

LEARNING FRENCH LANGUAGE BY IMMERSION

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**THE NIGERIA FRENCH
LANGUAGE VILLAGE**
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(Inter-University Centre for French Studies)
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INTRODUCTION

The Nigeria French Language Village is an Inter-University Centre for French Language Studies, located along the Lagos-Seme highway, in the coastal and historical city of Badagry.

The Village is located in Ajara-Badagry, about 50 kilometres away from Lagos. Indeed the French Village is 15 kilometres to Seme, the border town between the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Benin Republic.

The proximity of the Village to Benin Republic is an added advantage in terms of the availability of Francophone junior workers and periodic international excursions. It also offers the Village the much-needed human contacts with the francophone culture and the French Language.

The Nigeria French Language Village came into existence in 1992. It was established as a result of the economic recession of the 1980s in Nigeria, which made it more difficult for the country to send students of French in our Universities and Colleges of Education to Francophone countries for the mandatory French Language Immersion (year abroad) Programme.

In 1988, the then Federal Minister of Education, Professor Jubril Aminu, set up a Committee that was saddled with the task of carrying out feasibility studies on the establishment of Centres for the active teaching and learning of French, Arabic and Nigerian Languages. His successor, Professor Babatunde Fafunwa took giant strides towards the establishment of the Nigeria French Language Village.

On Monday, December 16, 1991, the Government of Lagos State officially handed over to the Federal Government, the site and the infrastructures of the former “Teacher Training College”, which it had earlier renovated for that purpose. On January 6, 1992, the Nigeria French Language Village received its pioneer batch of undergraduate students.

The Government of Nigeria provides funds for infrastructural and Library development, as well as staff recruitment and payment of staff salaries.

The Village, as it is usually called, has been designed as a centre to replicate the realities of a francophone environment from both linguistic and socio-cultural perspectives. The strategy is to create an ambiance akin to that of the French-speaking countries where Nigerian students used to have their year abroad programme.

In the Nigeria French Language Village, French is the lingua franca: studies, leisure activities, and appointments with friends as well as interactions with the staff are all manifest in French. Everything is put in place to enhance a pragmatic and natural way of teaching and learning French.

CHAPTER 1

BROADENING THE SCOPE OF OUR SERVICES

The Village has broadened the scope of its training programmes. Over the years, this institution has become the reference point for French teaching and learning not only for undergraduates of French studies in Nigerian Universities and Colleges of Education, but also for all those who are desirous of learning French out of personal interest or as added value to their profession. Thus, individuals, Secondary School Students, Teachers, Professionals, etc. are encouraged to avail themselves of the facilities and training opportunities available in the Village.

1.1. FRENCH LANGUAGE AND NATIONAL POLICY DIRECTIVES

In 1992, the Village came under the ambit of the National Universities Commission (NUC) and got linked to the Nigerian University system. Ever since, this centre has lived up to its bidding as a strategic government institution, in the articulation of policy-directives in areas where the French language is an indispensable component.

In this era of globalisation, mastery of French is, more than ever before, a pre-requisite to economic advancement and regional integration. Globalisation also entails bridging communication gap, which underlines the importance of languages as means of communication among peoples.

It would be recalled that French, was declared the second official language in Nigeria in 1997. It is the desire of the Village that, all Nigerians will be equipped with the skill to express themselves in French, in order to become active players on the international scene.

The Nigeria French Language Village identifies with the Federal Government policy enshrined in the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) which places premium on education as an important transforming tool for the socio-economic empowerment of Nigerians.

1.2 PARTNERSHIP WITH FRANCOPHONE NETWORK

The Nigeria French Language Village represents the boldest Nigerian symbol of universal cooperation in education delivery. The Village, through its Academic Staff, is a member of Regional Network of French Language Centres in Africa (REFLCA) and University French Teachers' Association of Nigeria (UFTAN).

As the nation's Inter-University centre for French studies, the Nigeria French Language Village is in direct relationship with Universities and degree-awarding institutions, as well as Colleges of Education where French is offered in Nigeria.

1.3 COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE

Yearly, the French Government through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation makes credit provisions for documentation and equipment in the Village. This has tremendously enhanced the Village holdings in terms of relevant books and other pedagogical materials and ICT back-up.

In addition, the French Government offers scholarships for the training of Lecturers and Librarians in "*Centre de Linguistique Appliquée de Besançon*" in France.

CHAPTER 2

THE VILLAGE AT A GLANCE

2.1 Objectives

The Village was established to create a simulated environment conducive for French Language teaching and learning:

- a. The primary mandate of the Nigeria French Language Village is the home-made provision of the Language Immersion Programme for undergraduates of French from Nigerian Universities as well as Colleges of Education. Beneficiaries are students in their penultimate year in the above-mentioned institutions.
- b. Pursuant to and flowing from the primary mandate, the Village promotes the learning of French in an environment that will prepare Nigerians to acquire proficiency in oral and written French.
- c. The institution provides courses of instruction and other facilities for the pursuit of teaching, learning and research into various aspects of the French language. Appropriate curricular are therefore developed to suit the needs of the different classes of course participants and students of the Village.
- d. The Nigeria French Language Village also serves as a Centre for the exchange of information on French Studies and for sourcing researches in the area of French Studies. The institution promotes research network into problems of learning and teaching French as a Foreign Language in Nigeria, with a view to assisting Nigerians in the academia to find solutions to such linguistic problems.

At the Nigeria French Language Village, learners are handled by a crop of dynamic and highly qualified teaching and non-teaching staff.

2.2 TEACHING STAFF

Lecturers in the Village have at least a Master's Degree in French Language studies.

It is the policy of the Village that its lecturers will ultimately be holders of Ph.D for now. More than 30% have already bagged their Ph.D, while most of those who got their Master Degree, formerly known as DEA, are pursuing the Ph.D programme in France and in Nigeria.

