**French language II**

## Prof. Michela Murano

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

The course aims to train students in B1/B1 level oral and written skills of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. In addition, it aims to provide students with the linguistic and cultural skills that are suitable for the management of communication strategies in international professional contexts.

At the end of the course, students will be able to understand various types of informative and argumentative texts: essays, speeches and conferences on topics covered in class and television broadcasts on international current affairs.

ABILITY TO APPLY KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

At the end of the course, students will be able to express themselves orally in a clear and detailed way on a wide range of topics relating to professional communication in the international field and to international relations. Students will be able to present their points of view on current issues. With regard to writing skills, students will be able to summarize informative and argumentative texts, rephrase and translate short texts from French which are taken from press articles and information websites.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Professional communication in French in international contexts. French as the language of international relations.

Review and deepening of the following grammar topics: subordinate sentences; indirect speech; the formation and use of the subjunctive; the formation and use of gerund and present participle; the passive form of the verb; relative pronouns; personal pronouns, the pronouns ‘en’ and ‘y’; indefinite adjectives and pronouns.

Study of the specific lexicon of professional communication; job search/offer; activity planning; hierarchical relationships and organization chart; business meetings; events and conferences.

Written and oral comprehension activities on conferences, speeches, tv broadcasts on current news.

Written production of short texts: motivation letter, CV, email with professional content, summary, translation from French.

Oral production activities: presentation of a press review; analysis and commentary of argumentative texts (typology and rhetorical techniques).

***READING LIST***

Compulsory textbooks:

M. Soignet, *Le français des relations européennes et internationales B1 / B2 Objectif Diplomatie 2*, Hachette Français Langue Etrangère, Paris, 2011

The lecturer will provide a list of further texts/audio/videos and bibliographical references during the course and it will be published on the Blackboard page of the course.

Suggested monolingual dictionary:

*Le Petit Robert 2024* (ou éditions précédentes), Editions Le Robert, Paris.

Suggested textbooks:

For Italian native speakers:

F. Bidaud, *Grammaire du français pour italophones* (paper or digital version), 4e édition, UTET, Turin, 2020.

F. Bidaud, *Exercices de grammaire du français pour italophones* (paper or digital version), 4e édition, UTET, Turin, 2021.

For non-Italian speakers:

A. Akyuz, B. Bazelle-Shahmaei, J. Bonenfant, M.F. Orne-Gliemann, *Grammaire du français B1/B2*, collection *Focus*, Hachette FLE, Vanves, 2022.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lessons in French focusing on the course content. Written and oral comprehension and production activities with multimedia support and sources (audio/video). Lessons will take place in the classroom and in person. Attendance is strongly recommended for all students.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The written test (50% of the final mark) comprises several parts: 1. Morphosyntactic and lexical test; 2. Translation from French into Italian of a journalistic text; 3. Summary. The use of a monolingual dictionary is allowed only for the translation and the summary.

Evaluation criteria for translation and summary tests. The evaluation of the translation will take into consideration the following aspects: linguistic (understanding of the French language and correct translation); textual (appropriateness with respect to genre and context); stylistic (author’s style and linguistic register); terminological (knowledge and adequate use of specialized terms); referential (recipient and extralinguistic elements) aspects. The summary will be evaluated according to the following criteria: clarity and formal correctness; summary of information and topics.

The oral exam (50% of the final mark) is divided into two parts: 1. Presentation of a press review prepared by the student (25% of the final mark); 2. Discussion with the professor on one or more written text/audio/video studied during the course (25% of the final mark).

Evaluation criteria of the oral exam. In the two parts of the exam the advanced knowledge of the French language, the quality of argumentation, time management, knowledge of the texts and of the cultural contexts of production will be assessed. In particular, the following the following points will be assessed in the presentation of the press review: ability to refer to the chosen texts and to link them, pertinence of the answer to the questions by the lecturer, in-depth reflection on the chosen topic. In the discussion on the argumentative texts, the argumentative organization of the text will be assessed (structuring in parts, distribution and typology of arguments, syntactic and lexical choices).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

In order to be able to follow the course, students must have a level comparable to B1 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages before the start of the course. The exam ‘French Language 1’ (Se.L.d’A course or other equivalent university exam) is preparatory to the course’ French language 2’ for students of the Faculties of Political and Social Studies and Law.

This course syllabus refers to students who have the one-year course ‘French Language 2’ in their degree curriculum (students of the Faculties of Political and Social Sciences and of Law). For students from other faculties, who take the course only in the first semester, the syllabus will be adapted and reduced according to the contents covered in class; the written and the oral tests will be different and will be communicated through a specific notice on the Blackboard page of the course.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG, or on the Faculty notice board.