

WINTER 2024

January 15 - March 9



L'École Française
1714 W Belmont - 773 857 1322
www.lef-learn-french.com



WINTER 2024

JANUARY 15–MARCH 9

(HYBRID CLASSES: IN-PERSON or ONLINE)

8-week session – 1h40min per class – 15 learning hours

Tuition: from \$319* (class materials included)

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

HYBRID CLASSES / CLASS MATERIALS / ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS

- We are offering **HYBRID CLASSES*** for the Winter session. HYBRID means you may take the same exact course IN-PERSON or ONLINE, your CHOICE! No need to notify us, you may show up in person or online (via Zoom), this is your decision for the 8-week session. “La liberté, c’est de pouvoir choisir” ;-)
- If you do not know your level of instruction, we invite you to take our **free online placement evaluations**. (see homepage)
- Once enrolled, you will be receiving class materials (lesson plans in pdf format) and Zoom instructions **24 hours prior to your first class session**.

CLASS TUITION / DISCOUNTS / REGISTRATION PERIOD

Registration period will be ending on January 14 at midnight.

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS:

- **\$319** from **November 1 to 30**
- **\$339** from **December 1 to 31**
- **\$369** from **January 1 to 14**

Since we limit our classes to **10 participants maximum**, please **register EARLY** to enjoy early bird discounts, save your spot and avoid class cancellations.

REGISTRATION POLICIES

Since we limit our classes to 10 participants maximum, please **READ CAREFULLY** our school policies before signing up for a course. Credits, refunds, NO EXCEPTIONS will be granted unfortunately.

By signing up for one of our courses, you agree to abide by our school policies.

Merci de votre compréhension!

<https://lef-learn-french.com/registration-policies>



BASIC I CLASSES (A1 levels – from Levels 1 to 4)

Recommended timeframe: 60 learning hours • Class codes 100

Learning goals: Upon completion of these basic A1 levels, students can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.

REGULAR BASIC LEVEL 1 – INTRODUCING YOURSELF • for Complete Beginners

101a Wednesdays, January 17-March 6 / 12:00-1:40pm

101b Thursdays, January 18-March 7 / 6:00-7:40pm

101c Saturdays, January 20-March 9 / 10:00-11:40am

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

Bienvenue! In this first level of French, you will master French pronunciation, introducing yourself and someone else, conveying personal details (nationality, profession, hobbies, numbers, likes and dislikes), studying basic grammar (present tense of regular verbs in -ER, the irregular verbs *avoir* and *être*, interrogative forms, definite and indefinite articles) to be able to (basically) interact with... confidence! Your French journey begins here!

REGULAR BASIC LEVEL 2 – DESCRIBING YOUR FAMILY & LIFE

102a Wednesdays, January 17-March 6 / 10:00-11:40am

102b Thursdays, January 18-March 7 / 6:00-7:40pm

102c Saturdays, January 20-March 9 / 12:00-1:40pm

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

In this second level of French, we will focus on describing our families, making a detailed physical description of a person and their personalities, talking about our daily activities, routine, time schedule and planning future events. We will study reflexive verbs such as *se promener*, *futur proche*, demonstrative and possessive adjectives, and finally we will explore cultural facets of France and of course Paris...*Bienvenue en France!*

REGULAR BASIC LEVEL 3 - TRAVELING TO FRANCE • French for travelers

103a Tuesdays, January 16-March 5 / 8:00-9:40pm

103b Saturdays, January 20-March 9 / 2:00-3:40pm

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

In this third level of French, we will focus on traveling (booking a flight and buying an airline ticket), talking about vacation, leisure activities and the weather, purchasing items in stores, expressing feelings and emotions, and finally ordering food. We will study the present tense of irregular verbs such *aller* and *faire*, verbs of movement ending in -IR like *partir*, *sortir*, *venir* and idiomatic expressions with *avoir* « *j'ai besoin de*, *j'ai envie de...* » Welcome on board! France has never been so close!

BRUSH-UP COURSE BASIC A1 Levels 1-2-3 – REVIEWING THE BASICS

151a Tuesdays, January 16-March 5 / 8:00-9:40pm

151b Wednesdays, January 17-March 6 / 10:00-11:40am

151c Saturdays, January 20-March 9 / 2:00-3:40pm

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

You've studied French in the past but it's been a while and you fear you've forgotten more than you remember? Or you've taken the basic levels and you would like to consolidate what you've learned? This class is designed for you. We will review general concepts such as countries, professions, family, food, and the weather, while revisiting basic verb tenses and grammar (*présent and futur proche*). You will find our refresher courses to be, well, refreshing!

REGULAR BASIC LEVEL 4 – WELCOME TO PARIS • Bienvenue à Paris

104a Wednesdays, January 17-March 6 / 10:00-11:40am

104b Wednesdays, January 17-March 6 / 8:00-9:40pm

104c Saturdays, January 20-March 9 / 10:00-11:40am

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

In this fourth level of French, we will focus on moving around Paris, following directions, taking public transportation, booking a hotel room, renting a car, an apartment or a house, and talking about our past. We will review the present tense of irregular verbs (*savoir vs connaître and -RE verbs such as conduire, descendre etc.*).

We will study in depth the passé composé, prepositions and adverbs of location ...

Welcome to Paris ! « *Tout commence à Paris.* » Nancy Spain



BASIC II CLASSES (A2 levels – from levels 5 to 8)

Recommended timeframe: 120 learning hours • Class codes 200

Learning goals: Upon completion of these A2 levels, students can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). Can communicate about simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.

REGULAR BASIC LEVEL 5 – GETTING AROUND PARIS • Séjour culturel à Paris

205a Wednesdays, January 17-March 6 / 12:00-1:40pm

205b Wednesdays, January 17-March 6 / 6:00-7:40pm

205c Thursdays, January 18-March 7 / 8:00-9:40pm

205d Saturdays, January 20-March 9 / 2:00-3:40pm

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

In this fifth level of French, we will focus on cultural activities in Paris: at the tourist office, at the museum, at the opera, in a concert hall, at a stadium, at the restaurant, at a fashion show, in a retail store... We will be able to invite someone, make a reservation at the restaurant, attend cultural and sports events, go shopping, and talk about past events. We will review the present tense of the verbs *pouvoir, vouloir, devoir, le passé composé*, introduction to *imparfait*, verbs of communication, direct and indirect pronouns. We will explore cultural activities in Paris and French celebrations. « *Paris est une fête!* » E. Hemingway

BRUSH-UP COURSE BASIC A2 Levels 4-5-6 • EXPLORING FRANCE

251a Mondays, January 15-March 4 / 6:00-7:40pm

251b Wednesdays, January 17-March 6 / 12:00-1:40pm

251c Thursdays, January 18-March 7 / 8:00-9:40pm

251d Saturdays, January 20-March 9 / 2:00-3:40pm

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

In this fast-paced course, we will review the present tense of irregular verbs (*savoir* vs. *connaître*, *pouvoir*, *vouloir*, *devoir*) and reflexive verbs as well as the *passé composé*, the *imparfait*, direct and indirect pronouns, and the expression of duration (*depuis*, *pendant*, *pour*, etc.). You will expand your vocabulary (transportation, housing, shopping, studies, work, and cultural activities in Paris) while improving your pronunciation – and having fun! « *Les meilleurs Américains meurent à Paris !* » O. Wilde

REGULAR BASIC LEVEL 7 – LIVING IN FRANCE • Cuisine, Santé et Loisirs!

207a Mondays, January 15-March 4 / 6:00-7:40pm

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

In this seventh level of French, we will focus on gastronomy, health, sports and leisure activities. Upon completion of this level, we will be able to register and join a gym, talk about leisure activities, healthy lifestyles and food diet, make an appointment at the doctor's or at the dentist's, and buy prescription drugs at a local pharmacy. We will review the imperative form, past tenses (*passé composé* vs *imparfait*), the *future simple*, *En* and *Y* pronouns, and the adverbs of frequency (*souvent*, *toujours*, *jamais...*). « *J'ai décidé d'être heureux, c'est bon pour la santé.* » Voltaire

SPECIALIZED BASIC LEVEL 8 – LE CLUB CONVERSATION BASIC A1/A2 LEVELS

• Prononciation, Vocabulaire et Communication

208a Mondays, January 15-March 4 / 8:00-9:40pm

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

You have almost completed the basic levels! This class will prepare you to move on to the intermediate level with confidence. We will focus on means of communication, social events, the media, new technologies and CONVERSATION! Upon completion of this level, we will be able to talk further about our social lives, explore the greatest inventions of our times, make a detailed description of an object, ask information about computers and smart phones! We will review all basic levels (from 1 to 7): the present and past tenses (*passé composé* vs *imparfait*), the imperative form, the *future simple*, and *les pronoms relatifs simples* (*qui*, *que*, *où*, *dont*). « *Toute technologie avancée est magique !* » Arthur C. Clark

PLEASE READ OUR SCHOOL POLICIES BEFORE SIGNING UP FOR CLASSES

<https://lef-learn-french.com/registration-policies>



INTERMEDIATE I CLASSES (B1 LEVELS – from levels 9 to 14)

Recommended timeframe: 250-300 learning hours • Class codes 300

Learning goals: Upon completion of these B1 levels, students can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. Can deal with most situations likely to arise while traveling in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics that are familiar or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.

