

4-22-2022

FRE 316: Advanced French Grammar OER Curation

Chealsye Bowley
Grand Valley State University, bowleyc@gvsu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/library_curated_oer



Part of the [French and Francophone Language and Literature Commons](#), and the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

ScholarWorks Citation

Bowley, Chealsye, "FRE 316: Advanced French Grammar OER Curation" (2022). *Curated OER Collections*. 18.

https://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/library_curated_oer/18

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Libraries at ScholarWorks@GVSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Curated OER Collections by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@GVSU. For more information, please contact scholarworks@gvsu.edu.

FRE 316: Advanced French Grammar OER Curation

[Overview](#)

[Scope Notes](#)

[Current textbooks and materials](#)

[Search Notes](#)

[Gap Analysis](#)

[Promising OER Options](#)

[Stretch Resource Options](#)

[French Literature Materials](#)

Overview

Scope Notes

Instructor is trying out a new text, *En Bonne Forme*, during the upcoming winter semester. The previously used text was changed, because the text was in English and that made for extra work for students to learn additional vocabulary and for the instructor who makes all their presentation materials in French. The instructor would like open educational materials that use examples from authentic texts and literature as having “a real life context for the grammatical structures, so [students] can see the value of understanding how they work” and provide students with how the French grammar they’re learning can be useful creatively in writing and for their own personal expression. Additionally, the instructor would like self correcting activities that provide students with instant feedback while practicing with authentic French materials. The instructor would like to begin utilizing some OER materials during the upcoming semester and redesign the course in summer.

Current textbooks and materials

Contextualized French Grammar. Stacey Katz Bourns. Heinle, Cengage Learning (2013). ISBN 978-1-111-35414-5. \$50 (previously used)

En bonne forme, 8th Edition Simone Renaud, Dominique van Hooff (2004). ISBN: 978-1-59849-217-0 . \$100 (new course text)



This work is released under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License](#). Please credit University Libraries, Grand Valley State University.

Search Notes

The search consulted OER Commons, Merlot, BC Open Textbooks, Pressbooks, OpenOregon, and the Open Textbook Library. There is an abundance of French textbooks and online game resources that could be a great fit for the course. The main hurdle during the search is with the curator only having a minor understanding of French and the levels of studying a foreign language could mean not all resources will be appropriate for this specific course.

Gap Analysis

Gaps are difficult to determine when working with a foreign language. In general there appears to be a variety of French language materials that focus on grammar and more advanced students. There is a need for greater practice and interactive activities for students. Instructors have the language expertise to better determine what gaps need to be addressed.

Promising OER Options

Sons et lettres

- Walton, Stephen, "Sons et lettres: A Pronunciation Method for Intermediate-level French" (2018). PDXOpen: Open Educational Resources.
- Available from [PDXScholar](#)
- Online book, printed book, and website
- CC BY-NC
- Comments: This OER is a set of classroom materials designed to train students to hear and produce the sounds of French and to recognize the print spells that are used to represent the sounds. In addition to the online book, or physical book for purchase, there is an associated website to provide students with listening and speaking exercises with the goal that students will gain confidence as French speakers. These materials could be used in the classroom or adapted as supplemental practice material for students. Additionally, the authors are working on an instructor manual to accompany this resource.

French Grammar Games for Grammar Geeks

- Sonja Burrows and Brigitte Humbert, French Grammar Games for Grammar Geeks, Middlebury College (2020).
- Available from [OER Commons](#)
- Website, games
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: This is an online set of open educational games for learning French grammar, including Sentence Whiz, Word Nerd, and Verb Challenge. These games allow students to practice grammar and gain confidence. Two excellent features are that

sections of the resource link to games to address the same grammar points and filters can be used to select games that focus on the same grammar points, both of which can be used by students to gain more practice in areas they most need it. Additionally, the games are mobile friendly. This resource could be a great fit for homework practice or in-class games.

Tex's French Grammar

- Carl Blyth, Nancy Guilloteau, and Karen Kelton, Tex's French Grammar, University of Texas at Austin (2012).
- Available from [OER Commons](#)
- Audio, PDF, website
- CC BY
- Comments: An online pedagogical reference for French grammar that includes explanations, self-correcting exercises, online audio, and cartoon images. This may be useful for adaption as homework exercises for class if the grammar level is appropriate for this course.

Stretch Resource Options

Tout un Monde

- Alicia Soueid, Tout un Monde: An interdisciplinary approach to intermediate French, Mavs Open press (2019).
- Available from [University of Texas at Arlington](#)
- PDF
- CC BY
- Comments: This OER is designed for intermediate college French courses and introduces students to a vocabulary associated with fields such as medicine, advertising, travel, business, agriculture, and relationships. It may not be the ideal fit for the course, but could potentially be useful depending on the vocabulary focus that the instructor desires.

Français Interactif

- Citation:
- Available from [BC Campus](#)
- PDF, website
- CC BY
- Comments: Français Interactif, www.laits.utexas.edu/fi, the web-based French program developed and in use at the University of Texas since 2004, and is Tex's French grammar is the companion site. In addition to the text, there are 320 videos, recorded vocabulary lists, phonetic lessons, grammar lessons, and self-correcting exercises. However, some

have described the resource as for beginning French and may not be the appropriate level of French for this course, so it is considered a potential stretch resource.

French Literature Materials

LibriVox

- Available from [LibriVox](#)
- Website, audio recordings
- Public domain
- This resource is a collection of recordings of literary classics, autobiographies, plays and poetry in the public domain. The resource contains recordings in a variety of languages, but specifically in French has 866 books. Since these are public domain, the written text will also be out of copyright and can be read while listening to the audio.

Let's Read French Books

- Somayeh Kamranian; Guy de Maupassant; Alphonse Daudet; and Jean Giono, Let's Read French Books, BC Campus (2020).
- Available from [BC Campus](#)
- Online book
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: This OER is a collection of public domain 19th century French literature to encourage students studying French to read. In addition to the text, there are activities for students to engage with and discover within the text. These stories are not contemporary, but may be useful for the course.