigh University Center 309. Students should also notify the instructor of special accommodation needs by the end of the first week of class.

3. Psychologically Safe Environment

In this class, each student's questions and ideas are valuable and will be respected. It is essential that a safe and comfortable environment be established to allow each student to question, challenge, and share ideas openly.

4. UCO Academic Integrity Statement

Your participation in this course comes with the expectation that your work will be completed in full observance of the UCO Student Code of Conduct to be downloaded at:

<http://www.uco.edu/student-affairs/conduct/files/codeofconduct.pdf>

***Note that the use of on-line translating programs to complete assignments constitutes a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.**

5. Academic Affairs' Student Information Sheet

The Student Information Sheet can be found (<http://www.uco.edu/academic-affairs/>) for information on general university policies and expectations.

Course Schedule Overview

Assignments for the course can be found in documents on D2L in the monthly folders, each schedule entitled “*emploi 1*”, “*emploi 2*” and “*emploi 3*.” These provide the daily homework exercises. It is your responsibility to check the current *emploi* and keep on top of the work. Answers for half the exercises (the odd numbers) are also posted on D2L.

You **must** check your answers against these while completing the homework so you can come prepared with questions. I will be checking completion of homework and corrections daily.

Here is the basic calendar of quizzes, exams, and orals:

- Quiz 1 – January 30
- Oral 1 – January 30 (establishes a benchmark for improvement and is not graded)
- Quiz 2 – February 13
- Oral 2 – February 20
- Exam 1 – February 25
- Quiz 3 – March 5
- Quiz 4 – March 12
- Exam 2 – March 26
- Oral 3 – March 26
- Quiz 5 – April 21
- Exam 3 – April 28
- Final Oral – April 27-30 (individual appointments outside class)
- Final Exam – Thursday May 7, 1-2.50pm