

**FRENCH
LANGUAGE SCHOOL
COURSES CATALOG
2020-2021**



Parole de Vie
Québec

A MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Since 1948, we have been preparing English-speaking missionaries for work in francophone fields of service. We provide them with linguistic and cultural skills that will enable them to meet the needs of the church in the French-speaking world.

In order to fulfill our mission, we use a communicative method called "Invitation" whereby learning is always put into context. This method, which is the basis of our program, touches on all of the French-speaking cultures of the world. In addition, our teachers are all native French speakers.

There are many advantages to the Language School at Parole de Vie (Word of Life). Our location in North America provides ease of contact with mission agencies in the event of emergencies and helps to keep costs down. Also, studies can begin at two different times during the year: September or January. We provide a supportive Christian environment in which to live and study. As well, we have multiple-level instruction according to the knowledge and ability of each student and a campus that is ideal for families with children. In addition, because of the Parole de Vie French Bible Institute which shares the same campus, missionaries have the opportunity to interact with young students who are searching for God's leading in their lives and share their burden for missions with them. Overall, Parole de Vie is an excellent place to study French.

We invite you to come, see, and discover our Language School.



Michel Roby
Academic Dean of the Language School

A MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

WHO WE ARE

Bethel Bible Institute was founded in 1948. Word of Life Canada assumed responsibility for its operation in 1992 and it is now known as Parole de Vie. From the very beginning, we have offered both a complete Bible course in French as well as a complete program for English speaking missionaries and others desiring to learn French. This combination has always been very helpful since the language learner is immersed in a French environment and culture. Over one thousand missionaries have received their language training at Bethel and many currently serve in French-speaking countries around the world.

The school is situated on the outskirts of the lovely city of Sherbrooke in the Eastern Townships of Quebec. The campus offers a calm, natural setting within a few minutes' walk of a city bus line.

WHAT IS THE FRENCH LANGUAGE SCHOOL

PAROLE DE VIE

WHAT WE TEACH

There's no doubt about it: learning a second language is difficult. We know that it is a real challenge and that you will require God's help to learn French well. Nevertheless, experience has shown that this time can be, and often is, one of great encouragement and personal growth.

Our core courses are taught by a team of instructors whose mother tongue is French. Included in the course are a variety of off-campus learning activities along with the normal classroom program.

The goal of these courses is to create an environment in which students with varied capacities and backgrounds can learn as much French as possible during the time they are here. Students are encouraged to use French right from the first day in order to make good progress. After a short time, they will find themselves totally immersed in the French culture.

Upon completion, students will not only be equipped to speak with those around them, but should be able to communicate with government officials, speak on the telephone, understand Biblical texts as well as news on the radio, television and in the newspapers. They will also be able to pray in public, give their testimony, explain the plan of salvation, read printed materials aloud, write official and personal letters and fill out forms. They will be equipped to function in any francophone country.

WHO TEACHES



MR MICHEL ROBY

- Master's degree in Adult Education Studies from the University of Sherbrooke.
- Bachelor's degree in French Studies from the University of Sherbrooke.
- Bachelor's degree in History from the University of Sherbrooke.
- More than 30 years of experience.



MRS MARIETTE BRICAULT

- Bachelor's degree in Christian Education.
- Minor in French.
- More than 18 years of experience.

Other teachers are added when necessary.

WHAT WE OFFER

REGULAR COURSES FOR BEGINNERS, INTERMEDIATES AND ADVANCED

Our program called "Invitation" is made up of three main elements: grammar, dialogue, and conversation-in-context. Each grammar rule is applied in dialogue and conversation-in-context and reinforced by additional exercises. This permits us to evaluate the written and oral comprehension of the student. In order to achieve all of our objectives, we have developed other courses and pedagogical tools. Here is a list of the courses and their content:

