

French Linguistics IV (A000959)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings in academic year 2025-2026

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Vajnovszki, Anais

LW06

staff member

Lauwers, Peter

LW06

lecturer-in-charge

Crible, Ludivine

LW06

co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

crdts

offering

Teaching languages

French

Keywords

French linguistics, clausal syntax and semantics, information structure, text linguistics, discourse, linguistic methodology, research skills

Position of the course

This course builds on the insights gained in the courses French Linguistics I (analysis of the internal structure of the sentence) and French Linguistics III (semantics and pragmatics). The main focus of this course is on the meaning and variation with respect to the construction of the sentence, under the influence of larger entities such as text and discourse (information structure; reference). Both written and oral language are discussed.

Contents

The course consists of two parts:

- (1) Analysis of syntactical variation - functional perspective
- (2) Text linguistics - text coherence - discours - discourse markers - structuring role of prosody - typology of text genres, including computer-mediated discourse

Students will learn to use modern linguistic analyses, as well electronic corpora and annotation tool.

Initial competences

To have attended the courses French Linguistics I and French Linguistics II or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means. The level of proficiency is B2-C1.

Final competences

- 1 to be able to recognize and analyze clausal patterns, both formally and semantically/pragmatically, by means of a solid conceptual apparatus
- 2 to be able to apply the linguistic conceptual apparatus to new examples and text fragments
- 3 to present, motivate and confront analyses of data within a team
- 4 to be aware of the fact that spoken languages has it own structures and rules, which make them very relevant to linguistic research
- 5 students master (passively) a broader array of syntactic structures, including those typical of spoken language, and extend their vocabulary through the exercises

- 6 to collect authentic examples, partly on the basis of existing corpora
- 7 to get acquainted with the basic concepts of prosody
- 8 To be able to use an annotation tool for oral language use
- 9 academic language proficiency in oral presentation and written text at level C1

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Interactive lecture (on campus) + seminars (most often via Bongo, streaming).
For some parts, the principle of flipped classroom is applied. Students prepare parts of the subject matter themselves, part by reading through the course notes, part by watching online videos.
individual assignment (guidance by assistant), with provisional and post-final individual (and collective) feedback

Study material

None

References

Course content-related study coaching

Quasi individual guidance of the team work (2 students); FAQ-session and forum.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment, Assignment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment, Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

written exam + oral presentation of the solution of an exercise + written individual assignment, with intermediate peer-to-peer feedback

Calculation of the examination mark

final written exam (75%) + oral presentation (5%) + written assignment (20%).
For the oral presentation and the work in group, language skills will be taken into account. To this end, error scales will be used that will be communicated to the students in advance.

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance.
 2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
 3. Alternative time for feedback is possible
- For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy