

Syllabus – Elective Course

Course title:

Understanding the challenges of climate change
French Language & Culture

Credits:

6 ECTS credits

Teaching language:

English and French (French as a Foreign Language course)

Target students:

Undergraduate students from all study areas with an interest in learning about climate change (causes, consequences, and solutions) and discussing about its challenges. Undergraduate students from all study areas who would like to learn or improve their French

Teacher in charge of the course:

DESMYTTERE Hélène (Junia, *Université Catholique de Lille*)
SUZANA, Elisabeth (Clarife Center of Language and Intercultural Studies, *Université Catholique de Lille*)

COURSE PRESENTATION

Prerequisite:

To take this course, the students should have a good university level and should normally have completed at least one semester at university. Students should have a minimum scientific background. They must have some ability to work as a group and be able to communicate easily in English at a standard university level. In other respects, the course is intended to serve a mix of profiles and learning backgrounds for a more diverse international learning experience.

For the French course, none. Courses are from beginner to advanced level. An initial placement test evaluates students' linguistic skills including listening, reading and grammar. An interview with a French teacher assesses speaking ability. Following the placement test, the number of level groups are determined depending on the total number of students, and are based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)

CONTENT:

Climate change is one of the main challenges we are facing worldwide. This course will provide students with a better **understanding of the causes and consequences of climate change**, as well as an overview and discussion on **adaptation and mitigation strategies**.

Topics to be covered will include the following questions:

- How does the **Climate System** work? What are the **phenomena** behind Climate Change? What are the **causes**/who is responsible for?
- What are the **evidences** of Climate Change? What can we already **observe**?
- What are the **climate projections** for 2050 – 2100 horizons? How are climate projections **modeled**?
- What are the expected **impacts** of climate change? For example, on Agriculture?
- What are the possible **mitigation and adaptation strategies**? How can we **act**? What are the current **objectives**?

The study of the impacts, as well as adaptation and mitigation strategies will focus on the **French and/or European level**. Climate change's impacts and strategies will be illustrated on specific activities, such as **Agriculture**, as it an area of expertise of our university.

Join this course, as having a thorough understanding of the causes and consequences of climate change is a first step to raise awareness and make a change!

The **French course** will provide students with an introduction to the French language and culture. Course sessions will include: Reading comprehension, Written expression, Oral expression, Listening comprehension, Vocabulary and Grammar. Dependent on student level, the educational method focuses on practical work: grammatical exercises with multiple examples and oral practice, listening to oral materials with increasingly difficult characteristics, discussions, presentations and debates, role play, writing short essays and summaries.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course, the students should be able to:

- Understand the main causes and consequences of climate change
- Communicate and explain the causes and consequences of climate change to various audiences
→ Be an ambassador to raise awareness
- Provide arguments on the evidence of climate change and stress the urgency to act at all levels
- To read and analyze climatic data
- Describe the main strategies that could be implemented at different scales to adapt and mitigation climate change, and the current objectives
- Debate and decipher the news on the subject

For the **French course**, appropriate to the assigned course level, the students will be able to:

- express themselves through phrases or sentences (daily life, asking questions, discussion on familiar topics, speaking in public, efficiently and fluently)
- understand and use common expressions (understand what people say at different speeds and with different accents, use traditional welcome expressions and courtesy)
- use and categorize information in a written document
- express opinions and answer precise questions
- better understand French culture

WORKLOAD

French contact hours = 60 minutes (in some countries/institutions, 1 contact hour = 45-50 minutes)

Climate Change:

Form:	Number of hours	Comments
Face-to-face lectures, in-class, on-site learning	9 hours	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fundamentals on the climate system and understanding the causes of climate change 2. Analysis on the impacts of Climate Change 3. Adaptation and mitigation strategies and policies
Activities in class	9 hours	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Climate Collage 2. Exercises with climate data for climate change impacts' analysis and projections 3. Group work presentation and debate
Visit	3 hours	Site visit
Approximate personal work / homework	7 hours	Including group project preparation
Student total workload	30 hours	

French:

Form:	Number of hours	Comments
Face-to-face lectures, in-class, on-site learning	18 hours	6 sessions of 3 hours
Activities in class		
Visit		
Approximate personal work / homework	6 hours	
Student total workload	24 hours	

EDUCATIONAL METHODS

The course will include various interactive teaching modalities:

- Lectures

- Innovative activities such as a game (climate collage), debates...
- Group work
- Activities (climate data analysis, carbon footprint calculation...)
- Discussions
- Visit and/or professional expertise sharing: a few visits and/or lectures from **important local actors** should be proposed.

RESOURCES

All course materials will be supplied in class. References may be made to the following resources:

- Data and reports from IPCC
- Climate data from Météo-France and the DRIAS Plateform
- Various scientific literature on climate change (French and European scientific studies)

ASSESSMENT

Climate Change:

Form	Number	Comments
Final exam (30%)	1	Examination covering all aspects of course (quizzes and/or short-answers questions)
Group work (50%)	1	Oral presentation on the group work
Others (student participation...) (20%)		Attendance, participation, and contribution to group discussion

French:

Form	Number	Comments
Final exam (60%)	1	Examination covering all aspects of course
Continuous assessment (20%)		Tests, presentations
Others (student participation...) (20%)		Attendance, participation, and contribution to group discussion

This syllabus is based on information available at the time of publication (November 2021). Changes may occur.

For updated information about course content, please contact us: lilleprograms@univ-catholille.fr