

Applied French for Science – FR252

Module Code	FR252
Credits	10 ECTS
Semesters	1 and 2
Module coordinator	Dr. Ornaith Rodgers
	ornaith.rodgers@universityofgalway.ie
	Ext. 3800
	AMB-2021 (2 nd floor, Arts Millennium Building)
Hours per week	4
Time and Venue	5pm –8pm AC203
	Plus one asynchronous hour
Materials	Supplied in class and available on Canvas

Module Aims and Objectives

This module is designed for 2nd Year Science students who have already completed French to Leaving Certificate level (or equivalent). The programme aims to further develop students' language skills within a scientific context to bring their proficiency in French to Level B1/B2 of the Common European Framework. In particular, it aims to introduce them to scientific French and also to improve their understanding of the fundamental structures of French. The module thus provides students with the space to extend their knowledge of the French language within this specialized context using a variety of multimodal language learning activities such as text analysis, discussions, role-plays, simulations, grammar activities, and communication games.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- 1) demonstrate a good knowledge of basic scientific terminology in French
- 2) speak with ease about themselves, their studies, student life, their area of science, their activities in the lab in French and a specific range of scientific topics
- 3) make a short presentation in French on a scientific topic of their choice
- 4) read and understand the main points of simple specialized texts in French on scientific topics
- 5) understand simple video clips on familiar matters relating to their studies, interests and science
- 6) write short, simple, coherent and well-structured texts in French

Module Delivery

This module is delivered through three 1-hour classes per week devoted to text analysis, grammar/writing skills and oral communication skills together with one hour of asynchronous work.

The text analysis class is devoted to the analysis and discussion of a variety of texts relating to contemporary topics such as epidemics/ pandemics, health, nutrition, technology, animal testing, marine science, forensic science, cloning, space travel etc. Texts are carefully chosen in line with students' subject choices in Science and target specific terminology and linguistic structures. Supporting resources such as video clips and other audio-visual materials are used to allow students to engage with this specialist language in a variety of modes. Discussion classes, role-plays, simulations and short reflective pieces are also used to consolidate language learning.

The grammar/ writing skills class is an interactive class focusing on the improvement of students' understanding of the grammar and structures of the French language through the completion of grammar exercises and games, web-based grammar activities and regular written assignments (reflective journal).

In the oral communication skills class, guided conversation activities, discussions, communication games, pairwork and debates are used to develop students' oral communication skills, while authentic audio-visual materials are used to improve students' receptive skills. Themes covered are of both general interest and related to Science.

During the asynchronous hour, students will be asked to work independently using video and written resources provided on Canvas to practise their grammar and oral/ written language skills.

Students are expected to attend regularly and to actively engage with the language through their active participation in class and through the regular completion of assignments and self-study activities.

Module Assessment

The module is assessed as follows:		
Reflective journal + presentation	15%	
Christmas assessment	10%	
Oral Examination (Sem. 2)	25%	
Final Examination	50%	