

WINTER 2025

January 13 - March 8



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



WINTER 2025

JANUARY 13 -MARCH 8

(HYBRID CLASSES: IN-PERSON & ONLINE)

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

Tuition: from \$329* (class materials included)

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

HYBRID CLASSES / CLASS MATERIALS / ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS

- We are offering **HYBRID CLASSES*** for all classes/all sessions.

HYBRID means you may take the same exact course IN-PERSON or ONLINE, your CHOICE!
(10 students maximum total)

No need to notify us, you may show up in person or online (via Zoom), this is your decision for the 8-week session. We have equipped our classrooms to accommodate both in-person and remote participants.

“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**. (homepage on our website)
- 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 12 at midnight.

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS

- **\$329** from **November 5 to 30**
- **\$359** from **December 1 to 31**
- **\$389** from **January 1 to 12**

Since we limit our classes to **10 participants maximum (in-person and/or remote)**, please **register EARLY** to enjoy early bird discounts, save your spot and/or avoid class cancellations (A minimum of 5 participants per class is required)

SCHOOL POLICIES / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

101b Tuesdays, January 14-March 4 / 6:00-7:40pm

101e Tuesdays, January 14-March 4 / 8:00-9:40pm (NEW CLASS)

101d Wednesdays, January 15-March 5 / 6:00-7:40pm

101c Saturdays, January 18-March 8 / 4:00-5:40pm

Tuition: from \$329 (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 Tuesdays, January 14-March 4 / 8:00-9:40pm

102b Fridays, January 17-March 7 / 12:00-1:40pm

102c Saturdays, January 18-March 8 / 4:00-5:40pm

Tuition: from \$329 (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 Mondays, January 13-March 3 / 8:00-9:40pm

103b Thursdays, January 16-March 6 / 6:00-7:40pm

103c Saturdays, January 18-March 8 / 10:00-11:40am

Tuition: from \$329 (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 Mondays, January 13-March 3 / 8:00-9:40pm

151b Thursdays, January 16-March 6 / 6:00-7:40pm

151c Saturdays, January 18-March 8 / 10:00-11:40am

Tuition: from \$329 (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 Saturdays, January 18-March 8 / 2:00-3:40pm

Tuition: from \$329 (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 15-March 5 / 12:00-1:40pm

205b Saturdays, January 18-March 8 / 10:00-11:40am

Tuition: from \$329 (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

PLEASE READ OUR SCHOOL POLICIES BEFORE SIGNING UP FOR CLASSES

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

REGULAR BASIC LEVEL 6 - STUDYING & WORKING IN FRANCE

• Études, Professions et Emploi!

206a Wednesdays, January 15-March 5 / 10:00-11:40am

Tuition: from \$329 (materials & membership included)

In this sixth level of French, we will focus on education, professions and employment. We will focus on talking about education and studies, applying for a job, taking a French interview or hiring a candidate, writing a resume in French using its standards and making comparisons. We will review the present tense of irregular and –OIR verbs, the *passé composé vs imparfait*, *directs/indirect/En and Y* pronouns, and expression of duration (*depuis, pendant, pour, etc.*)
« Il faut travailler pour vivre et non pas vivre pour travailler... » Proverbe

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

251a Wednesdays, January 15-March 5 / 10:00-11:40am

251b Thursdays, January 16-March 6 / 8:00-9:40pm

251c Saturdays, January 18-March 8 / 12:00-1:40pm

Tuition: from \$329 (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 Saturdays, January 18-March 8 / 12:00-1:40pm

Tuition: from \$329 (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 Wednesdays, January 15-March 5 / 8:00-9:40pm

Tuition: from \$329 (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



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.

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

309a Wednesdays, January 15-March 5 / 6:00-7:40pm

309b Thursdays, January 16-March 6 / 8:00-9:40pm

309c Saturdays, January 18-March 8 / 2:00-3:40pm

Tuition: from \$329 (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

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

• Société et vie française

351a Wednesdays, January 15-March 5 / 6:00-7:40pm

351b Thursdays, January 16-March 6 / 8:00-9:40pm

351c Saturdays, January 18-March 8 / 2:00-3:40pm

Tuition: from \$329 (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*

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

351d Mondays, January 13-March 3 / 8:00-9:40pm

351e Tuesdays, January 14-March 4 / 10:00-11:40am

Tuition: from \$329 (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 12 – CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN FRENCH

• Emploi, Économie et Finances

312a Mondays, January 13-March 3 / 6:00-7:40pm

Tuition: from \$329 (materials & membership included)

In this twelfth level of French, we will focus on employment, economy and finances and talk about personal achievements, regrets and hypothetical statements. We will review the following tenses : *passé, conditionnel présent and passé, le plus-que- parfait* and *hypothèses* (Si j'avais su...), possessive and demonstrative pronouns (le mien, celui-ci...).
« *Plaie d'argent n'est pas mortelle.* » Proverbe

REGULAR INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 13 • LOVING FRANCE & FRENCH CULTURE

• Vie affective, Art et Culture

313a Mondays, January 13-March 3 / 8:00-9:40pm

Tuition: from \$329 (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



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.