Due to the partnership with the French Embassy, three of our lecturers simultaneously register for their "Master" study programme in Centre de Linguistique Appliquée de Besançon in France, which is under the auspices of Université de Franche-Comté, in Besançon, while another set of three lecturers register for their Ph.D programme in the same University. When those sets of lecturers are through with their respective programmes, two other different sets come in.

Many of our lecturers equally undergo continuous training in diverse areas of French studies in Nigerian universities.

2.3 ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

A GOVERNING COUNCIL directly accountable to the Federal Minister of Education is in charge of the Institution, while the **Director**, the **Deputy Director** and the **Registrar** oversee the administrative structure.

Other members of the The Village Management include the **Bursar**, the **Ag. Librarian**, the **Director of Works**, the **Director of Health Services**, the **Coordinator of Studies**, **Coordinator of Students' Affairs**.

Six (6) Departments for now, oversee academic activities under the supervision of the Coordinator of Studies in the Village. The Departments are:

- § Language and Communication (L & C)
- § Literature, Culture and Civilisation (LCC)
- § Linguistics (Ling.)
- § Translation and Interpretation (T & I)
- § NCE/French Teachers Continuing Education (NCE?FTCE)
- § French for Special Purpose (FSP)

However, DELF/DALF and RECFLEA are two units for academic related matters under the Directorate.

Village Administrative operations are domiciled in the Registry. The units are: Human Resources Management and Development, Students' Affairs, Academic Affairs, Legal Matters, Council and General Administration.

The Bursary takes care of the finances of the Institution.

The Works and Services Department is in charge of maintenance and municipal services in the Village.

The Health Services of the Village is made up of the Village Clinic, the Pharmacy and a Medical Laboratory.

The French Village International Staff School and Village International College are two other administrative structures under Village Management.

2.4

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE NIGERIA FRENCH LANGUAGE

**VILLAGE
DIRECTOR/CEO**

**GOVERNING
COUNCIL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
COSA
COS
REGISTRAR
BURSAR
HEADS OF ACADEMIC
DEPARTMENTS
DIRECTOR OF
WORKS
LIBRARIAN
VILLAGE DOCTOR I/C
FSP**

CHAPTER 3

TEACHING RESOURCES

3.1 TEACHING METHODOLOGIES

The Nigeria French Language Village is a real language laboratory. It is a language education setting, conceived and studied to enable a natural and pragmatic learning of French.

Generally, the Village adopts an eclectic approach to teaching. Emphasis is laid methods that aim at enabling the learners to acquire the four essential language skills: understanding, speaking, reading and writing

Students acquire these four skills through interactive exercises and teaching techniques based on printed or multimedia documents that enable use of vocabulary, different registers and language codes.

Daily Francophone Environment

The Nigeria French Language Village recreates the conditions for a Francophone environment, which places the student in a language immersion situation.

Actually, majority of the Village's workforce are bilingual (French/English). Hence, students are naturally encouraged to speak French on daily basis.

Regular Broadcast of French Media

French radio and television programmes are broadcast live almost everywhere in the Village, e.g., in the classrooms, restaurants and hostels.

Socio-Educative Activities formally called “Activités Socio-Educatives”, are equally one of the Ingredients of success in French language learning in the Nigeria French Language Village.

3.2 SOCIO-EDUCATIVE ACTIVITIES, SPORTING ACTIVITIES AND EXCURSIONS

OBJECTIVES

Sporting and socio-educative activities are designed as the spring-board of French language learning, to further improve on the student's communicative competence.

As a matter of fact, give room for intensive practice of French. Examples abound: sports, games, debates, discussions, talk-shows, songs, films, drama, press-briefing, etc.

The activities, therefore, enhance language skills learning in diverse communication situations.

Every week, a theme is earmarked for the socio-educative activities as applied to diverse domains (sports, health, Religion, politics, education, culture etc). This enables the students to get used to the terminology related to the theme discussed and thereby enriching their vocabulary.

Excursions to neighbouring French-Speaking countries (Bénin and Togo) expose the students to the way of life, culture and practices of Francophone people.

By coming directly in contact with their French-speaking counterparts, the students are able to practice French in real life situations. They thereby get used to the lexicon and language structures of those countries.

The students visit places of interest in those Francophone towns and they are received by important personalities (in Bénin or in Togo) who discuss the theme of the week with them.

SCHEDULE

§ *Socio-Educative Activities*

A programme is scheduled for every evening (Monday to Thursday) From 7.00pm

Weekly Talk-show is scheduled for every Friday, from 2:00pm to 4:00pm.

§ *Sporting Activities*

Students are divided into two groups. For example, the table below shows the schedule for two groups:

Group 1	Mondays & Thursdays	5.30 - 700pm
Group 2	Tuesdays & Wednesdays	5.30 —7.00pm

Socio-educative and sporting activities are compulsory for all University, College of Education, Pre-degree Diploma and Module students. They carry equal units as other courses and, are counted in the final results.

§ *Excursions*

Students are expected to participate in a day return excursion to the Republic of Benin as an integral part of their programme.

Excursions to the Republic of Bénin are compulsory for all University, College of Education, Pre-degree diploma and Module students. The excursion cost is included in the school fees. Students write an excursion report in partial fulfillment of their respective programmes. Each student must present an ECOWAS or international passport and a yellow card for this segment of the programme.

There is also the possibility of a 3-day excursion to Lomé (Republic of Togo) which students pay for. Such an excursion is optional as it is organized only for interested students.

3.3 EQUIPMENT AND TEACHING AIDS

§ *Lecture Rooms*

Lectures take place in classrooms located in:

- the Academic block
- the Language Resource Centre (which houses an amphitheatre and some lecture rooms).

The Language Resource Centre (LRC) of the Village also houses some equipment reflecting the latest Information and Communication technology (ICT) system and the most up-to-date teaching methods: library, language laboratory, simultaneous Interpretation studio, recording room and smart board room

§ **The Library**

The French Village library is one of the best-equipped francophone libraries in the Sub-region. It prides itself as specialized francophone library. Thus, students, lecturers and even researchers from Institutions of higher learning in Nigeria consult the Village library for their academic and research work.

The library is divided into reference section, consultation section and reading room. As an annex to the library, a 90-seater reading room is reserved for children. There is also a modern audio-visual section that facilitates students' self-teaching. The Library is equipped with 18, 296 books, 866 pedagogical audio and video cassettes, 473 volumes of magazines and great scientific journals.

§ **The Language Laboratory**

The language laboratory is well equipped with sophisticated gadgets (cassette players, headphones and books) for the mastery of oral comprehension.

§ **Simultaneous Interpretation And Translation Studio**

This studio, exclusively used by students of the Post-Graduate Diploma in Translation and Interpretation is well equipped with microphones and headphones.

§ **Recording Room**

Radio and televised programme that will serve as teaching aids can be recorded in this room.

3.4 **RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION**

The Nigeria French Language Village is not only a Centre for French Language Studies, but also, a centre for research and teachers' retraining. Therefore, it regularly publishes journals in French such as RENEF "*Revue nigériane d'études francaises*", "*Revue d'études Francaises des Enseignants et Chercheurs du Village*" (REFECV). The Centre organises conferences and trainings for teachers and researchers; the outcomes are usually published. (For example,

CHAPTER 4

TRAINING PROGRAMMES

4.1 COURSES FOR UNIVERSITIES

The Targeted audience

The Primary mandate of the Nigeria French Language Village is the mandatory French Language Immersion Programme for 300 Level undergraduates of French in Nigerian Universities. All courses of the Language Immersion Programme are compulsory as they have been designed within the context of the NUC prescriptions in its Minimum Academic Standard for the Bachelor of Arts in French.

Objectives of the Courses

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

- Understand and speak French fluently
- Read and write French
- Translate from French into English and vice-versa
- Have an in-depth knowledge of literature, culture and civilization of Francophone countries
- Compare history, literature and civilization of Nigeria

Curriculum Planning

§ Duration

University Language Immersion Programme covers two (2) semesters (or a semester in a situation where students are pursuing a combined honours Degree)

First Semester

Second Semester

§ Time table

Academic activities hold from Monday to Friday. Lectures begin at 9:00a.m. and end at 5:00 p.m.

Twice a week, from 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm, students take part in sporting activities. They also take part on daily basis in the socio-educative activities starting from 7.00pm.

On weekends, students are either free or go on excursion to neighbouring francophone countries.

§ ***Placement test***

At the beginning of every session, students sit for the placement test. The test serves as yardstick for grouping them according to their level of understanding.

§ ***Validation of the programme***

At the end of each semester, examinations are conducted. All through the year, the evaluation of students is done through Continuous Assessment (CA). At the end of the programme, students who pass all the courses are given a certificate each.

§ ***Logistics***

Students are accommodated on campus in the hostels.

Meals are served á la carte in the restaurants or cooked in the common kitchen in the hostels

What does the academic programme entail?

The academic programme is, in accordance with the AMAS “Approved Minimum Academic Standard in Arts”, set up by the NUC. The fact that the optional courses of the NUC are from other disciplines, the Department of French also offers optional courses in French to students who are to choose at least two.

In most of the courses, emphasis is laid on communication skills.

FIRST SEMESTER

Code	Description	Number of Credits
FLV 310	Socio-educative activities I	2
FLV 311	Translation I	2
FLV 312	French Language Structures I	2
FLV 313	Remedial Phonetics/Laboratory Exercises I	2
FLV 314	Culture and Civilisation (1789 to date)	2
FLV 315	Francophone African Literature (1920-1960)	2
FLV 316	French Literature of the 18 th Century	2
FLV 317	Written French I	2
FLV 318	Oral French I	2

SECOND SEMESTER

Code	Description	Number of Credits
FLV 320	Socio-Educative activities II	2
FLV 321	Translation II	2
FLV 322	French Language Structure II	2
FLV 323	Remedial Phonetics/Laboratory Exercises II	2

FLV 324	Culture & Civilization of Francophone Africa	2
FLV 325	Francophone African Literature (1960 to date)	2
FLV 326	French Literature of the 19 th Century	2
FLV 327	Written French II	2
FLV 328	Oral French II	2
FLV 329	Research Methodology and Project writing	2

4.2 COURSES FOR COLLEGES OF EDUCATION

The targeted audience:

The courses are meant for Students of Colleges of Education (Federal and State Colleges of Education) who have to take part in the mandatory Language Immersion programme just after their second year of studies and before final year.

§ ***Objectives of the courses***

At the end of the intensive French language programme, students should be able to:

- Understand and speak French fluently
- Read and write French with ease
- Identify some notions about French literature
- Avail themselves the opportunity to register in the Department of French of the University of their choice, as 200 level students.

Curriculum Planning

§ ***Duration***

The Pre-Degree Diploma in basic French programme covers two semesters.

First Semester	Second Semester
January to April	May to September

§ ***Time Table***

Academic activities hold from Monday to Friday. Lectures begin at 9.00am and end at 5.00pm.

Twice a week, from 5.30pm to 7.00pm, students take part in sporting activities.

They also take part on daily basis in the socio-educative activities, starting from 7.00pm. On weekends, students are either free or go on excursion to neighbouring francophone countries.

§ ***Placement Test***

At the beginning of every session, students sit for the placement test. The result serves as yardstick for grouping them according to their levels.

§ ***Validation of the Programme***

At the end of each semester, examinations are conducted. All through the year, the evaluation of students is done through continuous assessment. At the end of the programme, students are given certificates each.

§ ***Logistics***

Students are accommodated on campus in the hostels. Meals are served in the restaurant for those who opt to have their meals there while common kitchens are provided in the hostel for those who choose to cook their meals.

What does the academic programme entail?

Courses offered by the Village are in accordance with the year II programme for students in colleges of Education . This enables them to cope with the language immersion in French without hitches.

January to April

May to July

Code	Description	Number of Credits
FLV 100	Socio-éducative activities	4
FLV 010	Grammar	4
FLV 012	Oral Expression	4
FLV 013	Written Expression	4
FLV 014	Laboratory & Audio-Visual Work	4

What is the cost of the training?