BRUSH-UP COURSE B1 Levels 7-8-9 – UNDERSTANDING FRENCH SOCIETY & PEOPLE

• Société et vie française

351a Mondays, January 15-March 4 / 8:00-9:40pm

351b Tuesdays, January 16-March 5 / 10:00-11:40am

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

Feeling like it's time for a review? In this class you will go beyond the basics and cover the *passé composé vs imparfait*, the *futur simple*, the *conditionnel présent*, and the pronouns *directs/indirects*, *en* and *y*. You will also work on your pronunciation and increase your vocabulary while discussing topics such as sports, health, new technologies, the media and social activities. « *Un esprit sain dans un corps sain* » Rabelais

REGULAR INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 9 – MOVING TO FRANCE • Vie domestique et savoir-vivre

309a Mondays, January 15-March 4 / 8:00-9:40pm

309b Tuesdays, January 16-March 5 / 10:00-11:40am

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

In this ninth level of French, we will focus on describing our house or apartment, household chores and housework, paying bills and taxes, talking about properties, personal belongings, animals and home activities. We will also explore French « *savoir-vivre* » and good manners while focusing on the *conditionnel présent*. « *La politesse coûte peu et achète tout.* » Montaigne

REGULAR INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 11 • DEBATING IN FRENCH (FRENCH NEWS)

• Actualités, Presse et Médias

311a Mondays, January 15-March 4 / 6:00-7:40pm

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

In this eleventh level of French, we will focus on past tenses such as *passé composé*, *imparfait*, *plus-que-parfait* and *voix passive*! We will learn how to read and write articles in French, talk about news, and discuss current events through French newspapers, television and the radio. Come and voice your opinions...en français! « *Savoir, penser, rêver. Tout est là.* » V. Hugo

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BRUSH-UP COURSE B1 Levels 10-11-12 – IMMERSION IN FRANCE

351c Mondays, January 15-March 4 / 6:00-7:40pm

351d Saturdays, January 20-March 9 / 12:00-1:40pm

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

In this fast-paced course you will review past and future tenses, the *conditionnel présent/passé*, the *subjonctif*, the *passif*, and the *pronoms relatifs simples (qui, que, où, dont)*. We will also discuss topics of interest such as new technologies, the internet, social media, and the traditional media (television, radio and the press). « *Le vrai pouvoir, c'est la connaissance.* » F. Bacon

REGULAR INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 13 • LOVING FRANCE & FRENCH CULTURE

• Vie affective, Art et Culture

313a Saturdays, January 20-March 9 / 12:00-1:40pm

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

In this thirteenth level of French, we will focus on talking about friendship and love relationships, entertainment, feelings and cultural activities (arts, cinema, theater, music, photography...) We will review all French tenses (from present to subjunctive), adjectives (*préfixes et suffixes*), regular and irregular adverbs (*-ment*), *le gérondif (en allant)*, *les pronoms ce qui, ce que, ce dont*. « *Aimer ce n'est pas se regarder l'un l'autre, c'est regarder ensemble dans la même direction* » A. De Saint-Exupéry

LE CLUB CONVERSATION – INTERMEDIATE B1 • CONVERSING IN FRENCH

351e Wednesdays, January 17-March 6 / 6:00-7:40pm

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

You have learned the basics, now it's time to talk! This class provides a supportive environment in which you will gain confidence to share conversations. You will select the topics of discussion on the first meeting. Through preparation, you will improve your vocabulary and your conversation skills while you share your ideas opinions and perspectives. Come join the discussion! « *L'essentiel n'est pas de parler fort, mais de parler juste !* » W. Shakespeare



INTERMEDIATE II CLASSES (B2 LEVELS – from levels 15 to 20)

Recommended timeframe: 350-400 learning hours • class codes 400

Learning goals: Upon completion of these B2 levels, students can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialization. Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party. Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.

PLEASE READ OUR SCHOOL POLICIES BEFORE SIGNING UP FOR CLASSES

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REGULAR INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 18 – MUSIQUE, DANSE et OPÉRA
LEARN FRENCH THROUGH MUSIC!