- Dialogue** (1 period per day) Through role-play and memorization of dialogues, students improve their pronunciation and increase their vocabulary.
- Grammar** (1 period per day) Includes :
a) Presentation of grammatical rules
b) Written work, vocabulary, spelling, composition and translation
Students learn basic grammar in order to better understand daily conversation.
- Conversation-in-context** (1 period per day) Through a variety of activities, students learn to take the vocabulary and dialogues learned in class and apply them to daily living experiences and situations which they will likely encounter in francophone countries. They develop their ability to understand French and speak.
- Phonetics** (daily for the first two weeks) Students develop pronunciation skills such as intonation, accent, elisions, cadence and liaisons.
- Home Language Laboratory French** (minimum of five hours per week) In addition to the above courses, students will do Language Laboratory at home on their personal computer, to reinforce their understanding of vocabulary, pronunciation, and grammar. This can be done by using different tools provided by the school. Tests for each unit will also be submitted to the professor
- Bible Vocabulary** A variety of means are used to assist in equipping students for life and ministry in a French evangelical context by broadening their understanding and use of biblical terminology and their exposure to French congregational singing.
- Culture and Customs** The objective of this course is to prepare students who will serve in a French mission (for advanced and field across the world. The students must realize some notion of culture that the ethnic integration class) groups preserve and pass on generation in generation. Grading is based on oral presentation, written report and final exam.

WHAT WE OFFER

INTEGRATION COURSE

(For students who have completed the advanced level)

- Writing workshop : 3 hours per week
- Proficiency in French grammar : 6 hours per week
- Conversation development : 5 hours per week
- Active listening : 3 hours per week

Students will choose between various means through which they will develop their listening skills in French.

FRENCH IMMERSION IN BIBLICAL STUDIES

We also offer a French Immersion in Biblical Studies program for students who possess a basic knowledge of French who wish to perfect their language skills while deepening their knowledge of the Word of God. If this describes what you are looking for, please contact us (info@paroledevie.ca), or visit our website (www.studyfrench.org/immersion), to obtain more information on this program.

The candidates in this program live in dorms with the Bible school students, and participate in all their activities. They have French class and Bible class most weekdays.



WHAT WE OFFER

OTHER ELEMENTS

A. PERSPECTIVE ON MISSIONS

During the school year, students present their ministry during one of our weekly chapel sessions.

B. SPECIAL LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITIES

In order to help our students practice what they are learning in real-life contexts, various special activities are offered throughout the year, with an increasing emphasis during the spring semester. These activities may include a treasure hunt in Sherbrooke, picnics, visiting a sugar shack, eating at a restaurant, going to an apple orchard, or local parks, museums, and tourist sites.

C. HELP AND SUPPORT

Academic Professors will be available outside of class hours to provide additional assistance to students. If ongoing help is needed, the school offers tutoring services. The registrar will work with the student to seek to meet their needs in this area. There is an hourly fee for this service.

Spiritual Each week students will meet together with a staff member for a time of sharing and prayer. This meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss difficulties, to share blessings and burdens, and to pray for each other.



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

HOW TO PREPARE

Learning French is a real challenge. Here are some ways to help you prepare:

1. Try to take some French before coming. However, don't expect even several years of high school French to make the course easy.
2. Students should start working on their French as soon as possible: one option is to use different websites or Phone Apps. We will provide a list of these for you with your letter of acceptance.
3. If you can't get any foreign language experience before coming to Parole de Vie, we recommend that you review English grammar, as a good understanding of grammar is essential to learning French. If a grammar book is not available, you may find online sites that are helpful.
4. Before coming to language school, it is best to set aside all preconceived notions about good grades and classroom competition and simply seek to learn as much as possible. Becoming upset about poor performance can be a real handicap to learning. A positive attitude works wonders.
5. The golden rule is: the more you and your family immerse yourselves in French and "abstain" from English books, videos and conversation, the more French you will learn and the faster you will be able to communicate.

Please note that all students will need to have a computer with headphones and microphone to meet the Home Language Laboratory requirement.

