

FRENCH FOR BEGINNERS

Course Description

The emphasis in this beginner level course is on the fun of learning another language. Lessons are designed to develop listening and speaking skills from the outset in a relaxed environment. Vocabulary is taught in context and includes everyday expressions, including idioms and slang words, that are not always found in a textbook. While use of French is encouraged throughout the lesson, perfection is not! We will all be working to improve and refine our proficiency in a judgment-free zone.

Weekly homework assignments, found in the required text, are meant to preview and reinforce core material. While the exercises may be short, daily review is encouraged to maximize learning.

A typical lesson includes the following:

I Greetings

II A warm-up game to review the previous lesson, such as "I spy"; tongue twisters; crossword puzzles

III Homework review and questions

IV Core material – the heart of the lesson

Presentations are designed to involve participants through hearing, seeing, saying, and immediately applying new material in a given context.

V Reading – At the beginner level, readings may be in the form of signs, advertisements, comics, and picture captions, all using authentic materials, i.e. designed for native speakers.

VI Small group practice – The class is divided into breakout rooms, with a short prompt assigned to practice speaking. This smaller setting is usually more comfortable for reticent speakers.

VII Small group feedback – Groups report what they have discussed and have time to ask questions.

VIII Close – Class usually concludes with a song, a famous quote, or an adage related to the lesson

Weekly Layout: