



INTERACTING IN A FRANCOPHONE WORLD: ADVANCED FRENCH LANGUAGE FOR INTERMEDIATE SPEAKERS

APA Program: Dakar

Language of instruction: French

US semester credits: 4.0

Term: Summer (6 weeks)

Instructor: Thierno Ly, Professor

Course Prerequisite

Interacting in a Francophone World: Advanced French Language for Intermediate Speakers is designed for students who have completed the equivalent of two to three semesters of French at their home institution. This is an approximate B1 starting level according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

Course Objective

The goal of this course is to help students attain a sufficient competency level of the language so that they will feel comfortable communicating in French with others on a daily basis. Students will also gain a greater understanding of the oral expressions used in West Africa. At the end of the term, students will have reached, at minimum, the B2- CEFR level.

Course Description

- Upon arrival in Dakar, students will take a language evaluation to determine difficulties and gaps in their language abilities.
- Based on the results of the language evaluations, the instructor will elaborate the course to the specific needs of each student, adjusting the content of the course to be a precise fit.
- Each class is conducted to deal with the development of competency in written and oral expression. Varied assignments will help students work on grammar, vocabulary, conjugation, and writing skills as well as to further develop their speaking and writing abilities.
- The documents used in class will be: the appropriate language text book, news articles, literary extracts, university texts, video and audio documents.

Schedule

Weeks 1 - 6

- Two weekly three-hour classes
- Each class is divided into three sections:
 - 1. Language study:** Grammar and lexicon. Each class will be dedicated to one or two grammatical points, each taught in context.
 - 2. Oral comprehension and practice:** Students will organize an interview or give a presentation on a book, film, or other topic.
 - 3. Writing workshop:** Assignments include practice with everyday text such as writing an email or social media posts. Students will also focus on academic text and learn how to properly write a summary of a literary text or article as well as the different components of a thesis: introduction, body, and conclusion. Time will be spent learning how to introduce an idea, develop this idea in a paragraph, and draw conclusions based on the development of the idea in the French style of academic writing.

Assessment

- Active participation in class (20%)
- Continual assessment: written assignments and oral reports (60%)
- Final written exam (20%)