HOW LONG TO STAY

The speed at which a person learns a language depends on a number of factors that vary from one person to the next. These factors include such things as language learning aptitude, previous language learning experience, personal motivation, age and family status.

The level of proficiency you require will depend on your intended use of the French language. In order to be able to preach or teach in French, most students should plan on completing at least the advanced level, and possibly even the integration level.

Students normally progress through two levels during a ten-month period, starting during the fall and winter semesters. The spring semester is a conversation course intended to strengthen the proficiency attained during the previous semester(s).

Beginner level students should anticipate investing three full semesters, in addition to the spring conversation semester, if they desire to complete the advanced level of the program.

WHAT WE SUGGEST

Application form We suggest that you send your application at least three months before the beginning of the semester you are planning to come.

Housing We have apartments with 1-3 bedrooms that are rented on a first come first serve basis, as applications are received. All our apartments are furnished, including appliances, but you need to bring personal items such as pillows, towels, sheets and dishcloths. Laundry facilities are provided. In order to maintain rent costs as low as possible, we request that all tenants of on-campus apartments participate in cleaning the common areas of their buildings and in snow removal around their buildings. A schedule will be established for this.

If housing is not available on campus, or if you would prefer to live off campus, there are many good, modern apartments nearby in Sherbrooke and the surrounding area. We will try to help you find suitable housing for your stay in Quebec. Please note that, for off-campus housing, most property owners require that a 12-month lease be signed. It is also not always possible to find furnished apartments off campus. Unfurnished apartments usually have no appliances included.

Clothing Bring warm clothes! A couple of pairs of long underwear will be welcome from December through March. If you have winter sports equipment such as ice-skates, snowshoes, cross-country or alpine skis, there are many opportunities to use them here. Bicycles are not practical from November through the end of March.

Transportation A good bus system and taxis are readily available throughout the area. Nevertheless, cars are practical for families living on and off campus. Good all-season tires are essential, and snow tires are mandatory for vehicles licensed in Quebec from Dec. 15th to Mar. 15th. Even though snow removal and salting is prompt, a thin layer of ice or snow often remains.

Immigration If you are not a Canadian, please contact our office for questions about the best way to come to Canada.

Food Virtually everything to which you are accustomed in the United States or in other parts of Canada is available here, generally at slightly higher prices.

Moving We strongly urge families to move to Sherbrooke at least one week before classes start. A time of adjustment is recommended for you and your family. This will enable you to start the French course fresh and rested. Please let us know when you are coming as well as the kind of apartment you will be requiring so that we can make arrangements before you arrive

WHAT WE SUGGEST

Medical Insurance Make sure that your medical insurance policy will cover you in Quebec. In the event of hospitalization, you will be required to pay all services up front and then apply for reimbursement from your insurance company afterward. It is possible to purchase medical insurance from a local company, RSA Insurance. You can contact them at 1 877 780-0064 or www.rsatravelinsurance.com.

Automobile Insurance If you are bringing a vehicle with you, check to make sure that your insurance will cover you while in Quebec.

Education for children Public schools are available both in English and in French. The English schools offer some teaching in French.

Ideally, children should be registered a few days before the beginning of school, which starts during the last week of August. It is essential to have official birth certificates for your children, as well as previous school records. Birth certificates must have your names on them as the parents.

Because not all customs and immigration status's of people residing in Québec qualify to use the public school system, it is important to communicate with our office your plans for schooling your children before you arrive.

Babysitting program We offer childcare services on campus during class hours.

Contact us for cost and other details.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

2020-2021

FALL 2020

(Subject to change)

Arrival of dorm students	August 31 (Monday)
Orientation and evaluation exams	September 1
Beginning of classes	September 2
Canadian Thanksgiving holiday	October 12
Mid-term break	October 19-24
End of classes	December 19

WINTER 2021

(Subject to change)

Arrival of dorm students	January 11
Orientation and evaluation exams	January 12
Beginning of classes	January 13
Mid-term break *	March 1-6
Easter break *	April 2-5
End of classes	April 29

SPRING 2021

(Subject to change)

(Please note that the spring session is a conversation program built upon the winter session. Therefore, only students who have taken at least the winter session, or its equivalent, may enroll in the spring session.)