418a Tuesdays, January 16-March 5 / 12:00-1:40pm

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)

Come and explore the marvelous world of Francophone music, dance and opera, a treasure chest of emotions! In this eighteenth level, we will explore the history of French and Francophone music, and study the *relations logiques de cause, conséquence, but et opposition (parce que, car, comme, puisque...)*
« *La musique est la langue des émotions* », said Emmanuel Kant

CONVERSATIONS CULTURELLES • LES 10 PLUS GRANDES PERSONNALITÉS
DE LA CULTURE FRANÇAISE et FRANCOPHONE • NEW

450a Fridays, January 19-March 8 / 12:00-1:40pm

Tuition: from \$319(materials & membership included)

Join us this session to improve your conversation skills, expand your vocabulary and increase your knowledge about the top 10 celebrities that impacted French culture (arts, architecture, cinema, dance, gastronomy, history, literature, music, theater, philosophy and sciences). Through various materials and diverse activities (videos, movies, songs, articles, debates, presentations, games...), you will master *l'art de s'exprimer...* « *L'homme sans culture est un arbre sans fruit!* » Antoine de Rivarol

LITTÉRATURE & CINÉMA – “CHANSON DOUCE” (Prix Goncourt 2016)

Roman de Leïla SLIMANI (2016) – Film de Lucie Borleteau (2019)

450b Wednesdays, January 17-March 6 / 8:00-9:40pm

Tuition: from \$319 (membership included)

Leïla Slimani
Chanson douce



Lorsque Myriam, mère de deux jeunes enfants, décide malgré les réticences de son mari de reprendre son activité au sein d'un cabinet d'avocats, le couple se met à la recherche d'une nounou. Après un casting sévère, ils engagent Louise, qui conquiert très vite l'affection des enfants et occupe progressivement une place centrale dans le foyer. Peu à peu le piège de la dépendance mutuelle va se refermer, jusqu'au drame. A travers la description précise du jeune couple et celle du personnage fascinant et mystérieux de la nounou, c'est notre époque qui se révèle, avec sa conception de l'amour et de l'éducation, des rapports de domination et d'argent, des préjugés de classe ou de culture. Le style sec et tranchant de Leïla Slimani, où percent des éclats de poésie ténébreuse, instaure dès les premières pages un suspense envoûtant.

Please note that each participant will have to order their own books.

Book: “Chanson Douce”(The perfect nanny - 2016) • Leïla Slimani, éditions Gallimard • ISBN 13: 978-2070196678 (240 pages)

Film: Chanson Douce • Lucie Borleteau (2019)



ADVANCED I & II CLASSES (C1 / C2 LEVELS – levels 20+)

Recommended timeframe : 500+ learning hours • class codes 500-600

Learning goals: Upon completion of these C1/C2 levels, students can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognize implicit meaning. Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organizational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.

LITTÉRATURE & CINÉMA - “LUPIN” • SAISON 3 (Netflix – 7 épisodes)

550a Tuesdays, January 16-March 5 / 6:00-7:40pm

Tuition: from \$319 (materials & membership included)



Back on Netflix for **Season 3**, we will be watching one episode each week of the third season Netflix series “Lupin” - starring Omar Sy - to better understand informal and spoken French, colloquial expressions, "onomatopées", and "verlan". We will compare this modern "gentleman cambrioleur" with its original fictional literary character by Maurice Leblanc to improve our reading skills! Please note that to take this course, we expect our students to have watched the first two seasons (French subtitles please ;-). *“La culture ne s’hérite pas, elle se conquiert”.* (You don’t inherit culture, you conquer it) ~ André Malraux

LE CERCLE LITTÉRAIRE • LES GRANDS PRIX LITTÉRAIRES • ADVANCED C2

“VEILLER SUR ELLE”, Jean-Baptiste ANDREA • PRIX GONCOURT 2023 •

650a Fridays, January 19-March 8 / 10:00-11:40am

Tuition: from \$319 (membership included)

Au grand jeu du destin, Mimo a tiré les mauvaises cartes. Né pauvre, il est confié en apprentissage à un sculpteur de pierre sans envergure. Mais il a du génie entre les mains. Toutes les fées ou presque se sont penchées sur Viola Orsini. Héritière d'une famille prestigieuse, elle a passé son enfance à l'ombre d'un palais génois. Mais elle a trop d'ambition pour se résigner à la place qu'on lui assigne. Ces deux-là n'auraient jamais dû se rencontrer. Au premier regard, ils se reconnaissent et se jurent de ne jamais se quitter. Viola et Mimo ne peuvent ni vivre ensemble, ni rester longtemps loin de l'autre. Liés par une attraction indéfectible, ils traversent des années de fureur quand l'Italie bascule dans le fascisme. Mimo prend sa revanche sur le sort, mais à quoi bon la gloire s'il doit perdre Viola ?

