

HS French II

Curriculum Guide (including Course Objectives, Weekly Content, and Scope and Sequence)

Course Description

Students continue their introduction to French with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. The course consists of 180 lesson days formatted in an intuitive calendar view, which can be divided into two 90-day semesters and represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. As students begin the course, they construct their own Avatar that accumulates “Avatar bucks”—by performing well on course tasks—to use to purchase materials (clothing, gadgets, scenery, etc.) at the “Avatar store”. Each week consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, cultural presentations covering major French-speaking areas across the globe, and assessments. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Course length: Two semesters

Materials: French-English dictionary is recommended

Prerequisites: WLG110: French I, Middle School French 1 and 2, or equivalent

Overall Course Objectives

The High School French II course helps students:

- Engage in language learning
- Master common and some specialized vocabulary terms and phrases
- Comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns
- Instigate and continue simple conversations, and respond appropriately to increasingly nuanced conversational prompts.
- Generate language incorporating basic and some specialized vocabulary and a range of grammar patterns
- Read, write, speak, and listen for meaning in French
- Analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries
- Regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions

Recurring Content

- **Vocabulary Theme**
 - Each week presents a new set of vocabulary words through various self-correcting activities. A printable vocabulary list, which includes pronunciation, is also provided.
- **Grammar Concept**
 - Each week introduces a new grammatical pattern. The concept is introduced through sentence comparisons and presented in a printable explanation of the pattern.
- **Reinforcement Activities**
 - A range of interactive games (incrementally increasing in challenge) helps students reinforce vocabulary and grammar concepts. These activities may be completed multiple times so that students can better retain and apply the new information. Students accumulate “Avatar bucks” by performing well on these and other interactive challenges.
- **Diglot Weave™ Story**
 - Each week students follow a new episode of an immersive Diglot Weave™ story. The story is told several times, each time with more French woven in. (Diglot comes from the roots “di” meaning *two* and “glot” meaning *language*. These stories weave together the students’ native language and the target language.) These stories provide students a fun and linguistically-rich context for optimal comprehension.
- **“Stretch” Activities**
 - Each week students work through an inventive and challenging activity to comprehend involved passages in French, or to generate their own sentences in French. Stretch activities include zany performances, core content-based instruction, familiar folktales presented in French, simple narratives that students string together from basic building blocks, and many more. These activities help students work creatively in French to communicate and make meaning.
- **Presentation of Culture through CultureGrams™ and Culture Videos**
 - Each week students learn about various cultural aspects (e.g. practices, products, and perspectives) of a French-speaking country. CultureGrams™ are multi-media cultural presentations that cover a wide range of topics such as gestures, etiquette, history, food, and more. Culture videos present students with short video explanations about cultural aspects of various French-speaking countries from a native of that country.
- **“Gameshow” Review**
 - Each week students review material from the week’s content in a “Gameshow” that builds on the motivations and friendly competition of familiar television game shows. Students are pitted against a virtual opponent and earn “Avatar bucks” as they demonstrate their mastery of the week’s material. The burden of review for the weekly assessment is thus transformed to a fun and engaging game.
- **“Out of Seat” Activities**
 - Several times during the year, students are given opportunities to use the language “outside” the course. These are specific assignments directing students to interact in a genuine way with the French language or French-speaking cultures.
- **Realia**
 - Several times during the year, students work to decipher the key messages and significant details in Realias. In Realias, students confront authentic or semi-authentic texts in real-world, everyday situations. These encounters are neither trivial, nor far beyond a student’s comprehension level, but are texts to which students can respond

and that move them to a deeper understanding of the target language and culture at the same time. Sample texts include a grocery store receipt, a newspaper classified advertisement, a street map, etc.

- **Oral and Written Activities**
 - Each week, students complete oral and written activities. These activities give students a chance to become more familiar with the speaking and writing patterns of French by applying them in communicative situations.
- **Listening and Reading Comprehension Activities**
 - Each week contains either a focused listening or a focused reading comprehension practice. These practices help students to develop listening and reading comprehension skills. They are based on the vocabulary, grammar, or culture concepts presented that week, and follow up assessments challenge students to identify the main ideas and significant details of texts based on everyday communicative situations.
- **Assessments**
 - Diglot Weave™ comprehension quizzes verify that students are following the ongoing immersive Diglot Weave™ story and that they are picking up key ideas and vocabulary as they follow along.
 - Focused Listening or Reading quizzes verify that students comprehend the main ideas or significant details of target passages or conversations.
 - Culture comprehension quizzes verify that students have captured facts and understandings from the cultural presentations.
 - End-of-week quizzes assess students’ mastery of the vocabulary words and grammar concept presented that week, and include an oral or written assessment.
 - Midterm and Semester Exams assess students’ mastery of the semester’s contents up to their current place on the calendar, and include oral and written assessments.