School fees payable in the Village are as directed by the Governing Council of the Institution.

However, such fees are usually very considerate and reflect the realities on ground.

Fees paid by students cover Lectures, Socio-Educative activities, Excursion, Accommodation and Health care.

CHAPTER 5

CUSTOMISED PROGRAMMES

5.1 PRE-DEGREE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

The targeted audience

Learners with five (5) O’Level Credit Passes including English and Mathematics in “WAEC” (West African Examinations Council) or SSSC (Senior Secondary School Certificate) are eligible for the programme.

The programme is meant for all those who intend to register in the University for a Degree Course in French. As a matter of fact, an excellent result in the pre-degree examination affords the candidate the rare privilege to enroll in the University as a 200 level student of French, that is, without going through the JAMB Examinations.

The programme also caters for all those who wish to improve on their communicative competence in French out of personal interest or for the sake of their career.

Curriculum planning

§ Duration

The pre- Degree Diploma in basic French programme covers two semesters. It starts in September and ends July, the following year.

First Semester	Second Semester
September to April	May to July

§ Time Table

Academic activities hold from Monday to Friday. Lectures begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 5:00 p.m.

Twice a week, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., students take part in sporting activities.

They also take part on daily basis in the socio-educative activities, starting from 7.00p.m. On weekends, students are either free or go on excursion to neighbouring francophone countries

§ Placement Test

At the beginning of every session, students sit for the placement test. The result serves as yardstick for grouping them according to their levels.

§ Logistics

Students are accommodated on campus in the hostels. Meals are served in the restaurant for those who opt to have their meals there while common kitchens are provided in the hostel for those who choose to cook their meals.

What does the Academic Programme entail?

The Pre-Degree Diploma Programme is an intensive programme.

FIRST SEMESTER

Code	Description	Number of Credits
FVD 010	Grammar I	4
FVD 011	Oral Expression I	4
FVD 012	Written Expression I	4
FVD 013	Laboratory Exercises I	4
FVD 014	Culture and Civilization I	4
FVD 015	Socio-educative Programme I	4

SECOND SEMESTER

Code	Description	Number of Credits
FVD 020	Grammar II	4
FVD 021	Oral Expression II	4
FVD 022	Written Expression II	4
FVD 023	Laboratory Exercises II	4
FVD 024	Culture and Civilization II	4
FVD 025	Socio-educative Programme II	4
FVD 026	Introduction to Literature II	4

What is the cost of the training?

School fees are subject to review from time to time. Fees paid by students cover Lectures, Socio-educative activities, Excursions, Accommodation and Health care.

5.2 CERTIFICATE PROGRAMMES: MODULES I, II, III (Module I, Module II and Module III)

§ Time Table

Academic activities hold from Monday to Friday. Lectures begin at 9:00am and end at 5:00pm.

Twice a week, from 5:30pm to 7:00pm, students take part in sporting activities.

They also take part on daily basis in the socio-educative activities, starting from 7:00pm. On weekends, students are either free or go on excursion to neighbouring francophone countries.

What do the Academic Programmes entail?

Each Module is an intensive programme

Code	Description	Number of Credits
BF 010/020/030	Grammar I/II/III	4
BF 011/021/031	Oral Expression I/II/III	4
BF 012/022/032	Written Expression I/II/III	4
BF 013/023/033	Laboratory Exercises I/II/III	4
BF 014/024/034	Culture and Civilization I/II/III	4
BF 035	Introduction to Literature	2
BF 015/025/035	Socio-educative course I/II/III	4

The above table encapsulates the programmes for Module I, Module II and Module III.

§ ***Duration***

Each module lasts for twelve (12) weeks.

§ ***Certification***

Candidates who have successfully completed Modules I, II and III with good grades can request for conversion to Diploma.

5.3 EVENING AND WEEKEND PROGRAMMES

§ ***For Who?***

These Part-Time programmes are offered to adults, who, due to their professional engagements, would not be able to attend the Full Time courses.

The Nigeria French Language Village provides those adults with the opportunity to learn French through the evening class or the weekend class in case they live too far from the Village. These programmes cover three Modules and students are free to register for either Module one or Module or two, or else the three modules.

The syllabus of the Part-Time Programmes represent what Full Time students are taught throughout Module I. Students who complete the third Part-Time Module are therefore placed at the same level as their counterparts proceeding to Module II (Full Time).

§ ***What Are The Objectives Of Evening And Week-End Programmes?***

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

- Understand and speak French fluently
- Read, and write French Conveniently
- Identify the rudimentary aspects of Literature in French
- Avail themselves opportunity to apply for admission into Module II of the full-time programme.

§ ***What Is The Nature Of The Course?***

The Nigeria French Language Village offers two types of Part-Time Programmes: Evening Programme, Week-end Programme, especially for those living far away from the Nigeria French Language Village.

The Part-Time Programmes are in three Modules. Participants can choose to attend Modules I, II, or III.

Module I	Module II	Module III
January to April	May to July	August to November

The third Module leads to a Pre-Degree Diploma.

The end of each Module is marked by an educational excursion to the Republic of Benin so as to facilitate students' contacts with Francophone citizens of that country and provides them with the opportunity to use s linguistic skills already acquired.

Before starting the course, students go through a placement test after which they are shared into groups according to their levels.

Examinations are conducted at the end of each Module. At the end of the programmes, successful students are issued with certificates.

§ ***What does the Course Syllabus entail?***

The content of the Part-Time Programmes covers the entire Module I programme for Full Time students in the Nigeria French Language Village.

Code	Description	Number of Credits
BF 010	Grammar I	4
BF 011	Oral Expression I	4
BF 012	Written Expression I	4
BF 013	Laboratory Exercises I	4
BF 014	Culture and Civilization I	4
BF 015	Socio-educative course I/II/III	4

5.4 PROFESSIONAL TAILORED PROGRAMMES

Who Are The Target Public of French For Professionals?

