

FRE 3780 FRENCH PHONETICS FALL 2009

Tuesday/Thursday 2:00 – 3:15 PM GC 287B

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Office hours: Tuesday/Thursday 3:30-5:00 PM or by appt.

Required text and audio CDs:

Duménil, Annie. 2003. *Facile à dire! Les sons du français*. With three Audio CDs. Prentice Hall.

Please Note: Prentice Hall/Pearson makes a package that includes the book, CDs and Dictionary, all for one price. Here is the ISBN for that package: **ISBN 0131963767**

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course, taught entirely in French, is for students who have completed Intermediate French or have equivalent proficiency. It begins with an introduction to the International Phonetic Alphabet and a systematic inventory of the sounds of French. After looking at some general concepts concerning the pronunciation of French (syllabification, intonation), we will study the vowels, with particular attention to nasal vowels, mid-vowels, and semi-vowels. Next we will examine the phenomena of *e muet* and *liaison*, finishing with a brief survey of the consonants. Along the way, we will learn the basics of articulatory phonetics and use exercises (on accompanying audio CDs) and online auditory discrimination exercises to help in the pronunciation of each sound of French.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: At the end of this course, students should be proficient in phonetically transcribing oral and written texts in French, have a firm grasp of basic linguistic concepts and articulatory phonetics to take advanced courses in French linguistics, and have an excellent understanding of variation in the French sound system. In addition, non-native speakers should show improvement in their pronunciation of French, with particular attention to accuracy of nasal vowels, front rounded vowels, intonation, mute-e and liaison.

CLASS PROCEDURES: The textbook will be supplemented with handouts on particular linguistic topics. These will be sent to registered students' FIU e-mail accounts. Students will be expected to learn the phonetic alphabet by heart and do the written exercises indicated on the syllabus before each class. Each class will be divided into oral work (pronunciation), written work (transcription), and new material (lecture and discussion), with occasional songs and other excerpts illustrating the diversity of the French language.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Homework (10%). Transcription homework is assigned for each class. The "Prononciation et Transcription" exercises must be handed in on time to get full credit.

Participation (10%), Since Phonetics involves a fair amount of aural and verbal participation, students will be expected to practice the auditory discrimination exercises ("à faire en ligne") and the corrective and refinement exercises ("Prononciation") either at home or in the language lab before each class. These exercises are right before the "Prononciation et Transcription" exercises indicated on the syllabus. All students are expected to participate in class exercises, both oral and written, which will count toward your participation grade. Attendance is very important, since you will receive a

participation grade for each class. Absence = 0. The lowest three participation grades will not be counted, however, so that an otherwise diligent student could accommodate an emergency without penalty. Please be on time, turn off electronic devices, and do not leave and come back during class. If you must be late or leave early for emergencies, please do so discreetly.

Petits Examens de Prononciation et Dictées (10%). There will be 6 short phonetic dictations and pronunciation tests in class (indicated on the syllabus). Your best five grades will count. So you may be absent for one of these without penalty. No make-ups.

Enregistrements (10%). In addition to the diagnostic sentences, you will also be asked to make two recordings [12-14 sentences each] of yourself speaking/reading French during the semester. These should show a general personal improvement of spoken French, and a mastery of nasal vowels, front rounded vowels, intonation, mute-e and liaison.

Examens (60%). There will be **three in-class exams** (indicated on the syllabus). Exams will involve: transcription of oral and written texts into phonetic notation (alphabet phonétique), auditory discrimination, articulatory description, and essay questions on linguistic concepts studied in class. Transcriptions must be accurate and printed neatly, while essay questions will take into account correct grammatical usage as well as clear and concise expression of content in their grading.

Academic Misconduct: “Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas, and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook.”

Related books in FIU Library: (not on reserve)

Tranel, Bernard. 1987. *The Sounds of French*.

***Walker, Douglas C. 2001. *French Sound Structure*. Calgary: University of Calgary Press. **e-Book**

Yaguello, Marina. 1991. *En écoutant parler la langue*. Paris: Seuil.

Online Exercises: (à faire en ligne)

<http://phonetique.free.fr/>

>ALPHABET >API >Présentation voyelles/consonnes : une bonne introduction à la correspondance orthographe/alphabet phonétique

>PHONEMES : exercices d’écoute et de discrimination auditive pour tous les sons du français

>AUTRES : la liaison

FRENCH PHONETICS SYLLABUS FALL 2009

- le 25 août Introductions – plan du cours
Principes généraux et alphabet phonétique
- le 27 août La chaîne parlée : syllabation, groupe rythmique, intonation
à faire en ligne : Présentation voyelles et Présentation consonnes
à <http://phonetique.free.fr/> >Alphabet >API
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 7-8
- le 1^{er} sept. Description des voyelles
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 16-18
- le 3 sept. Voyelles fermées
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 21-23
À rendre : Phrases diagnostiques (Enregistrement préliminaire)
- le 8 sept. Voyelles ouvertes
à faire en ligne : exercices de discrimination [y] / [u]
à <http://phonetique.free.fr/> >Phonèmes >Voyelles
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 26-30
- le 10 sept.** Révision 1 ; la voyelle nasale [ɑ̃]
Petit examen de prononciation (p. 37) et dictée phonétique
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 32-35
- le 15 sept. Les autres voyelles nasales
à faire en ligne : exercices de discrimination [ɑ̃] / [ɛ̃] / [ɔ̃]
à <http://phonetique.free.fr/> >Phonèmes >Voyelles
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION p. 46-47
- le 17 sept. Les voyelles nasales (fin)
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 48-54
- le 22 sept.** Révision 2 ; la semi-voyelle [j]
Petit examen de prononciation (p. 63) et dictée phonétique
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION p. 59
- le 24 sept. Les autres semi-voyelles
à faire en ligne : exercices de discrimination [j] / [ɥ] / [w]
à <http://phonetique.free.fr/> >Phonèmes >Semi-voyelles
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION p. 76
- le 29 sept. Les semi-voyelles (fin)
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 77-81
- le 1^{er} oct.** Révision 3
Petit examen de prononciation (p. 85) et dictée phonétique

- le 6 oct.** **EXAMEN n° 1 (Chap. 1 – 6)**
- le 8 oct. **À rendre : Examen de prononciation (Enregistrement n° 1)**
Les voyelles médiales [e] / [ɛ] ; assimilation vocalique et analogie
- le 13 oct. Les voyelles médiales [ø] / [œ]
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 95-101
- le 15 oct. Les voyelles médiales [o] / [ɔ] ; assimilation vocalique et analogie
à faire en ligne : exercices de discrimination [ɛ] / [œ] et [o] / [ɔ]
à <http://phonetique.free.fr/> >Phonèmes >Voyelles

à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 102-106
- le 20 oct.** **Révision 4 :** Commentez la distribution des voyelles médiales (117-119)
Petit examen de prononciation (p. 115) et dictée phonétique
à faire en ligne : exercices de discrimination [ɔ] / [œ] et [o] / [ɔ]
à <http://phonetique.free.fr/> >Phonèmes >Voyelles
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 108-111
- le 22 oct. E muet : graphie et réalisation phonétique
à faire en ligne : exercices de discrimination [ə] / [e] / [ɛ]
à <http://phonetique.free.fr/> >Phonèmes >Voyelles
- le 27 oct. E muet: chute, maintien, variabilité
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 127-129
- le 29 oct. PAS DE CLASSE
- le 3 nov.** Révision 5 : Expliquez la raison du maintien ou de la chute du e muet.
(149-141)
Petit examen de prononciation (p. 137) et dictée phonétique
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 131-133
- le 5 nov.** **EXAMEN n° 2 (Chap. 7 – 8)**
- le 10 nov. **À rendre : Examen de prononciation (Enregistrement n° 2)**
Description articulaire des consonnes; assimilation consonantique;
enchaînement consonantique et liaison
à faire en ligne : exercices de liaison avec [z] / [n] et [t]
à <http://phonetique.free.fr/> >Autres >Les liaisons
- le 12 nov. Liaisons obligatoires, interdites et facultatives
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 160-165
- le 17 nov. La liaison et les chiffres
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 168-170

- le 19 nov.** Révision 7 : Indiquez les enchaînements consonantiques et les liaisons obligatoires, interdites et facultatives dans les phrases suivantes. (175-176)
Petit examen de prononciation (p. 173) et dictée phonétique
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 171
- le 24 nov. les consonnes liquides et occlusives (ch. 11 et 12)
à rendre : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp. 181-200
- le 26 nov. PAS DE CLASSE THANKSGIVING
- le 1^{er} déc. Consonnes fricatives et nasales (ch. 13 et 14)
à faire en ligne : exercices de discrimination [s] / [z]
à <http://phonetique.free.fr/> >Phonèmes >Consonnes
à faire en classe : PRONONCIATION ET TRANSCRIPTION pp.207-226
- le 3 déc.** **EXAMEN n° 3 (Chap. 9 – 14)**