Course Scope and Sequence

Semester 1

	Vocabulary Topic	Grammar Pattern	Stretch Activity	Culture
Week 1	Verb review Alphabet	Verb review Present tense	<i>Focus on Scene</i>	France
Week 2	Verb review Guide to French Rhythm & Accents	Past tense (passé composé)	<i>Chatter at a Royal Ball</i>	France
Week 3	Numbers & ordinal numbers review	Adjectives that precede the nouns	<i>Focus on the Language</i>	France

Week 4	Food	Forms of <i>quel & lequel</i> Verbs that end with -ir	<i>Focus on Action</i>	Belgium
Week 5	Health	Negative expressions	<i>Chatter at a Royal Ball</i>	Belgium
Week 6	Family	Stress pronouns	<i>A Geography Lesson</i>	Luxembourg
Week 7	Professions	The verb <i>penser</i>	Story Time: <i>Little Red Riding Hood</i>	Luxembourg
Week 8	Descriptions Colors review	Indirect object pronouns	<i>Questions of a Child</i>	Monaco
Week 9	Midterm Review and Test - no topics			
Week 10	Pastimes	Adverbs of frequency review	<i>What a Beautiful Sight</i>	Monaco
Week 11	The Body	Reflexive verbs	Story Time: <i>The Three Bears</i>	Canada
Week 12	Holidays and celebrations	Relative pronouns <i>ce qui & ce que</i>	<i>A Geometry Lesson</i>	Canada
Week 13	At home	Prepositions	<i>A Little Boy and a Flower</i>	Switzerland
Week 14	At school	Direct & indirect subject pronouns review	<i>A Geography Lesson</i>	Switzerland
Week 15	Car	Where things are (<i>être situé</i>)	<i>In the Aquarium</i>	Martinique
Week 16	In the city	transportation	<i>Focus on a Scene</i>	Martinique
Week 17	Proverbs	Past tense with reflexive verbs (passé composé)	Story Time: <i>The Story of the Three Thieves</i>	Madagascar

Week 18	Final Review and Test- no topics		
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Semester 2

	Vocabulary Topic	Grammar Pattern	Stretch Activity	Culture
Week 1	Verb list	Review of <i>lequel</i>	<i>In the Chemistry Classroom</i>	Madagascar
Week 2	False cognates	Demonstrative pronouns	<i>Voice in the Darkness</i>	Gabon
Week 3	Vacation	The future tense	<i>A Lazy Son</i>	Gabon
Week 4	Shopping & money	Asking for permission	<i>Chatter at a Royal Ball</i>	Seychelles
Week 5	Nature	Conjunctions	<i>The Crocodile</i>	Seychelles
Week 6	Music	Adverbs that end with - <i>ment</i>	Story Time: <i>The Farmer and the Turnip</i>	Senegal
Week 7	Clothing	The use of <i>Il est interdit....</i>	<i>The Story of Chicken Little</i>	Senegal
Week 8	Work	The use of <i>Il faut...</i>	<i>No One Pays Any Attention to Me!</i>	Mauritius
Week 9	Midterm Review and Test - no topics			
Week 10	Social issues part 1	Verbs <i>savoir</i> versus <i>connaître</i> (to know)	<i>Conversation Snatches</i>	Mauritius
Week 11	Social issues part 2	Past tense with <i>avoir</i> (<i>passé composé</i>) regular & irregular verbs	<i>A Beautiful Girl at the University</i>	Djibouti
Week 12	<i>Avoir & Etre</i> expressions	Past tense with <i>être</i> (<i>passé composé</i>) regular &	<i>Openers and Rejoinders</i>	Djibouti

		irregular verbs		
Week 13	Measurements	Indirect object pronouns in the past tense (<i>passé composé</i>)	<i>Second Meeting at the University</i>	St Pierre et Miquelon
Week 14	Technology	Direct object pronouns in the past tense (<i>passé composé</i>)	<i>Isabelle and Vincent</i>	St Pierre et Miquelon
Week 15	Love & Dating part 1	The past tense (<i>Imparfait</i>)	<i>Chatter at a Royal Ball</i>	French Polynesia
Week 16	Love & Dating part 2	The use of <i>Imparfait</i> versus <i>passé composé</i>)	<i>Afanti and the Pauper</i>	French Polynesia
Week 17	Everyday expressions	<i>Y</i> and <i>En</i>	<i>The Hare and the Tortoise</i>	Ivory Coast
Week 18	Final Review and Test- no topics			

*For a general description of “Stretch” Activities, see heading under Recurring Content.