

Toronto School of Theology
Advanced Degree Research Languages Program

FRENCH FOR READING KNOWLEDGE

Summer 2013

TST Building

47 Queens Park Crescent East

(St. George Campus)

Class time: *varies by session*

Instructor: Yushna Saddul
Contact information: y.saddul@utoronto.ca

Course Description

A revised syllabus will be provided on the first day of the class. The trick of this course is to balance the needs of beginners in French with those of students reviewing their knowledge. Naturally, a certain tension arises between the two groups which requires some patience on both sides. The main textbook uses a word-for-word translation method which is faithful to the literal sense of the French until the reader has enough of a feel to relax a bit.

In order to make the course as beneficial for you as possible, I invite you to submit as soon as possible the names of authors, books or articles (with full bibliographic information) which would be useful for you to read in French. I will try to accommodate your interests as much as possible by selecting passages to read in class which could benefit the rest of your work as well.

This course is designed for advanced degree (graduate) students who require the ability to read or translate French texts for theological, biblical, pastoral, historical or religious studies. The course teaches the fundamentals of grammar, syntax and vocabulary in order to develop comprehension and translation skills. The course does not teach writing or speaking skills. No previous language preparation is required, and the course is conducted in English.

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to read, understand and translate texts of moderate difficulty with the use of a dictionary.

The course is a non-credit course, whose successful completion with a min. 70% average fulfills TST's admission or program language competency requirements. TST students will have the successful completion of the course recorded on their ROSI transcripts. Non-TST students will find this course useful in preparing for departmental language examinations.

Course Materials and Textbooks

Collins-Robert French-English English-French Dictionary (any recent edition; but not pocket-size).

Ritch, K. Janet. *Reading French: A Guide for Students of Religion and Theology*. Toronto: Clement Publishing, 2nd ed. 2012.

It is important to buy or borrow a good dictionary, right away, in order to become accustomed to using it from the beginning of the course. To this end, I would recommend either the *Collins-Robert Dictionary*, which gives synonymous in French for the various usages, or the *Harrap's Standard French and English Dictionary*. The latter often includes the theological vocabulary that the former omits. Both are available in the reference section of most libraries on the U. of T. campus. Smaller pocket-size dictionaries do not offer the full semantic range for any given word which you will require.

Supplementary Aids

Grevisse, Maurice. *Le Bon Usage*, 12th ed. Par Andre Goosse. Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium: Editions Duculot, 1993, or rev.

Kendris, Christopher. *501 French Verbs*, 2nd ed. Barron's Educational Series, 1982, or rev.

Le Nouveau Bescherelle: L'Art de conjuguer. Paris Librairie A. Haitier, 1959, or rev.

Course Requirements

Attendance & participation

Students are required to attend all classes and fully participate in class discussions. In the case of any absences, please notify the instructor as soon as possible.

Assignments

Students are responsible for completing all assignments, exams and quizzes.

Quizzes and tests

The course has a number of in-class quizzes and an exam.

Final Exam

A final 1.5 hour exam will be evaluated based on the TST/UofT grading scale.

Grading

Participation TBA

Quizzes TBA

Exam TBA

Final Exam TBA

Syllabus

Week or Session	Lesson Topic	Course Assignments
1	The weekly schedule will follow the chapter layout in J. Ritch, <i>Reading French: A Guide for Students of Religion and Theology</i> , along with other supplementary materials	
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3		
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10		
11		
12		
Exam		