Professional Tailored programmes are designed for Chief Executives and staff of either public or private sectors who need the mastery of the French Language in carrying out their professional activities.

These learners with limited time at their disposal undergo the short-term professional training, depending on their free periods.

§ ***Objectives***

At the end of these intensive trainings, participants should be able to interact in any francophone environment by putting into practice the four language skills, i.e. understanding, speaking, reading and writing.

The participants actually acquire communicative competence in French, within a short period of time, using the most appropriate methods for their professional situation. For example, they will be capable of conversing in French, reading and writing letters or documents in French, as well as hold telephone conversation in French.

§ ***Duration***

The programme entails one, two or three week course packages taking cognizance the professions of the participants.. The one week course is designed for Chief Executive Officers of industries or establishments whose official duties could hardly allow for more than one week break. Staff of the private or public sectors attend the two or three weeks course.

The course content is custom-based in order to perfectly meet the specific professional demands of the participants.

5.5 **A TYPICAL DAY IN THE FRENCH LANGUAGE VILLAGE**

From Monday to Friday, participants attend six (6) hours of intensive daily lectures. There is an hour break for lunch conversation in-between. In the evening, participants attend socio-educative activities.

During the last week-end of their course, participants go on excursion to a neighboring francophone country, visiting thus the cities of Cotonou, Ouidah and Porto Novo in the Republic of Bénin or city of Lomé in Togo. These excursions afford them the opportunity of guided tours and interactions with Francophone citizens.

§ ***Logistics***

Lectures take place in the Village premises. However, on demand, our teaching staff can go out to deliver lectures at the participants' place of work.

Lunch is served in the Village, during lunch conversation period.

During the week, participants are lodged either in the Guest House of the Village, or in nearby Sycomore or Whispering Palms or any hotel of their choice. A list of available hotels in Badagry and its environs is supplied on demand. Transportation to the hotel from the Village is provided.

During the week-end excursion to the Republic of Bénin, participants are lodged in a good hotel in Cotonou.

Note

A valid international passport or ECOWAS travel certificate and a yellow vaccination card are indispensable for excursions outside Nigeria. At the end of the programme,

participants are issued with a certificate each.

§ ***The Syllabus***

The Village draws up adaptable lessons in line with the participants' needs.

Upon completion of the programme, participants are given some pedagogical materials such as audio and video tapes or books, thus equipping and enabling them to learn further on their own.

The Nigeria French Language Village has equally produced its own teaching manual "Le Villageois", which is adaptable to different aspects of French for Special Purposes.

During the week-end excursion, participants are responsible for their accommodation, while the Village takes care of feeding and other activities.

For more information or request, kindly contact:

Department of French for Special Purposes

The Nigeria French Language Village

P.M.B.1011, Ajara-Badagry

Lagos State, Nigeria

nflyconsult@yahoo.com

(234) 08034713954

Head, Liaison Office

Nigeria French Language Village

Plot A3311,ACO Estate,Sbon Lugbe District

Airport Road,Abuja.

Tel:08037698180,08026958084,08090590196

E-mail:nflyabuja@yahoo.com

5.6 OTHER PROGRAMMES

5.6.1 TEACHERS' TRAINING WORKSHOP

§ ***Nature of the Workshop***

The refresher workshop is a three (3)-day course for teachers at the Primary and Secondary School levels who desire to update their knowledge with the latest language teaching methodology.

The workshops are organized as part of research activities and teachers' re-training projects conducted by the Village.

The workshops, which treat different themes annually, hold November.

§ ***Logistics***

The teachers could be lodged either in the Village Guest house, or outside the village in Sycomore Hotel, Whispering Palms ,or any hotel of their choice(a list of hotels in Badagry and environs, is available on request).Transportation is provided to and fro the Village.

5.6.2 SUMMER HOLIDAY CAMP AND EASTER HOLIDAY CAMP

§ *Nature of the Language Holiday Camps*

Language camps are special programmes open to Secondary School students from within and outside Nigeria.

During their holidays(Easter or Summer),the students come for a stay in the Nigeria French Language Village,thus enabling them to interact in French in a relaxed mood and atmosphere.

§ *Organisation of the Holiday Camps*

The language Camps take place for one week during Easter holidays or two weeks during Summer Holidays. The Children attend French lesssons in the morning while the afternoon is devoted to sporting and cultural activities such as drama, French films ,songs etc.

During their stay in the Village for the Summer Holiday Camp, students go on excursion to neighbouring French-speaking countries. However, the international Easter Holiday Camp is organized in the Republic of Benin or in the Republic of Togo.

§ *Nature of the Language Holiday Camps*

The students are accommodated in the Village hostels and meals are served in the Village restaurant. Similarly ,the Village applies the same principle for logistic support outside the country(in Benin or Togo)

CHAPTER 6

PREPARATION FOR FRENCH NATIONAL CERTIFICATES

The Nigeria French Language Village organises classes for French National Certificates —DELF and DALF

6.1 **WHAT IS DELF AND DALF?**

DELF “Diplôme d’études de langue française » (Ordinary Certificate in French Studies) and DALF “Diplôme approfondi de langue française” (Higher Certificate in French Studies) are French national certificates awarded Federal Ministry of Education in France.

DELF is a pre-requisite to DALF.

DALF certificate qualifies the holder for the language entrance test into any University in France.

§ ***Preparation for DELF and DALF***

Preparation classes take place in the evening for two weeks in anticipation of each session in March, June and December.

§ ***Qualification for DELF and DALF***

§ **DELF (4 Units: A1, A2, B1 and B2)**

This certificate is all about basic skills. The candidate should be able to communicate in day-to-day life situations.

§ **DALF (2 Units: C1, C2)**

This certificate is an evidence for the acquisition of advanced knowledge. The candidate possesses general knowledge on French civilization. He should be able to analyse oral and written texts.

§ ***Validation***

Each unit completed attracts a separate attestation. These attestations have no expiry date and are tenable, no matter the country where they have been obtained.

