

## Summer Abroad France

### French Language Courses – General Outline

#### Overview:

Students participate in the regular language courses (including a mandatory cultural, historical or business component depending on student's selection and availability) offered by the Institut de Touraine. Classes are small and include students from around the world, in addition to participants in the U of T summer program. Students have access to several language labs, a small library, and a multimedia studio.

#### Instructors:

Students will have two Institute instructors; one for the oral component and another for writing. Due to the intensive nature of the course, teaching styles will differ from what you are accustomed to in your home institution; furthermore, courses at the Institute will be taught according to French standards and pedagogical styles, not North American ones. As with any multiple-sections course, individual instructors at the Institute will have different teaching and evaluation models that determine the pace and style of their section. Other than teaching outcomes, each section functions autonomously.

#### Course Descriptions:

All students in the Summer Abroad France program earn a U of T "FSL" French credit, which is a St. George campus credit (UTSG). Please refer to the Arts and Science Calendar for complete course descriptions and details.

#### **Note: for all FSL courses:**

- **Distribution Requirement Status:** These are Humanities courses
- Breadth Requirement:** Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

#### What Credit will I Earn?

The Institut de Touraine language program comprises nine levels of instruction. All students (with the exception of absolute beginners - see below) write the **Institut de Touraine's online placement test** in February to determine their Institut level. It is your responsibility to ensure you are eligible to take your requested course. Consult with the French department for further detail about your own program requirements ([french.undergraduate@utoronto.ca](mailto:french.undergraduate@utoronto.ca)). Details about the placement assessment will be sent to students after the application deadline.

**Absolute Beginners:** Students with no significant French exposure at any level (formal instruction or non-academic exposure) DO NOT have to write the placement assessment. Those students will need to sign and upload the "Beginner Declaration Form" when applying to the program. If you request the beginner level (FSL100H+FSL102H) but have had *any* previous French exposure you must write the placement assessment.

Based on the placement test results, students will be assigned to the most appropriate level. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are eligible to take the FSL course you have been assigned. It is not possible to take a course for which you already have a credit or an exclusion. Consult with the French department for further detail about your own program requirements. If you are not eligible to take the course(s) of your choice, your \$200 application fee will be refunded.

**All UTSG students who are placed in FSL195Y0 or FSL295Y0** must write U of T's placement test *upon their return to Toronto* to determine the accurate credit for their course in Tours, as well as their appropriate next level. Students are responsible for contacting the French department themselves and arranging to write this test ([french.undergraduate@utoronto.ca](mailto:french.undergraduate@utoronto.ca)). After writing the test, the equivalent FSL credits will be noted in Degree Explorer only - the credit "FSL195Y0" or "FSL295Y0" will remain on your academic record as is. **UTM and UTSC students should consult with their home language departments to confirm equivalency.**

UTM and UTSC students should consult their home language departments regarding whether a placement test will be necessary upon return and to confirm equivalency.

Institut de Touraine Level	Summer Abroad, UTSG Course Code	UTSC equivalent (for reference only – the UTSG course appears on transcript)	UTM Code (for reference only – the UTSG course appears on transcript)
A1.0 A1.1a	FSL100H+FSL102H	FREA96H+FREA97H	FSL105H+FSL106H
A1.1b A1.2	FSL195Y0	FREA98H+FREA99H	FSL205Y
A1.3 A2.1 A2.2 A2.3	FSL295Y0	FREA01H+FREA02H	FSL305Y
B1.1 B1.2 B1.3 B2.1	FSL295Y0	FREB01H+FREB02H	FSL405H+FSL406H or FRE280Y
B2.2 B2.3 C1.1	FSL322H+FSL420H	FREC01H+FREC02H	FRE382H+FRE383H
C1.2 C1.3 C2.1 C2.2 C2.3	FSL442H+FSL443H	FRED01H+FRED06H	Contact UTM Language Studies

### Class Structure and Schedule:

The actual timetable is not set until after you arrive in France. Daily classes are held at the Institute Monday-Friday for the duration of the program. Students should expect to begin at 9am and **be in class for 22.5 hours per week** (language classes + additional mandatory components). Class tests are generally on Mondays and Fridays. Your schedule will vary depending on your language level and instructor.