REGULAR INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 15 – FRANCE : GÉOGRAPHIE, DÉMOGRAPHIE ET POLITIQUE • LEARN FRENCH THROUGH CIVILISATION

415a Mondays, January 13-March 3 / 6:00-7:40pm

Tuition: from \$329 (materials & membership included)

Congratulations! You now have reached an intermediate II level! In this fifteenth level of French, we will explore the history of France, the foundations of the nation and its political system. We will be discovering new grammatical structures such as the *pronoms relatifs complexes* and *verbes prépositionnels*. You will be encouraged to lose your inhibitions and voice your opinions, *en français*!

PLEASE READ OUR SCHOOL POLICIES BEFORE SIGNING UP FOR CLASSES

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DISCUSSIONS CULTURELLES – INTERMEDIATE B2 / ADVANCED C1 • NEW

450a Tuesdays, January 14-March 4 / 12:00-1:40pm

Tuition: from \$329 (materials & membership included)

A conversation class about....CULTURE! Join us this session to improve your conversation skills, expand your vocabulary and increase your knowledge about arts, architecture, cinema, dance, gastronomy, history, literature and music! 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 – “LE SOLEIL DES SCORTA” • LAURENT GAUDÉ (Prix Goncourt 2004)

450b Wednesdays, January 15-March 5 / 8:00-9:40pm

Tuition: from \$329 (membership included) • NEW



La lignée des Scorta est née d'un viol et du péché. Maudite, méprisée, cette famille est guettée par la folie et la pauvreté. A Montepuccio, dans le sud de l'Italie, seul l'éclat de l'argent peut éclipser l'indignité d'une telle naissance. C'est en accédant à l'aisance matérielle que les Scorta pensent éloigner d'eux l'opprobre. Mais si le jugement des hommes finit par ne plus les atteindre, le destin, lui, peut encore les rattraper.

Book: *Le Soleil des Scorta* – Laurent Gaudé · éditions J'ai Lu ISBN 13 : 978-2290078129 (256 pages)

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

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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.

GRAMMAIRE AVANCÉE B2 / C1 • ADVANCED I • Levels 18-19-20+ • **NEW**

650a Tuesdays, January 14-March 4 / 6:00-7:40pm

650b Saturdays, January 18-March 8 / 12:00-1:40pm

Tuition: from \$329 (materials and membership included)

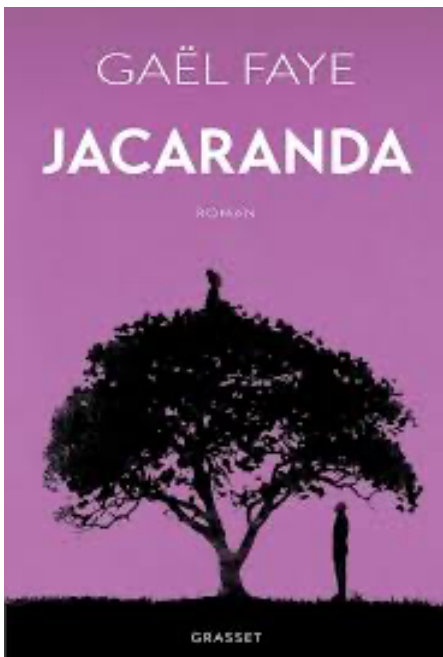
If you have completed the intermediate II levels and would like to review and reinforce the most complex grammatical structures that you have previously learned, then this class is for you! By means of fun exercises and activities, we will revisit all grammatical structures you will select based on your needs. Remember, French grammar is your friend! « *Je regarde la grammaire comme la première partie de l'art de penser.* » E. de Condillac

LE CERCLE LITTÉRAIRE - ADVANCED C2 • **NEW**

“JACARANDA”, Gaël FAYE (2024) • PRIX RENAUDOT 2024

650c Fridays, January 17-March 7 / 10:00-11:40am

Tuition: from \$329 (membership included)



Quels secrets cache l'ombre du jacaranda, l'arbre fétiche de Stella ?

Il faudra à son ami Milan des années pour le découvrir. Des années pour percer les silences du Rwanda, dévasté après le génocide des Tutsi. En rendant leur parole aux disparus, les jeunes gens échapperont à la solitude. Et trouveront la paix près des rivages magnifiques du lac Kivu.

Sur quatre générations, avec sa douceur unique, Gaël Faye nous raconte l'histoire terrible d'un pays qui s'essaie malgré tout au dialogue et au pardon. Comme un arbre se dresse entre ténèbres et lumière, *Jacaranda* célèbre l'humanité, paradoxale, aimante, vivante. Book: *Jacaranda* – Gaël Faye (2024)

(Editions Grasset – ISBN-13: 978-2246831457 – 288 pages)

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

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SOIRÉE FRANCO « FOLLE » “BORDEAUX, CHAMPAGNE & CHOCOLAT”

FRIDAY, March 21, 7-10pm (IN-PERSON ONLY)
Sommelier: Marnie THOMPSON

\$60.00 admission (all included)

- Event limited to 30 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 year, 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 de BORDEAUX: Saint-Émilion, L'Entre-Deux-Mers et Sauternes*) will be served, popular music played, arts and culture displayed... *ET le champagne sabré!* Meet, communicate, network, connect or reconnect... Escape, share, learn, laugh, debate or date! (all in French ;-)

SAVE THE DATE = SAVE THE TASTE ;-)
FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 7-10pm

We are touring ... **BORDEAUX!** Ready to fly?

Attention! Space is limited to 30 "passengers" only.

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

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