6.2 **REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION**

§ Candidates should not be French citizen.

§ Candidates sitting for DELF stage 2 must be holders of DELF stage 1 or must have been successful in the direct entry test into DELF stage 2.

6.3 **PREPARATION FOR DALF**

§ The Syllabus

The certificate is about a deeper knowledge of French. The candidate should be able to master fundamental aspects of language study such as:

- Analysis and explanation of documents
- Summary
- Oral and written argumentations in chosen areas (Social/Physical Sciences, Economics, Law, natural Sciences, etc.)

6.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR DALF REGISTRATION

- Candidates should not be French citizens.
- Candidates should be holders of DELF or must have passed the direct entry into DALF test.

CHAPTER 7

RULES GUIDING LIFE IN THE VILLAGE

7.1 **HOSTEL FACILITIES**

Rooms are allocated to each student on arrival. No student is allowed to relocate from one room to another. A student is expected to share his/her room with other students and therefore conduct himself/herself in a reasonable manner. French is the language of communication for all students resident in the Village hostels.

Each student is expected to fill an accommodation form before a room is allocated. Sample of the form is indicated below.

§ Hostel accommodation form

Personal data: _____

Name of student: _____

Date of birth: _____

University: _____

Date of arrival: _____

Address: _____

Contact address of parents/Guardian: _____

Ailment (if any): _____

Nationality: _____

Declaration

I _____ have taken possession
today _____ of the following items in Room

No: _____

§ A bed/mattress

§ A pillow

§ A chair

§ A table

§ A wardrobe

§ A shelf

I promise to use these items judiciously and will not intentionally destroy them during my

stay in the Village.

If I, accidentally, destroy any of these items, I will personally repair or replace them as soon as possible before I leave the Village.

I promise not to disturb my room-mates throughout my stay in the Village.

At the end of my programme in the Village, I will return all the items given to me, including the key to the room in the original state, before leaving the Village.

Signature of Student/date

Signature of House-Keeper/date

In the hostels

1. No cooking in the rooms: the use of hot plates, electric heater and refrigerator is highly prohibited.
2. Changing of room is not allowed except for official reasons and the occupant of each bed space must vacate the bed space at the end of the programme. All the occupants must submit all the materials handed over to them in good order e.g. mattresses, pillows, etc.
3. Habouring of visitors in the hostels is not allowed at all.
4. No female guest is allowed beyond the common room of the male hostels, also no male student is allowed into the female hostel beyond the common room.
5. Washing and spreading of clothes in the rooms or along the corridor is not allowed.
6. Smoking and drinking of alcohol in the hall of residence and its environs is highly disallowed.
7. Writing on walls in the hostels attracts serious punishment.
8. Always reduce the volume of your electrical gadgets to your own end in order not to disturb your room mates.
9. Fighting, bullying, assault, disturbance of any kind attracts serious punishment.
10. Remember that, cleanliness helps to promote good health. Always tidy up your rooms, no littering of any sort. Use the waste bins appropriately.
11. It is prohibited for students to stay in their hostels during lecture hours. From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. except during break periods which is between 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. This rule not only applies on Fridays during the “Causerie” period, but also during the daily socio-educative activities.
12. Students are advised to switch off all lights before leaving the rooms.

§ Keeping the hostel tidy

1. Ensure that all taps in the toilets, kitchenettes and laundry are turn-off.
2. Inform the house-keepers of leaking taps, electrical faults and blocked water closets (WC).

3. Keep your rooms tidy, arrange all personal belongings, and make your beds daily before leaving the room.
4. Do not spread your clothes by the windows, or along the corridor, in order to keep the surroundings neat and tidy.
5. Throw your rubbish in the waste basket provided around the hostel for that purpose.
6. Sweep your rooms daily.

§ ***For peace and tranquillity in the hostel***

1. Reduce the volume of your radio in order not to disturb other occupants of the room.
2. Smoking in the classrooms and in the rooms is highly prohibited.
3. In the event of any disagreement that cannot be resolved amicably, students are advised to see the house-keepers, or the Students Affairs Officer.
Fighting or quarrelling is highly prohibited. The French culture requires cordial co-habitation.
4. There should be cordial relationship between Village employees and students.

§ **Punishment**

Students are to adhere strictly to the above mentioned rules. Any student caught violating the rules will be made to face the appropriate sanctions.

§ ***For security of lives and property***

1. It is prohibited to harbour strangers (parents, friends, children etc.) in the hostel.
2. Always lock the door to your rooms when leaving the hostel and drop your key with the housekeepers. Report any case of loss or theft immediately.
3. Do not attempt to replace door locks and do not install additional locks. The housekeeper or the Students Affairs Officer or his/her representative should be able to access any part of the hostel, including the rooms should the need arise.
4. Cooking in the room is prohibited to all students. Using of hot plates and refrigerators are not allowed in the hostels to prevent fire out-break.
5. Students are advised to open an account or deposit large sums of money in the cash office and collect receipt to that effect. This is to prevent it from being stolen. The Housekeeping Unit/Students Affairs Office shall not attend to any complaint on theft of money or valuables as you have been adequately advised.

7.2 PRACTICAL SERVICES

§ ***Feeding***

Food is available in the Village restaurant at affordable cost.

§ ***Books and Other Materials***

The bookshop in the Village offers a wide range of French books and other pedagogical

cal materials.

§ ***Health***

The Village is endowed with a clinic and a pharmacy. Students are advised to visit the clinic in the event of ill-health. The clinic is open 24 hours.

§ ***Shopping***

You can easily do your daily shopping in shops located within the Village.

7.3 RULES AND REGULATIONS ON STUDENTS CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

7.3.1 Orientation

The Village organises a pre-orientation programme for fresh students on arrival. A formal orientation is organised where students meet with members of Management and are exposed to the rules guiding their stay in the Village. The programme is designed to introduce the new students to various activities and facilities.

7.3.2 Students Dress Code

§ ***Standard of Discipline***

The Village shall maintain a high level of discipline in all areas of student life on campus. The Village is a unique establishment that frowns at all forms of indiscipline.

