



**FR 301 ADVANCED GRAMMAR AND CULTURE**  
IES Abroad Paris

**DESCRIPTION:**

The goals of this course are to increase students' knowledge of the various modes, tenses and voices of French verb conjugations, to enrich their vocabulary and to familiarize them with a variety of idiomatic expressions used in everyday conversation. At the same time, students become better acquainted with French life through the media, advertising, literature and the cinema, which will serve as themes for the conversation segment of the course.

**CREDITS:** 3 credits

**CONTACT HOURS:** 45 hours

**LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION:** French

**METHOD OF PRESENTATION:**

One and one-half hours of grammar instruction followed by one and one-quarter hours of conversation.

**REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:**

- Regular attendance and participation - 20%
- Quizzes and exercises - 20%
- Oral presentation - 20%
- Midterm - 20%
- Final exam - 20%

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Attendance is mandatory for all course meetings, including visits. Absences and lateness will affect your ability to master class content. In addition, your final grade will be lowered by 1/6 of a letter grade for each absence.

For example:

- Final grade: A-
- 1 absence = A-, 2 absences = B+, 3 absences = B+, 4 absences = B ...

Being more than 15 minutes late to a course counts as an absence. 3 late arrivals (less than 15 minutes) count as an absence.

If a student misses more than 25% of class time, s/he will receive an F in the course.

Assignments and presentations missed because of absences will be given the grade of F.

When absences occur, students must inform their teacher and the French Studies Academic Coordinator as soon as possible (amilan@iesparis.org). In some instances (sickness with doctor's note for example), absences may be excused. If a student believes that an absence should be excused, he or she must contact Scott, Seth or Alexandra.

**CONTENT:**

Each class period will have a grammatical component and a conversation session

Session	Content
Session 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction: Explanation of student newspaper that will be posted in the center every Friday</li></ul>

<b>Session 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: Personal pronoun complements</li> <li>• Conversation: European elections and French politics</li> </ul>
<b>Session 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: Pronouns. How to write a story.</li> <li>• Conversation: Impressions of Paris; living with a French family</li> </ul>
<b>Session 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: Past tense. Usage and meaning.</li> <li>• Conversation: Newspapers in France</li> </ul>
<b>Session 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: Expressing memories. The use of the “passé simple” and the “passé antérieur”</li> <li>• Conversation: Importance of history for the French (W.W.II, June 18, commemorations, etc.).</li> </ul>
<b>Session 6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: Constructing an historic text. The past tense and the passive phrasing of descriptive and factual texts.</li> <li>• Conversation: Music in France and Europe. The Festival of Music</li> </ul>
<b>Session 7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: Writing a critique of a performance or exhibit.</li> <li>• Conversation: Differences between family life in France and the U.S.</li> </ul>
<b>Session 8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: The subjunctive and it’s daily uses and meanings.</li> <li>• Conversation: French system of education. The baccalauréat and the various stages in reaching this level</li> </ul>
<b>Session 9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: Test on the past tense, pronouns, subjunctive, etc.</li> <li>• Conversation: Media in France.</li> </ul>
<b>Session 10</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: The subjunctive (cont.). Expressing desire, hopes and uncertain futures.</li> <li>• Conversation: Social issues in France: work, unemployment, decrease in the number of hours that constitute a working week, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Session 11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: The subjunctive and relative clauses</li> <li>• Conversation: Rural and urban environments in France. Administrative structures in France.</li> </ul>
<b>Session 12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conversation: La Francophonie.</li> </ul>
<b>Session 13</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: Future tenses.</li> <li>• Conversation: The French and their vacation: a phenomenon?</li> </ul>
<b>Session 14</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: Expressing goals, conditions and restrictions</li> <li>• Conversation: The French and their food: does one live to eat or eat to live?</li> </ul>
<b>Session 15</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: Expressing hypotheses</li> <li>• Conversation: The revolution of 1789 and its consequences on life of the French today</li> </ul>
<b>Session 16</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: Expressing hypotheses (cont.)</li> <li>• Conversation: Religion in France</li> </ul>
<b>Session 17</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: Expressing action and consequence</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conversation: Impressions of living six weeks in France</li> </ul>
<b>Session 18</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar: Review and conclusion</li> <li>• Conversation: Culture shock?</li> </ul>

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

- Girardet, Jacky and Jean-Louis Frérot (ed). Panorama de la langue française. Paris: CLE International, 1997.