Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Term 1 2020-2021

Course Code & Title:		FREN 2020 SOUNDS OF FRENCH	
Language of Instruction: French / English	Units: 3	Note : all courses will be conducted online until further notice. The French Programme may switch to face-to-face teaching during the term, depending on the evolution of the situation.	

Course Description
This course is an introduction to the phonetic system of the French language. Illustrations and examples will be taken from modern spoken French. Similarities and differences to other languages will also be examined when appropriate. Students learning French are encouraged to take this course. Although theoretical content will be provided on French phonetics, students must conceive this course as a workshop rather than a lecture. Constant practice through pair work, games, interactive activities, recordings will be included and active participation from the students is therefore expected. Each week the course is divided between a long period in a normal classroom, and a short period in a language laboratory. Prerequisite: FREN2000 or FREN2050 or equivalent competence.

Learning Outcomes
After taking this course, students are expected to: (1) be able to use the French IPA symbols provided in dictionaries; (2) improve their reading, listening and speaking skills in French; (3) understand and describe some basic articulatory features of French speech sounds; (4) understand and describe the rhythmic groups and intonation patterns of modern French; (5) understand the relationship between the French pronunciation and writing system.

CONTENT		
Phonetic content		**Communication and culture**
ALPHABET	Spelling (revisions): Alphabets, accents, double consonants.	French names. Some French celebrities. Song : Serge Gainsbourg- *Laetitia*
FRENCH SPEECH SOUNDS French IPA symbols & basic articulatory features of French vowels and consonants	- Oral vowels : /I, e, ɛ, y, ø, œ, u, o, ɔ, a/	Simple self-introduction. Likes and dislikes.
	- Nasal vowels : /ɛ̃, ã, õ/	Names of cities in France. Describing a place of living.
	- Stop consonants : /p-b, t-d, k-g/	Vocab : food. Song : Éric Toulis - *Pâte à pizza*.
	- Fricative consonants : /f-v, s-z, ʃ-ʒ/	Fashion and shopping. Describing someone.
	- Semivowels : /j, ɥ, w/	Names of animals. Song : Les fatals Picards –*La ferme des animaux*
RHYTHMIC GROUPS, RESYLLABIFICATION AND INTONATION	- Syllabification, rhythmic groups.	Transparent words. Ordering in a café
	- Resyllabification (*liaison, enchaînements*).	Introducing someone. Reading aloud.
	- dropped 'e'.	Reporting a crime.

	- Intonation.	Giving directions. Giving a detailed explanation.

Learning Activities

Interactive classwork[1] (hr) in / out class		Extra-curricular activities (hr) in / out class		Web-based teaching (hr) in / out class		Homework / Self-study (hr) in / out class	
3							3
M							M

M = Mandatory / O = Optional

[1] Interactive classwork focuses on student-centered activities as pair work, group work, role-playing and student-teacher interaction.

Assessment Scheme

NOTE : all assessments will be conducted online regardless of the mode of teaching.

Task nature	Description		Weight
Participation in class	Active participation in class activities and occasional homework		**10%**
Quiz	1 marked quiz (Q/A, phonetic transcription…). Details about the Zoom settings will be given in class.		**20%**
Recordings	2 reading exercises to be recorded during class time.	Individual recording.	**25%**
		Individual and pair recording (dialogue).	**25%**
Individual evaluation	1 on 1 evaluation with the teacher.		**20%**

2 video recordings.

One individual assessment > listening quiz + words reading.

Notes:

- Please attend all courses and arrive on time. The success of your own learning will highly depend on your attendance. You are required to attend at least 75% of the class. Treat 75% attendance as the minimum, not the maximum. **Should you miss more than 25% of the class, you will automatically fail the course.**
- If you are unable to attend, you are responsible to contact your teacher and check this course outline to get informed about upcoming assessments and what content and homework you missed.
- **For missed tests, make-up tests will not be arranged unless the student can provide an official supporting document, such as a medical certificate.**
- The use of smartphones is prohibited during the class unless otherwise stated by the teacher. Tablets and laptops can be used to read the soft copy of the textbook.

