1st Year Biotechnology French

French for Biotechnology I and French Component of Biotechnology Skills with French

Module Code	FR137 and BG111
Credits	5 ECTS (FR137) and 1 ECT (BG111)
Semesters	1 and 2
Module coordinator	**Dr. Ornaith Rodgers**
	ornaith.rodgers@universityofgalway.ie
	Ext. 3800
	AMB- 2021 (2nd floor, Arts Millennium Building)
Hours per week	3
Materials	Supplied in class and available on Canvas

Module Aims and Objectives

This module is designed for 1st Year Biotechnology students who have already completed French to Leaving Certificate level (or equivalent). The programme aims to further develop students' language skills within a Biotechnology context to bring their proficiency in French to Level B1 of the Common European Framework. In particular, it aims to introduce them to scientific French and more specifically to French for Biotechnology, 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, roleplays, grammar activities, communication games, multimedia lab work, a reflective journal and a digital storytelling project.

Learning Outcomes

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

1) demonstrate a good knowledge of basic scientific terminology in French and simple terminology relating to a specific range of Biotechnology topics including cloning, DNA, forensic biotechnology, and genetically modified organisms

2) speak with ease about themselves, their academic studies, student life, the field of Biotechnology and their activities in the lab in French

3) take part in discussions in French about a specific range of Science/ Biotechnology topics

4) read and understand the main points of simple specialized texts in French relating to a specific range of topics in Science and Biotechnology

5) understand simple video clips on familiar matters relating to their studies, interests and biotechnology

6) write short, simple, coherent and well-structured texts in French

7) create a digital story in French based on a case in which DNA testing was used as part of the investigation

Module Delivery

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

The text analysis class is devoted to the analysis and discussion of a variety of texts relating to contemporary topics such as Covid-19, epidemics/ pandemics, health, nutrition, animal testing, cloning, animal biotechnology, genetically modified organisms, DNA and forensic science. 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. Materials are supplied in class and on Canvas and are carefully chosen to target specific terminology and language structures.

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 pieces (reflective journal).

In the oral communication skills class, guided conversation activities, discussions, communication games and pair work are used to develop students' confidence in speaking French, while authentic audio-visual materials are used to improve students' receptive skills. In semester 2, students are required to produce short digital stories in French on cases where DNA testing was used as part of the investigation. This task-based learning project aims to allow students to engage with different modes and to link their learning of French with content relating to Biotechnology

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/ projects and self-study activities.

Module Assessment

The FR137 module is assessed as follows:

Reflective Journal	20%
Continuous Assessments	10%
Digital Story	20%
Final Examination	50%

The French component of the BG111 module is assessed as follows:

Oral Exam	100%