

## French Linguistics: Introduction (A005768)

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

**Credits 5.0** **Study time 150 h**

**Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027**

A (semester 2)      French      Gent

**Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027**

Demol, Annemie	LW06	staff member
Van Acker, Marieke	LW06	staff member
Lauwers, Peter	LW06	lecturer-in-charge

**Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027**

	<b>crdts</b>	<b>offering</b>
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - French)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - English)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - German)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Greek)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Italian)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Latin)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Spanish)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Swedish)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Linking Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French)</a>	5	A

**Teaching languages**

French

**Keywords**

French, linguistics

**Position of the course**

This introductory course aims to help students gain an understanding of the French language as a research object. After an introduction to French in general and the Francophony, a significant part of the course is devoted to the scientific description and analysis of morphosyntax and to lexicology/lexicography. In addition, students learn to work responsibly and critically with the main grammars and dictionaries, and are introduced to the heuristics of French linguistics.

**Contents**

- Introduction to French syntax: principles of (functional) analysis at sentence level and exercises; basic principles of constituent analysis.
- Systematic study of the word: morphology, word classes and lexicology (focusing on lexical semantics).
- Introduction to some historical and sociological aspects of French language
- Introduction to the most important reference grammars and (types of) dictionaries; basic heuristics of French linguistics; introduction to digital text corpora

**Initial competences**

Competences aligned with the final attainment targets for French in the sixth year of general secondary education (ASO)

## Final competences

- 1 acquire a solid conceptual grid comprising the basic concepts of research in French linguistics w.r.t. the analysis of the clause, clause combining, word classes, morphology and lexicology
- 2 to apply the reference grid presented on new data
- 3 acquire a (passive) knowledge of a broad array of syntactic structures and usages of words
- 4 understand in which respect modern linguistic (hence scientific) approaches of language differ from those of traditional prescriptive grammar
- 5 to be able to use the main reference grammars and dictionaries in an effective way, knowing on which aspect they crucially differ among each other
- 6 to be able to perform a simple search in a digital corpus
- 7 to accept that linguistic structure allows often for various analyses
- 8 to know the most relevant databases en to know how to use them efficiently to find relevant publications about linguistic topics and to locate them within in the UGent libraries.
- 9 students know where French is spoken, which varieties exist and which other languages are spoken in France

## 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

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

## Teaching methods

Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

## Extra information on the teaching methods

This course does not make use of generative artificial intelligence.  
Lecture recordings (of the lectures, not the seminars) are only available to working students and to students who have been granted this special accommodation.

## Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Riegel M. - J.-Chr. Pellat - R. Rioul. 2014 [1994]. Grammaire méthodique du français. Paris: PUF.  
Indicative price: € 20  
Optional: no  
Language : Other  
Author : Riegel M., Pellat Chr. & Rioul R.  
Oldest Usable Edition : 2014  
Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : regularly  
Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : regularly  
Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : regularly  
Additional information: This is the most important reference grammar; very affordable.

Type: Syllabus

Name: Linguistique française: introduction  
Indicative price: € 10  
Optional: no  
Language : Other  
Number of Pages : 233  
Oldest Usable Edition : 2026-2027  
Available on Ufora : Yes  
Additional information: De syllabus is gratis; de prijs van 10 euro is een schatting van de printkosten.

Type: Slides

Name: powerpoints used during classes  
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty  
Optional: no  
Number of Slides : 300  
Oldest Usable Edition : 2026-2027  
Available on Ufora : Yes  
Online Available : Yes

Type: Reader

Name: reading for lexicography/lexicology

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Other

Number of Pages : 50

Oldest Usable Edition : 2026-2027

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : Yes

### References

Riegel M. - J.-Chr. Pellat - R. Rioul. 2014 [1994<sup>1</sup>]. *Grammaire méthodique du français*. Paris: PUF. (+/-20 euro)

### Course content-related study coaching

Students are guided in completing exercises in small groups, partly prepared in advance and partly carried out on the spot. The guidance is largely student-directed.

Questions can also be asked during course breaks, after classes and by appointment.

Q&A booster session at the end + interactive forum during exam period.

### Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Written assessment

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

Written assessment

### Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Skills test

### Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

### Extra information on the examination methods

Final written exam (95 %) + skill-oriented exercises during heuristics seminars (5%).

Written exam with focus on applications.

### Calculation of the examination mark

Final written exam (95 %) + exercises during seminars (5%)

Second sitting: final examination (95%), with the continuous assessment score transferred. If the continuous assessment was insufficient, the final grade is based entirely (100%) on the final examination

### Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring attendance

2. The examination cannot be rescheduled

3. Alternative time for feedback is possible

For more information concerning flexible learning: [//www.flw.ugent.be/flexibelstuderen](http://www.flw.ugent.be/flexibelstuderen)

Lecture recordings (of the lectures, not the seminars) are only available to working students and to students who have been granted this special accommodation.