

French for Political Scientists (K001373)

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

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 2)

French

Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Crible, Ludivine

LW06

lecturer-in-charge

Christiaen, Nina

LW06

co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

[Master of Science in Teaching in Social Sciences\(main subject Political Science\)](#)

crdts

5

offering

A

[Master of Science in Political Science\(main subject International Politics\)](#)

5

A

Teaching languages

French

Keywords

French, LSP (Language for Specific Purposes), Political Sciences

Position of the course

This course aims to improve the students' written and oral proficiency in French, with a focus on politically and socially-oriented vocabulary and professional skills. The students work with authentic subject-oriented French texts, video/audio fragments and guest lectures. They also develop their workplace communication practices, in order to facilitate their (international) career in politics and diplomacy.

Contents

The course is organized across five thematic modules : 1) general politics, 2) asking questions and writing professional emails in French, 3) geopolitics and international relations, 4) Defense in Belgium and 5) diplomacy. Throughout each of these themes, students complete several activities that aim to enrich their vocabulary and improve their mastery of written and spoken French, always on texts and assignments related to political science. Language assignments are both individual (self-study, online and in the classroom) and in group work. In addition to language development, the course offers a number of guest lectures in French by academics and political professionals.

Initial competences

You have a good knowledge of the French language, in accordance with the final objectives of secondary school.

Final competences

- 1 To understand and summarize written and spoken texts/fragments in French related to Political Sciences.
- 2 To produce texts and oral presentations related to Political Sciences in French at professional standards.
- 3 To prepare and participate in group debates in French related to Political Sciences.
- 4 To exhibit a good command of specialized vocabulary in French related to Political and Social Sciences.
- 5 To collect, use and report on sources in French related to Political and Social Sciences.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, Seminar, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Interactive classroom sessions in groups of maximum 30 students theory is integrated in the exercises. Vocabulary and grammar are actively integrated into writing, reading and speaking activities on relevant topics. Grammar and vocabulary are also developed in self-study (online exercises on Ufora, preparatory readings). A number of guest lectures are provided by internal or external professionals.

Study material

None

References**Course content-related study coaching**

- Ufora
- Mail
- Classroom feedback

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

Oral assessment, Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Oral assessment, Skills test, Written assessment, Assignment

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

Non-periodic : oral assignments (such as self-introduction, presentation of a press article, group debate, for instance) and written assignments (grammar tests ; professional writing skills such as writing an email in French, for instance).
Periodic : written exam and listening test

Calculation of the examination mark

50% non-periodic

50% periodic

To pass this course, students must obtain at least 10/20 for both the periodic and non-periodic evaluation. When students get less than 10/20 for one of the two evaluation forms, then they can no longer pass the whole course unit. If the final score still reaches 10 or more, it is then brought down to the highest non-passing grade (viz. 9/20).

Facilities for Working Students

1. Absence is allowed
2. Lectures will not be recorded but sufficient online learning material will be provided
3. It is possible to take the exam at a different time within the regular exam period
4. Possibility to receive feedback at another time: by appointment