

WORLD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

FRENCH 001

INSTRUCTOR:
OFFICE:
OFFICE HOURS:
TELEPHONE:
EMAIL:



COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

French 001 is the first semester Beginning-level offered to satisfy the University's four semesters language study requirement. It is intended for non-francophone students who have no previous formal study of the language, and for students who demonstrated weak to poor listening skills and content mastery on departmental examination. There are no prerequisites.

Designed to introduce students to the French language and culture of France and the Francophone world, *À Vous!* is a beginners program for learners preparing for professionals as well as social roles in the global community. The student completes the semester of French 001 using *À Vous!* A beginning-level program, selected by the World Languages and Cultures Department. Students are trained to use their French to express opinions and discuss ideas through meaningful, high-interest issues such as relationships with family and friends, youth and popular culture, television and film, immigration, and attitude towards technology.

In the first four chapters viewed in French 001, students will learn important points of French grammar, vocabulary, and culture: • Grammar includes: "tu" vs. "vous," the alphabet, numbers 0 to 1,000,000, the verb "être," the verb "avoir," adjective agreement, regular ~er verbs, definite articles, regular and stem-changing ~er verbs, yes/no questions, indefinite articles, professions and indefinite articles, possessive adjectives, "on" and "il y a," the new future, the verbs "aller," contractions with "à," regular ~ir verbs, prepositions and contractions with definite articles, adjectives of color, the verb "faire." • Vocabulary includes: basic conversations, introductions, making plans, describing yourself and others, sports and leisure activities, daily activities, professions, pets, family members, days of the week, and months of the year, describing an apartment or house, stores, prepositions, household chores, and the weather.

Culture includes: greetings and goodbyes in Francophones countries, universities in France, portrait of some French and Francophone speakers, is there a "typical" French person, the French and their pets, Mother's Day in the Central African Republic, housing in Francophone Europe, and winter in Quebec.

By the end of the semester, students should be able to introduce themselves properly in French, ask and answer simple questions, as well as carry out short conversation on topics previously practiced in class. They should read with comprehension simple written texts and start developing their writing skills. They will be introduced to the most representative aspects of French Culture.

COURSE MATERIAL

- **À Vous! Volume one**, special edition for Howard University, by Veronique Anover and Theresa A. Antes (student's edition) **MANDATORY**. Available at the HU Book store.
- Please purchase the book on the Cengage Website:

<http://www.cengagebrain.com/micro/1-1EGG9M6>

- A connection to **BlackBoard** from <http://howard.blackboard.com/> (BlackBoard will be used to post grades and class materials on-line) **MANDATORY**. BlackBoard will be used within the class to review students' grades, as well as give an access to any other documents used during the course of the semester.
- A **iLrn** account from <http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/isbn/9781111300982> (the Virtual Workbook Key is included with the purchase of *À Vous! Volume one*).
- Please join the **Club Culturel Français à Howard University** FaceBook Group in order to get news on French and Francophone happenings in DC, MD, and VA.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Active class participation is extremely important in this course, thus attendance is *strongly recommended*. **Excessive unexcused absences will result in a lowering of the student's final grade (i.e. especially after 3 unexcused absences)**. The instructor maintains a detailed record of attendance. A roster must be signed by the student at the beginning of every class. Students are required to arrive on time for class.

Excused absences are those due to officially documented personal emergencies, to officially documented trips/excursions under the aegis of the University, and due to officially documented performance/participation (i.e. musical, athletic, scholarly...) as a representative of Howard University.

ETIQUETTE

- **Cell phones and other electronic devices** must be turned off (i.e. not silenced) during classes.
- No pajamas will be accepted in the classroom.
- Be on time: **Do not enter the classroom when class is in session.**
- Cheating is a felony at Howard University! A student caught cheating will result in his/her immediate eradication from the course and may be expelled from Howard University.
- The French Club **Gavroche**, the FaceBook group, and the **French National Honor Society, Pi Delta Phi** at Howard University are extensions to the actual program. As active French students, it is your duty to seek for cultural exposure. Therefore you are invited to join these organizations in order to enhance your knowledge and

get the most out of your French experience while pursuing your degree at Howard University. Sessions will include films, contemporary music, poetry readings, field trips, food/restaurant, etc.

ASSIGNMENTS

Homework assignments will include exercises in the course as well as any other chosen by the instructor (i.e. via QUIA, BlackBoard, etc.). Late homework will not be accepted and will result in a F for the due assignment.

Students are expected to prepare for class by reading the material to be covered ahead of time and complete their online assignment by the due date. The explanations of the grammar in the textbook are fairly comprehensive, and the students' familiarity with it will allow the instructor to spend more time in French language practice and application. However students should not hesitate to ask questions about specific points in class or during the instructor's office hours.

DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS

The Midterm and Final Examinations are both departmental examinations. They consist of written and oral components (i.e. dates will be posted on Bison Web, but due to some system discrepancies, students are required to make sure that the date, place, and time of the examination are approved by the instructor. Thus, ***ask the instructor for the date, place, and time at the end of the semester***). There are no "make up" examinations, unless a valid and official excuse note is presented to the instructor.

COVERED CHAPTERS AND CONCEPTS

Chapter 1: Qui es-tu?

You will learn basic greetings in French, as well as how to introduce yourself, how to ask how someone is, and how to give someone your phone number and address. You will also learn important similarities and differences between American and Francophones cultures, and the effect that they have on everyday language.

Chapter 2: Je suis comme je suis!

You will learn how to describe yourself and others. You will also talk about your likes and dislikes.

Chapter 3: Ma famille et mes amis!

You will learn how to describe your family, how to talk about common activities using ~er verbs, and how to ask and answer basic questions. You will learn the numbers from 30 to 69 and nouns for pets and common professions, and you will learn how to talk about where you and your family live and what you like to do.

Chapter 4: Mon appartement!

You will learn what sort of homes the French and other Francophones live in. You will get a look at apartment living in Geneva, Switzerland. You will also learn how to run errands and talk about the weather.

GRADING

It is understood that grades are a big part of college life. However, the goal of this course is to maintain a good standing while familiarizing yourself and ultimately learn the French language. Grades are at the instructor's discretion.

GRADE SCORES BETWEEN ... (%)	EQUALS TO ...
90 % to 100 %	A
80 % to 89 %	B
70 % to 79 %	C
60 % to 69 %	D
0 % to 59 %	F

CATEGORY	WEIGHTED GRADE
Participation & Attendance	%
Homework	%
Quizzes	%
Chapter Tests	%
Midterm Examination	%
Final Examination	%