








The version you're consulting is not final. This course description may change. The final version will be published on 1st June.

5.00 credits

30.0 h + 15.0 h

Q1

Teacher(s)	Simon Anne-Catherine ;
Language :	French
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Prerequisites	LFIAL1131 Understanding Language: An Introduction to Linguistics Level C1-C2 in French.
Main themes	Examination of the usage (spoken and written) of present-day French reveals that the language is subject to significant variations that affect, among others, pronunciation, vocabulary and syntax. This course offers a series of theoretical and methodological tools for the identification, description and analysis of linguistic variants, and attempts to explain the causes of this variation. The approach is both disciplinary (phonology, lexicology, syntax) and sociolinguistic. The course aims to develop reflection about the idea of reference French and about the characteristics of the different varieties of French, whether regional, social or stylistic
Learning outcomes	<p>At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify linguistic variation (variables and variants) in spoken and written French usage, at the phonetic-phonological, written, morphological, lexical and syntactical levels; • Describe variants in a qualitative manner, in relation to reference French; • Interpret the social value of a variant by relating it to one or more dimensions of variation (social, geographical, stylistic, etc.); • Distinguish between the normative and scientific viewpoints on language, and take a critical perspective on value judgements relative to usage of French.
Evaluation methods	In the January session, the final grade is based on a written exam. In the August session, the evaluation may take the form of an oral or written exam depending on the number of students enrolled.
Teaching methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures • Practical group work sessions ("travaux pratiques") • Tools for interaction with large groups (Padlet, Wooclap).
Content	<p>The following topics will be covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic concepts for understanding variation (standard French, variants, variables, axes of variation, etc.) • Pronunciation in different regions of the French-speaking world (vowels, consonants, schwa) • Similarities and differences between the phonological systems of different varieties of French • The functioning, evolution and variation in French spelling and the reforms it may undergo • Word formation in French, particularly the formation of feminine nouns for titles, ranks and functions • Inclusive writing • Variation in French syntax depending on the situation (formal style, informal style), particularly sentence forms
Inline resources	<p>Moodle Platform: https://moodle.uclouvain.be/course/view.php?id=2675</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • register for a group of Practical Work (TP, travaux pratiques) at the beginning of the year • use resources (scientific articles, texts from official language policy bodies, etc.) • Obtain the answers to the TP exercises after each session.
Faculty or entity in charge	ELAL

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Minor in French Studies (only available for reenrolment and ELAL Bachelor transitional programmes)	MINFRAN	5		
Bachelor in Modern Languages and Literatures: German, Dutch and English	GERM1BA	5		
Bachelor in Ancient and Modern Languages and Literatures	LAFR1BA	5		
Minor in Linguistics (only available for reenrolment)	MINLING	5		
Bachelor in Psychology and Education : Speech and Language Therapy	LOGO1BA	5		
Bachelor in French and Romance Languages and Literatures : General	ROM1BA	5		
Bachelor in Modern Languages and Literatures : General	ROGE1BA	5		
Minor in Linguistics	MINLINGUI	5		