Learning Resources

Course Materials

- Hand-outs & notes.
- Recorded material & Web links with exercises on Start.me *webpage:* https://start.me/p/xbkoRD/fren2020-2019-2020
- The use of smartphones and tablets during the class is prohibited unless otherwise stated by the teacher.

IT Resources

The use of recording devices and softwares will be systematic during the Thursday class.

- Self-recording turorial : https://gocuhk-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/raphael_chiarelli_cuhk_edu_hk/EYgdp8XV1SNLnbpLhOYMgy8BowuFlqvGkfZpwKwTcKwSGg?e=ejo0OB
- Audacity : Audacity is a free and easy to use digital audio editor. http://audacityteam.org/download/
- Mp3 converter for Audacity : http://lame.buanzo.org/

Readings & Library Resources

Recommended materials:
- A bilingual French/English dictionary with information on pronunciation provided in IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet)
- On Internet: http://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english
- On Android: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.ascendo.android.dictionary.fr.free
- On iOS: https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/free-french-english-dictionary/id323683333?mt=8

- Please see the list of websites available on the platform https://start.me/p/YavYRJ/fren2020-2020-2021

Schedule (Subject to changes):

Week	Date	No Class Days	Assignments	Content	Teaching mode
Week 1	Sept 07-11			Introduction & alphabet	Online (Zoom) until further notice
Week 2	Sept 14-18			French vowels	
Week 3	Sept 21-25				
Week 4	Sept 28- Oct 2	Oct 01 (Thursday): National Day. Oct 02 (Friday): Day after Mid-Autumn Festival	*No class on Thursday*	Rhythm and stress, *liaison* and *enchaînement*, dropped 'e'.	
Week 5	Oct 05-09				
Week 6	Oct 12-16		**Quiz** (Thursday)		
Week 7	Oct 19-23		**Recording 1** (Thursday)	French consonants	
Week 8	Oct 26-30	Oct 26 (Monday): Day after Chung Yeung Festival			
Week 9	Nov 02-06				
Week 10	Nov 09-13			Intonation	
Week 11	Nov 16-20	12 Nov (Thursday) – 88th Congregation for Conferment of Bachelor's degrees and Master's degrees	*No class on Thursday*	Semi vowels	
Week 12	Nov 23-27		**Recording 2** (Thursday)		
Week 13	Nov 30-Dec 04		**Individual test** (all week)		

Class sections and teachers' contact details:

Class	Time	Classroom	No of weeks	Teacher	Email
All courses will be conducted online until further notice. The French Programme may switch to face-to-face teaching during the term, depending on the evolution of the situation. The classrooms shown below have been reserved in case face-to-face teaching would resume.					
FREN 2020	T 3-4 H 6	Zoom/ YIA 201 Zoom/ LSK 404L	12/13	Mr Raphaël CHIARELLI	raphael.chiarelli@cuhk.edu.hk

For further information and inquiries, you are welcome to contact:

Contact	Telephone	Email	Office
Raphaël Chiarelli (Course Coordinator)	3943 7723	raphael.chiarelli@cuhk.edu.hk	Rm 210, KKL Building **Office Hours:** Wednesdays: 2:30-3:30 Thursdays: 2:30-3:30

General Office	3943 9836	lin@cuhk.edu.hk	Rm G17, KKL Building **Office Hours:** <u>Monday to Thursday:</u> 8:45am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 5:30pm <u>Friday:</u> 8:45am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 5:45pm

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/ .

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

Feedback for Evaluation

Our language programme highly values students' feedback and comments and is happy to use them for reflection on our teaching and improvement. Students are very welcome to provide comments and feedback on the course any time to their course teacher or the course level coordinator through email or in personal conversation. In addition, students' feedbacks will be collected in the middle of the term through an open-end questionnaire and the teacher will discuss the feedbacks in class and make improvements if necessary. The course will also follow the university's course evaluation exercise at the end of the term, and students' feedbacks will be used for future course planning and teaching.