

French Ab Initio – Standard Level

The purpose of this course is to promote a broader cultural understanding by bringing students in contact with ways of thinking and living that differ from their own. By understanding how a language works students also develop more effective communicational skills.

This course serves as an introduction to the French language and culture. Although all abilities are a part of the course's curriculum, the emphasis will be placed on the practical usage of the language to allow students to effectively deal with everyday situations. A strong focus will be put on developing speaking and listening skills. The development of listening and speaking skills will increase in the second year of the program and a growing emphasis will be placed on reading and writing skills.

Subject Areas

1. **The individual** - personal identification, family and friends, clothes, daily routine, time, life at home, household tasks, Francophone celebrations
2. **Education and work** - types of schools, life at school, ASA, personnel, careers, dates, facilities, future ambitions, job interview
3. **Town and services** – buildings, giving/asking for directions, public signs, types of shops, goods, customer service, public transport, telephone, fax, Francophone cities of the world
4. **Food and drink** - food stores, food names, meals in a restaurant, meal times and French etiquette at the table, recipes, preferences, local specialties
5. **Leisure and travel** – the media, Francophone music, sports and hobbies, entertainment, means of transport, facilities, reservations in a hotel
6. **The environment** – geography, current weather conditions, forecast, climate, seasons and seasonal events, pollution
7. **Health and emergencies** – fitness and good health, illness, injury, seeing a doctor, accidents, repair

Assessment

Internal Assessments	• Individual oral – short interview with teacher	30%
	• Interactive oral activity – mark from one activity	

Throughout the course students will have projects, tests, oral presentations, oral responses based on a stimulus [song, film, image...] and of course the individual orals and group orals. Formative and summative assessment will be based on a variety of tasks targeting all 4 linguistic competencies. Test format will often be similar to the one used by the IBDP examination allowing students to become familiar with the IBDP format.

The assessment of oral work will take place in the final year of the course but will be prepared and practiced over the two years period.

External	Paper 1	Text Handling	1 ½ hrs – four written tests and a short writing exercise	40%
	Paper 2	Written Production	1 ¼ hrs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One short writing task – two choices • One extended writing task – three choices 	30%