- There shall be a difference between dresses worn to the classroom and to a disco hall.
- Students shall not appear tattered; neither shall they leave their hair/beards unkempt nor shall they expose their body while on campus.
- Indecent dressing and provocative dressing shall not be tolerated on the NFLV campus.

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- The Village frowns at dressing to near nudity, ditto any form of morally-debasing dressing.
- Students shall maintain a clean and decent appearance on campus at all times.
- Students are expected to dress formally to official functions like prestige lectures, conferences, workshops as well as meetings where the Director/Chief Executive and other members of Management would be in attendance.
- Female students shall not dress in an unwholesome manner that is patently capable of compromising the moral integrity of the opposite sex.
- Hair plaiting and obscene hair-do by men shall not be accommodated.
- Wearing of earrings, nose rings and lip rings by men are strictly prohibited on campus.
- Both male and female students are not allowed to wear the following:
 - i) All tight-fitting clothes, including skirts, trousers, blouses among others.

- ii) All clothes which reveal sensitive parts of the body such as the busts, chests, belly, upper arms, and the buttocks (e.g. spaghetti tops, wicked straps, mono straps, tubes and show- me- your-belly). Etc.
- iii) Outfits such as knickers, mini-skirt and dresses which are not up to knee-length.
- iv) Inappropriate outfits such as party wears, beach wears and bathroom slippers to lecture rooms and halls; and to other public places.
- v) Outfits such as T-shirts, jeans etc which carry obscene and subliminal messages among others.
- vi) Transparent clothing
- vii) Dresses with slits above the knee
- Students are to remember that dressing as well as conduct exhibited tell what image the individual projects (Whether cultist, 'area-boy', tout, commercial street hawker etc.)

§ *Enforcement*

- Erring students shall be called to order in the first instance. Where students refuse to comply, appropriate sanctions shall be applied.
- Students who flout the stipulated Dress Code shall face the appropriate Disciplinary Committee.

§ *Sanctions*

- In applying appropriate sanctions, Management shall be guided by the findings and recommendations of the Disciplinary Committee.

§ *Empowerment*

- Senior members of staff are hereby empowered to enforce this Dress Code. They are empowered to walk out erring students from offices, classrooms and lecture halls.

§ *General Application*

All members of staff are invited to note that the provisions above are binding on all members of the Nigeria French Language Village community, staff and students alike.

7.3.3 Movement In And Out Of The Village

Your programme in the Village is very important.

The acquisition of linguistic competence in French, renewed confidence among friends and class-mates will be the reward of your stay in the Village.

Note that leaving the Village is subjected to formal control.

In the event of any emergency, you are expected to formally apply for permission through your Course Advisers. The letter should be written 48 hours before departure.

Note that once you have resumed in the Village for the Language Immersion Programme, you cannot leave the Village without due authorisation from the Village Administration. The students Affairs Officer will sign an exit card, authorising your departure.

External visitors are under strict control. No visitor is expected in the Village within the active hours of 9a.m to 5p.m., Mondays to Fridays.

Visitors can visit on weekends from 10 a.m.

Visitors are not allowed after 8 p.m. Therefore no vehicle will be allowed into the Village between 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

There is a system in place to monitor defaulters who refuse to communicate in French, while in the Village. Be reminded that French is the language of communication in the Village.

The “Linguistic Police” will be elected from the students with a view to ensuring that each student abides by this regulation.

7.4 STUDENTS REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

There shall be a Students Representative Council (SRC) in the Village that will serve as a link between the students and Management. It should be noted that the SRC is not a union. The SRC shall be constituted as follows:

- The President
- Vice President
- Secretary General
- Assistant Secretary General
- Linguistic Monitor
- Socio-Educative monitor
- Information/Publicity Secretary
- Social Secretary
- Sports Secretary
- Hostels' Representatives
- Religious Representatives (Christian Fellowship), (Muslim Fellowship), (Catholic Community)
- Facility Monitor (auditorium chairs)

The Council shall be officially inaugurated by the Director on a date to be determined by Management. The oath will be taken by all members of the Council before a competent authority.

OATH OF OFFICE

I _____ member of the SRC promise to work actively to improve the welfare of the students and defend the integrity of the Village.

I do solemnly swear that I will respect the rules and regulations and will never participate in activities that will be against the interest and development of the Village.

I promise to be honest, responsible, and available at all times to execute my duties without prejudice, abuse or fear.

So help me God.

Signature/date

§ *Mission of the Council*

The SRC will work as a team to defend the interest of the Village and to ensure that Village activities run harmoniously.

As students Representatives, the members of the Council must work in line with the goals of the Village.

§ *Activities:*

To attain academic goals the Council shall:

- Ensure that French is the language of communication used by all students at all times.
- Organise intra-university and inter-university debates.

§ *Socio-educative for all students*

Lecturers and competent resource persons shall:

- Organise presentations, such as theatre, musical day, concerts e.t.c.
- Animate the Friday talk show
- Monitor the welfare of students during excursions.
- Ensure judicious use of audio-visual materials/ equipment.

§ *Sports*

- Organise sporting activities within the Village.
- Organise sporting competitions with other Institutions.
- Ensure that the sporting materials/equipment is well maintained.

§ *Cleanliness*

- Ensure that, the furniture in the hostels are well maintained.
- Ensure that, the Village and its surroundings are kept clean, (classrooms, corridors, rooms and grasses).

§ *Morals*

- Sustain the moral health of the Village (No Preserve to drugs, No to alcoholism, No to moral decadence!).
- Ensure that, the rules and regulations of the Village are observed.
- Discourage and fight against all forms of misdeemeanour.
- Draw the attention of Management to knotting issues that may cause misunderstanding among students.
- Ensuring cordial and harmonious working relationship between the students and employees of the Village.
- Serve as a link between Management and students.

§ *Administration*

Council shall participate in some administrative processes with regards to students' welfare, feeding, sports, religious activities and socio-educative activities.