Un roman plein de fougue et d'éclats, habité par la grâce et la beauté.

Book: *Veiller sur elle*, Jean-Baptiste Andrea (Editions Iconoclaste – ISBN-13: 978-2378803759)

Please note that each participant will have to order their own books.



CULTURAL EVENTS - ALL LEVELS

December 6-15

CHOCOLATE WORKSHOP: DE LA FÈVE DE CACAO AU CHOCOLAT (ALL LEVELS)

Thursday, December 7 / 6:30-8:00pm (IN-PERSON ONLY) / French & English

Tuition: \$50.00 • Chef Mark SEAMAN

Dans cet atelier, veuillez rejoindre Chef Mark Seaman pour une expérience gustative. Découvrir et déguster le chocolat dans toute sa splendeur avec les cinq sens. Comprendre les différences parmi les chocolats blancs, laits, et noirs - et goûter le quatrième chocolat: le Ruby! À ne pas rater cette occasion de suivre le voyage des fèves de cacao de l'Afrique jusqu'à la bouche !



Mark Seaman is a Certified Master Sugar Artist specializing in bakery applications, botanically-correct gum paste flowers, and wedding cakes. Prior to joining the Chocolate Academy at Barry Callebaut in Chicago, Mark owned a wedding cake boutique & retail bakery; he was named one of the Top 10 Cake Designers in North America in 2013 by *Dessert Professional*. Today Mark works at the Barry Callebaut

Chocolate Academy where he develops new dessert concepts and teaches classes that feature chocolate as the main ingredient.

FRENCH HISTORY: KINGS AND THEIR MISTRESSES

(HYBRID: in-person or online / French & English)

PART 1 – Wednesday, December 6 / 6:00-7:30pm

PART 2 – Wednesday, December 13 / 6:00-7:30pm

Tuition: \$50.00 (each workshop) • Corinne ULLRICH

Kings of France didn't have much choice in their queens when making marriage alliances, but they could pick their mistresses. In the French royal court, the king's favorite was given a title, *la maîtresse en titre*, or "official mistress." In these two workshops, you will hear about the most famous of the royal mistresses and their impact on politics and culture. You may join us for one or both workshops!

Part One (Dec.6): From Charles VII, the king served by Joan of Arc, to the beginning of the seventeenth century

Part Two (Dec.13): From Louis XIV, the Sun-King, until the fate of Madame du Barry in the French Revolution



Corinne Ullrich loves to learn about French history, particularly the 16th century! She graduated from UIUC, including a year of study abroad at Université de Paris IV. She also was an English language assistant in different parts of Normandy for the 2012-13 and 2017-18 school years. She enjoys maintaining her level of French by watching films and listening to podcasts. For several years, she was in a bilingual improv group, which will hopefully start performing again one day soon!

SOIRÉE FRANCO « FOLLE »: WINE TASTING & FRENCH CUISINE PARTY

Friday, December 15, 7-10pm (IN-PERSON ONLY) • Sommelier: Marnie THOMPSON
\$50.00 admission (all included) • Event limited to 50 participants maximum



What does Soirée Franco « folle » mean? (Soirée Franco «crazy»???)

Here is the concept of our French & Francophone celebrations: At the end of each session, we are organizing a social gathering by « flying » to a Francophone destination, discovering a French speaking country, exploring a French speaking city!

From Paris to Dakar, Saigon to Montreal, Tahiti to Marrakesh, Brussels to Fort-de-France..., we are taking you there for one exclusive night!

Innovative cocktails, traditional dishes and refined wines (*Vins du Rhône: Château Neuf du Pape, Gigondas, Vacqueyras, etc.*) will be served, popular music played, arts and culture displayed! Meet, communicate, network, connect or reconnect... Escape, share, learn, laugh, debate or date! (all in French ;-)

Save the date: **Friday, December 15, 7-10pm**

We are touring French speaking countries! Ready to fly?

Attention! Space is limited to 50 "passengers" only ;-)

"La diversité est l'essence de l'humanité"

Les Soirées Franco « folles », where DIVER « CITIES » meet !