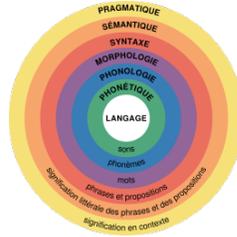


# FREN 703

## Structure of Modern French

Prof. Kim Swanson  
Fall 2021, M/W 11:00-12:15



### Overview:

This course will provide an introduction to the various subfields of French linguistics for graduate students with little or no prior linguistic background. It is cross-listed and meets jointly with the undergraduate course FREN 443. Topics will include major aspects of phonetics/phonology (the sounds/sound system), morphology (word formation), syntax (sentence structure), pragmatics (language use) and sociolinguistic variation (social, stylistic, geographical), as well as language attitudes and policies in France and other Francophone regions. Students will be introduced to theoretical approaches to the study of French linguistics, we and will work on linguistic analyses of first- and second-language data, as we consider implications for the learning and teaching of French. The course is taught in French.

### Course objectives:

- Gain an understanding of the subfields of French linguistics, and of the linguistic features of French that are most significant for second language learners.
- Become acquainted with theoretical approaches to the study of linguistics.
- Work on linguistic analyses of first- and second-language data.
- Deepen understanding of linguistic differences between French and English.
- Broaden knowledge of social/stylistic/regional variations of French.

### Assignments/Assessment:

Evaluation will be based on class participation/preparation, homework assignments/linguistic analyses, two shorter exams and a final exam (in-class or take-home), a presentation and a research paper based on a topic of interest in consultation with the professor.

### Main textbook:

- Léon, Pierre & Parth Bhatt. 2017. *Structure du français moderne (4th ed.)*. Toronto: Canadian Scholars Press.

### Other Possible Readings:

- Anderson, Bruce. 2008. Forms of evidence and grammatical development in the acquisition of adjective position in L2 French. *Studies in Second Language Acquisition* 30: 1-29.
- Armstrong, Nigel and Tim Pooley. 2010. *Social and Linguistic Change in European French*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Ayoun, Dalila. 2007. The second language acquisition of grammatical gender and agreement. In Dalila Ayoun (ed.), *French Applied Linguistics*. Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 21-48.
- Barlow, Julie and Jean-Benoît Nadeau. 2007. *La grande aventure de la langue française: De Charlemagne au Cirque du Soleil*. Montréal: Québec Amérique.
- Beeching, Kate, Nigel Armstrong and Françoise Gadet (Eds.). 2009. *Sociolinguistic variation in contemporary French*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Chevrot, Jean-Pierre, Céline Dugua, Mylène Harnois-Delpiano, Anne Siccardi & Elsa Spinelli. 2013. Liaison acquisition: debates, critical issues, future research. *Language Sciences* 39: 83-94.
- Etienne, Corinne and Kelly Sax. 2009. "Stylistic variation in French: Bridging the gap between research and textbooks." *The Modern Language Journal* 93 (4): 585-606.
- Howard, Martin. 2012. From tense and aspect to modality: The acquisition of future, conditional and subjunctive morphology in L2 French. A preliminary study. *Cahiers Chronos* 24: 2-1-223.
- Valdman, Albert. 2003. The Acquisition of Sociostylistic and Sociopragmatic variation by instructed Second Language Learners: the Elaboration of Pedagogical Norms. In C. Blyth (ed.), *The Sociolinguistics of Foreign Language Classrooms: Contributions of the Native, Near-native and Non-native Speaker*. Boston: Heinle and Heinle, pp. 57-78.