

French Linguistics: Variation (A006671)

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
Lauwers, Peter	LW06	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject Linguistics and Literature)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - French)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - English)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - German)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Greek)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Italian)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Latin)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Scandinavian Studies)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Spanish)	5	A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	5	A

Teaching languages

French

Keywords

Language variation, spoken French, Belgian French, Canadian French, sociolinguistics

Position of the course

This course aims to broaden the knowledge of the French language by considering the phenomenon of "variation" in several of its dimensions

Contents

In addition to a general introduction, two modules are offered

1. A description of the specific features of spoken French (and its register variation) at the phonetic, morphological, lexical, and especially syntactic levels.
2. A description of French in Belgium and French in Canada, with attention to the sociolinguistic context.

Initial competences

This course requires a solid insight in the functioning of linguistic systems - esp. morphology and morphosyntax. As such it builds on "French Linguistics: introduction (Ba1). Language proficiency level: C1.

Final competences

1 students have acquired insight in the various dimensions of language variation (with respect to the norm)

- 2 students have a sound factual knowledge of some important variants of contemporary French (esp. Belgian, Canadian and (hexagonal) spoken French)
- 3 students have a clear insight in the (sociolinguistic and historical) background of the variants of French, within the global situation of multilingualism
- 4 students understand that French is not a monolithic bloc but, instead, that there is more and more room for a polycentric vision within the broader framework of the "Francophonie"
- 5 students have the means to compare / to align their own variant with the other possible variants of French
- 6 students are able to synthesize a serious amount of information (taken from sources that are offered by the courseholder) and to present it to a group in an interactive way (development of teaching skills) in academic French (CI).
- 7 students improve their passive French language proficiency by studying vocabulary related to colloquial French and Belgian French in a contrastive fashion.

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

Group work, Seminar, Lecture, Independent work, Peer teaching

Extra information on the teaching methods

Interactive lectures (parts of which are devoted to the analysis of data by the students) . Some parts are offered in a blended way + micro- teaching by the students.

For the written report, responsible use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI) is allowed. During the lessons, what this means will be explained.

Study material

Type: Syllabus

Name: Linguistics of Modern French: variation

Indicative price: € 5

Optional: no

Language : Other

Number of Pages : 55

Oldest Usable Edition : 2024-2025

Additional information: Syllabus (copies) can be bought at TopCopy

Type: Slides

Name: slides and handouts

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Other

Number of Slides : 200

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : Yes

Type: Reader

Name: set of articles (micro-teaching)

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Other

Number of Pages : 40

Oldest Usable Edition : 2024-2025

Available on Ufora : Yes

Additional information: Each group has its own set of articles (depending of the topic chosen)

References

Course content-related study coaching

collective (group work)

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment

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

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Professional practice

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

oral examen + micro-teaching (and the written summary)

Transfer of the partial mark for micro-teaching is possible from the first to the 2nd session.

Calculation of the examination mark

oral exam (70%) ; micro-teaching (group) (30%)

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from certain educational activities requiring student attendance (every student is obliged to give an oral presentation, but this presentation can be replaced by a recorded video lesson).

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

No course recordings are available (format: interactive seminars)