

FRE 181 -- Beginning French I

This course is intended for beginners with no previous study of French. The course provides an introduction to the language as a first step toward developing proficiency in French.

Students will learn basic vocabulary related to people, places, objects, and actions close to their own lives and life at the university. Students will begin to control the most common basic grammatical forms and structures including common irregular verbs (être, avoir, aller, venir), -er verbs, articles, negation, and possessive adjectives. They will practice familiar conversations including introductions, likes and dislikes, talking about their families, and managing activities in the classroom. They will understand simple narratives, descriptions, and authentic materials, such as songs, advertisements, and headlines. Skills will be learned and practiced in listening, speaking, reading and writing French, and the focus will always be on relating the study of French to the "live lab" situation of living and learning in the Abbey in Pontlevoy and Paris, and traveling in France.