Beginning of classes	May 4
Victoria Day	May 24
End of the year Ceremony	June 19
End of classes	July 2

* Please note that the dorms and dining room are closed during the fall mid-term, the Christmas and the Easter breaks. Students living in dorms are responsible for making alternate arrangements during these times.

+ During the winter mid-term break, students living in dorms have the option of taking their meals in the dining room for an additional fee.

WHAT IT COST

	FALL	WINTER	SPRING	TOTAL <i>(for 3 sessions)</i>
Tuition & graduation fees, activities	\$4,648	\$4,648	\$2,554	\$11,850

Class Notes for the year	\$150 (\$50 per session)			
Required resources & textbooks	\$470 for the year			

A family of 4 or 5 will need about \$2,000 - \$2,500 per month for total living expenses (excluding tuition and school costs). Plan on about \$500 to help settle in.

NOTE

A \$80 Canadian application fee, per person, is required when applying (\$180 for foreign students).

All prices listed in this document are calculated in Canadian currency and are subject to change without notice.

SAMPLE DAYCARE SERVICE COST

	FALL	WINTER	SPRING	TOTAL <i>(for 3 sessions)</i>
For one child for half day	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$900	\$3,600

ADDITIONAL COSTS FOR STUDENTS LIVING IN DORMS

	FALL	WINTER	SPRING	TOTAL <i>(for 3 sessions)</i>
Double room & meals (internet, laundry)	\$2,210	\$2,210	\$1,280	\$5,700

Those not living in the dorms may purchase meals in the cafeteria. Meal plans will be explained during initial orientation

- For a single rooms (if available), add \$100/month.
- Dorm students may participate in a 2-week mission trip during the Spring semester. An additional cost for this trip may be charged.
- The fees for rooms and meals do not include the periods of Fall and Winter mid-term breaks or the Christmas or Easter breaks. Dorm students are responsible for making alternative arrangements during these breaks.

WHAT IT COST

PAYMENT SCHEDULE TUITION AND OTHER FEES

At registration, we require payment for the entire semester, or a letter from your mission board indicating that they will accept direct billing for your fees from Parole de Vie. Apartment rent is due at the beginning of each month.

OTHER IMPORTANT FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Confirmation Deposit: A non-refundable \$200 confirmation deposit for each student is to be sent upon reception of notification of acceptance. This will be applied to the first semester tuition.

Dropping or Changing Courses: Any part-time or full-time student in the language school is held responsible, both academically and financially, for any or all courses for which he (she) has registered. The student has two weeks from the beginning of the semester to drop or change a course. This must be done in writing and given directly to the registrar, not to the teacher. After this date, no cancellation or course change will be considered and there will be no refund.

Dorm Housing for Singles: Our dorms serve our French Bible School students, who are mostly young adults between 17 and 22 years old. All dorm residents are expected to contribute to community life by following dorm rules and schedule and participating in several hours of manual work on campus each week. The fees for housing and meals are payable at the beginning of the semester.

Apartment Rental: The following rents are for on-campus furnished apartments (we only rent furnished apartments, but you need to bring personal items such as pillows, towels, sheets and dishcloths, telephones, televisions and computers) and include utilities (water, heat, Internet and electricity):

One bedroom	\$650
Two bedrooms	\$775
Three bedrooms	\$850 - \$950

Telephone: service can be obtained for apartments. The basic monthly rate for the telephone is about \$30 plus an installation fee of \$50.

No pets are allowed on campus

WHAT TO DO NOW

You may request an application form by mail, telephone, fax or e-mail, or download it from our website: www.studyfrench.org

As soon as we have received your application form, along with the other pertinent Parole de Vie documents, we will send you a letter of acceptance and notice of admission with others information to help you in your preparation.



PAROLE DE VIE

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