§ *Meetings*

- The students Affairs Officer must be informed of any Council meeting 24 hours to the time of such meetings.
- Religious meeting will be held in French and will take place in the Village chapel for the Christians and in the Mosque for the Muslims.
- All notices for the notice boards shall be written in French and will not be pasted until after due authorisation from the relevant office.

§ *Offences*

At the NFLV, the following shall be considered as punishable offences;

- Refusal to speak French.
- Refusal to participate in socio-educative activities.
- Absence from lectures.

- Absence from “causerie”, debates, non-participation in excursions or authorised outings.
- harbouring of strangers in the rooms.
- Insubordination to constituted authority of the Village, as well as members of Students’ Representative Council.
- Not observing the dress code.
- Sale of food items is forbidden in the hostels.
- Stealing.
- Drugs abuse (Cocaine, Heroine, Hashish, and Cannabis).
- Physical assault
- Secret/cult activities.

All other offences indicated in the Manual Code of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

§ *Application of Sanctions*

The gravity of the sanctions shall be determined by the offence committed.

Each case shall be examined and judged by the relevant authority.

The Students Disciplinary Committee shall be involved to determine sanctions for crimes and offences committed.

§ *Conditions for leaving the Village*

- Inform the relevant office of your departure.
- Ensure that you fulfil all financial obligations.
- The relevant office will ensure that, everything put at your disposal is returned in good state.
- You are expected to fill a clearance form before leaving the Village finally.

§ *Legal Status*

These conditions are the internal regulations of the Village. In the case of breach of these rules, the Village Administration reserves the right to take the appropriate measures.

7.5 RULES AND REGULATIONS GUIDING CONDUCT OF EXAMINATIONS

- § Candidates must obtain a minimum of 70% of lectures to qualify to sit for examinations in the Village. Examiners and invigilators reserve the right to prevent defaulters from sitting for examinations.
- § The list of disqualified candidates shall be displayed, not later than 48 hours before the commencement of the said examinations.

- § Candidates must be ready to enter the examination hall ten minutes before the time the examinations are due to start. Candidates who arrive later than half an hour the examinations have started shall be admitted only at the discretion of the invigilator(s).
- § Candidates may not leave the hall during the first-half hour of the examinations.
- § Candidates must bring along with them to the examination hall their own biros, pens, pencils and erasers, ID card and evidence of payment of fees.
- § All rough work must be done in the answer booklets and crossed neatly throughout.
- § Communication among candidates is strictly forbidden.
- § The only permissible way of attracting the attention of the invigilator is by raising of the hand.* (See NFLV Student Brochure for other rules and regulations)

Misconduct	Penalty
Leakage of examinations' questions Impersonation	Expulsion, session's results cancelled
Coming to examination venue with materials related to the course/ using such materials	Cancellation of all the Semester results
Exchange of written materials, Textbooks, notes, handouts in examination Halls	Same as above
Copying from other candidates/ spying in examination halls (aiding and abetting).	Cancellation of all the examination result for the course copied
Exchange of question papers/ answer sheets(offender and partner)	Same as above
Refusal to co-operate with invigilator	Same as above

A first time offender will forfeit examination grades that he/she obtained in the semester in which he/she committed the examination misconduct.

CHAPTER 8

HOW TO REGISTER FOR A PROGRAMME

University students for the Language Immersion Programme register with their Head of Department in their institution who then forward their list to the Village, not later than six months to the commencement of the course.

8.1 **PAYMENT OF FEES AND OTHERS**

Pay your school fees into the Village TSA account in any bank and get a print out containing the Remita Retrieval Reference (RRR) number.

Account Name: NFLV Remita

Account No.: 1000132

Take both the teller and the bank print out (RRR) to the Village cash office to obtain the official receipt of the Village.

* Please note that all payment to the Village must go into the TSA account as started above (18.2).

8.2 **REGISTRATION PROCEDURE**

On arrival in the Village, students must:

- § pay their school fees
- § fill the registration, accommodation and course forms
- § produce a letter of undertaking duly signed by their Heads of Departments in their Institution
- § produce two passport photographs.

§ ***Check List For Registration***

Registration of students takes place at the Village Auditorium.

Step 1 — Pay at any bank; into NFLV Remita Account No.: 1000132 and collect the printout RRR number.

Step 2 — Take your teller and the RRR printout to the Cash Office to exchange it for an official receipt.

Step 3 — Get to the Academic Planning desk to validate your registration.

Step 4 — Get to the Students' Affairs Unit to collect all registration forms.

Step 5 — Get to the Housekeeping Unit for room allocation.

Step 6 — Get to the Laboratory for medical test at the Village Health Centre.

Step 7 — Get to the Library for Library Identity Card.

Step 8 — All forms should be returned to the Students' Affairs Unit.

Protocol and Public Relations Officer	-	Mr. Festus Okundia
Academic Planning Officer	-	Mrs. J. F. Agbetan
Students' Affairs Officer	-	Mrs. E. M. Ayeni
Chief House Keeper	-	Mrs. J. G. F. Gazama

Please note that all mails coming in and going out of the Village pass through the Protocol & Public Relations Unit where they could be collected by the owners.

CHAPTER 9

FRENCH VILLAGE INTERNATIONAL STAFF SCHOOL

In the French Village International staff School, lessons are taught in English. French is taught as a discipline.

Other subjects taught are: Mathematics, Physical Sciences, Fine Arts, Home Economics, Computer and English.

§ Objectives

- Creating a natural enabling environment for the acquisition of French right from the tender age, thus producing “perfect bilinguals”
- Providing qualitative education for children
- Preparing the children to play an active role in their growth.
- Inculcate in the children the sense of hard work and spirit of sportsmanship.
- Stimulating interest in French in the children and through them, influencing their environment.

School fees vary from one class to another as regards staff children and non-staff children.

For more information on how to register, please contact:

The Head Teacher
French Village International Staff School
P. M. B. 1011, Ajara —Badagry
Lagos State, Nigeria
(+234)8034713954