French instruction will be conducted in a variety of different formats:

- General French language course
  - 3 hours every morning (15 hours per week total)
- 1.5 hours per week of phonetics class to work on oral comprehension and production
  - Half in class, half in the language laboratory
    - Schedule confirmed on-site in France
- Two tutorials (3hr per week) to reinforce competencies or to overcome difficulties:
  - 1.5 hours for oral skills
  - 1.5 hours for reading/writing skills
    - Schedule confirmed on-site in France
- Two 1.5 hours workshop blocks to practice French in a particular area interest (e.g. French culture, French for specific purposes etc.)

Sample class schedule below. Please note that individual schedules will vary and are not available until after arrival in France.

**Timetable Template** (non-contractual document) : 22h30 / week (including 15h of language course, 3h of oral and written tutorials, 1h 30 of phonetics lab and 3h of workshops to choose from 4 timeslots and between 4 types of options – cultural, French for specific purposes, action or exam preparation)

	MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY		FRIDAY
9h00	LANGUAGE COURSE		LANGUAGE COURSE		LANGUAGE COURSE	LANGUAGE COURSE		LANGUAGE COURSE
9h45								
9h45								
10h30								
BREAK								
10h50	LANGUAGE COURSE		LANGUAGE COURSE		LANGUAGE COURSE	LANGUAGE COURSE		LANGUAGE COURSE
11h35								
11h35								
12h20								
13h30	WRITING AND READING SKILLS TUTORIALS  Remediation	WRITING AND READING SKILLS TUTORIALS  Reinforcement	PHONETICS LAB Group 1	PHONETICS LAB Group 2	(Free or choice of extra-curricular activities)	ORAL SKILLS TUTORIALS  Remediation	ORAL SKILLS TUTORIALS  Reinforcement	CHOICE OF WORKSHOP
14h15								ACTION
14h15								To choose from : Volunteering, Webzine Higher studies counseling
15h00								
BREAK								
15h15	CHOICE OF WORKSHOP		CHOICE OF WORKSHOP			CHOICE OF WORKSHOP		(Free or choice of extra-curricular activities)
16h00	Cultural workshop		Cultural workshop			EXAM PREP		
16h00	OR French for specific purposes workshop		OR French for specific purposes workshop			DEL F A1 to DALF C1		
16h45								

### Course Outlines:

More detailed course information for the French language classes will be provided after your arrival in Tours. Although students in North America are accustomed to receiving detailed course outlines, this practice is extremely uncommon in France. Instructors typically do not provide information such as grading schemes, class schedules, etc., ahead of time. If you are not clear with your course requirements please contact your instructor directly about such course details. If you have any problems obtaining this information or the information you are receiving is still unclear, please advise the on-site U of T Academic Coordinator immediately (their contact information will be provided in the pre-departure guide).

### Required Textbooks:

Students doing a French language course (FSL) do not have to purchase texts ahead of time. Course texts will be distributed to students in their first class. This cost is included in your Summer Abroad course fee. There will be no additional charge on-site. You will have to use your own dictionaries or grammar/reference books; previous students have stressed that it is important to bring such texts to France with you.

**Course Evaluation (tentative):**

Writing assessment 1	12.5%
Writing assessment 2	12.5%
Reading assessment 1	12.5%
Reading assessment 2	12.5%
Listening assessment 1	12.5%
Listening assessment 2	12.5%
Speaking assessments 1 & 2, active and relevant class participation	25%

**Grade Conversion**

Please note the Institut de Touraine welcomes students from around the world and employs a 20-point grading scale based on the French university system. These points do not constitute a percentage. In order to convert this score into an appropriate U of T grade, Institut grades will be multiplied by 4.5.

For example, a final mark of 17.3 based on the French system will be converted to a U of T grade in the following way:  $17.3 \times 4.5 = 77.85$ . This score will then be rounded to 78%.

**→→ Getting The Most Out Of Your Language Learning Experience:**

You spend most of your time OUTSIDE of class so consider how you can more fully immerse yourself in the language! Students who take advantage of the opportunities for language immersion outside of class often report a better retention of course information.

- ✓ Commit to speaking only in French outside of the classroom
- ✓ Listen, watch, read local publications in French
- ✓ Use the Institute's media centre
- ✓ Bring a dictionary and do your own translating (it gets much easier the more you practice)
- ✓ Participate in Institute activities (optional workshops etc.)
- ✓ Plan to attend some of the activities organized by the Institute several times a week. Please note that these activities may not be free
- ✓ Tours' tourist information centre offers lots of interesting activities at reasonable rates
- ✓ Keep in mind that the Institute will give you a student card which will allow you to get student rates