

MICEFA Course List Spring 2024



MIC 103: Tour de France

Units: 3

Level: *Beginner (A0-A1)*

Prof. HERCBERG Katia

Monday 14h00-17h00 – ISEP Paris, Room 411 (28 rue Notre Dame des Champs, 75006)

First Class: January 29th

This course will allow students to discover French geographic and regional diversity. The goal is to increase proficiency in the four French language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. With an emphasis on oral expression, the course aims to perfect French pronunciation. Cultural competency about French regions, cities, traditions and cuisine will also be developed through readings, media, and experiences in real-life situations.

MIC 209 : The French System / Le Système politique français et ses institutions

Units: 3

Level: *Intermediate (A2)*

Prof. HERCBERG Katia

Tuesday 14h00-17h00 – MICEFA Office, Meeting Room (6 Rue Douanier Rousseau, 75014)

First Class: January 30th

In this course we will study the functioning of the French political system, its institutions and its socio-cultural aspects. What is the 5th Republic? How is the President elected? What is the role of the government? What does political cohabitation mean? What does the mayor do? What does secularism mean? What is the difference between the regions, departments, and communes? This course will present a general overview of the French political system and institutions with an analysis of the political media. Classes will take place both in and outside of the classroom.

MIC 250: Analysis of Cultural Differences: France and America / L'analyse culturelle: francité vs américanité

Units: 3

Level: *Intermediate (A2-B1)*

Prof. HERCBERG Katia

Thursday 9h00-12h00 – ISEP Paris, Room 48A Feb. 1st (all other courses, room 411) (28 rue Notre Dame des Champs, 75006)

First Class: February 1st

This course studies how cultural differences manifest. Students will be asked to question the role of stereotypes, clichés, and perceptions in our understanding of foreign cultures. The course will specifically examine the French and North American cultures while improving French skills in their globality.

All courses, dates, and locations are subject to change.

Courses require a minimum of 10 students

MIC 280: French Rhetoric and Debate: Descartes, Voltaire, Sartre... / Rhétorique et débat d'idées à la française : Descartes, Voltaire, Sartre...

Units: 3

Level: *Advanced (B2 to C1)*

Prof. SCHUCHMAN Katia

Monday 14h00-17h00 – Université Paris Panthéon-Assas, Room 302 (92, rue d'Assas 75006 M°4 Vavin/ RER B Port Royal)

First Class: January 29th

Each philosopher's thought corresponds to a way of seeing the world, situating oneself, and expressing oneself. This plurality of opinions is largely at the origin of what is known as the "French spirit". By cross-referencing different sources (extracts from philosophical or literary texts, newspaper articles, satirical videos, etc.), students will develop their own thinking by exploring various methodologies (argumentation, summary, synthesis, dissertation). In the course of these activities, they will learn strategies for expressing their point of view in writing and work on their speaking skills to develop fluency in oral communication.

MIC 253: France and the United States: The Transatlantic Relationship in Times of War

Units: 3

Level: Taught in English

Prof. HAMPTON Ellen

Wednesday 14h00-17h00 – ISEP Paris, Room 411 Jan. 31st (all others courses, room 44) (28 rue Notre Dame des Champs, 75006)

First Class: January 31st

This class will examine the relationship between France and the United States on a historical and cultural level during three key conflicts: the American Revolution, World War I, and World War II. Each of these events not only saw a strengthening of the alliance between the two nations but also fostered a more profound cultural interchange. We will explore how these exchanges occurred in literature and music within the framework of political tension and often tragedy.

MICEFA courses are scheduled to end May 17th (subject to modification).

MICEFA Course List

Fall 2024



MIC 111 Welcome to Paris! /Bienvenue à Paris!

Units: 3

Level: Beginner (A0-A1)

Prof. Katia Herberg

Time/Place: TBA

“Welcome to Paris” is a beginner workshop aimed to jump start French speaking by studying the grammar and vocabulary from situations of everyday life. Students will make their first steps in French language and will discover different topics related to the French capital and its neighborhoods, Parisian life style, French gastronomy, French cinema, etc.

MIC 206 Parisian Urban Spaces and Diversity / La diversité parisienne et les espaces urbains

Units: 3

Level: Upper Beginner (A2-B1)

Prof. Pierrette Sansone Barrès

Time/Place: TBA

This 30-hour course is designed for non-native speakers at the Intermediate I level. The objective of this class is to provide a pedagogical structure for students to take full advantage of their immersion experience in Paris. The course will be comprised of a mix of classroom and excursion time. The theme is urban spaces and diversity of Paris. We will focus on quirky, unusual sides of the French capital, structured around different and varied groups of people who have inhabited Paris and left their marks : artists, immigrants, workers, students, aristocrats, laborers, etc. The excursions will take the students to out of the ordinary places, hidden within Paris : village streets, odd museums, mansions, contemporary ephemeral street art, underground urban networks, flea markets, and so on. Students will spend time in the classroom and at home preparing for their excursion by studying texts, documentaries, short movies, songs, poems, pamphlets, drawings and paintings. Students will work toward a final presentation at the end of the course centered on the relationship between identity and Paris as an urban text.

MIC 215 Women’s Rights in France: Two Centuries of Campaign and Combat for Civil and Political Rights/Les droits des femmes en France: deux siècles de luttes et de combats pour les droits civiques et politiques

Units: 3

Level: Intermediate (B1-C1)

Prof. K. Herberg Nossenko

Time/Place: TBA

This course explores the evolution of women’s rights in France from the French Revolution to current day. Students will study the history of feminism in the 19th & 20th centuries studying such campaigns as the right to vote, right to divorce, right to open a bank account without husband’s approval, right to contraception, abortion rights and other fundamental rights that protect the individual in the public space.

All courses, dates, and locations are subject to change
Courses require a minimum of 10 students

MIC 244 The Literature of the Enlightenment / La littérature du siècle des Lumières

Units: 3

Level: Advanced (B2-C1)

Prof. K. Hercberg Nossenko

Time/Place: TBA

The aim of this course is to engage in a process of reflection and analysis surrounding the period defined in the History of France as "the Age of Enlightenment" based on philosophical and literary works. After defining the movement of the Enlightenment in relation to the period before it, we will question the role and place of the great thinkers of the Encyclopedia. The works of Montesquieu, Voltaire, Rousseau, Diderot will be approached from the historical, philosophical, and literary perspective. Students will demonstrate what unites and distinguishes these great thinkers of the time.

MIC 220E 19th Century French Painting: Impressionism and Beyond

Units: 3

Level: Taught in English

Prof. E. Costello

Time/Place: TBA

This course examines the evolution of painting in the 19th century that led to the innovations of the Impressionist painters, who assimilated and then transcended these innovations. Students will explore the importance of the post-Impressionist movement and how it opened the door for others such as Cézanne who, in turn, inaugurated the 20th century painting.