HU 1215 French language and culture: Transitional (Level I), Fall 2001

Dr. Elizabeth Murrell, 335 Walker, 487-3255, emmurrel@mtu.edu
M-W-F 14h-15h, 108 Walker
Heures de bureau: 9h à 10h le mercredi et le vendredi
(ou prenez rendez-vous le mardi)

Texte: Mais Oul! 2nd ed, Thompson and Phillips, student text;
Workbook & Lab Manual, and CD or audio tape lab program

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS:
HU 1215 is a course for students who have already studied some French. It is designed to develop proficiency in speaking, listening, reading and writing French, as well as to foster knowledge of French and Francophone cultures. The course focuses on active language use, which involves interacting meaningfully with other class participants and developing communicative strategies. By the end of the course, with reasonable effort, you will be able to: handle routine situations of a concrete personal and social nature that involve supplying information about yourself and others, get necessary information by asking questions about people and things, navigate a simple survival situation such as ordering food, and create with the French language by combining learned elements. You will have the opportunity to narrate stories and experiences using the passé composé and the imperfect tenses, and use the subjunctive appropriately to imply doubt, obligation, necessity or emotion. Because you have all had at least a year of French previously, we will begin our studies by reviewing Chapters 4 and 5 in our text, then continuing to complete all the chapters this semester.

MEANS:
Classroom activities integrating all French language skills and cultural information.
Out-of-class assignments including multimedia, lab and WWW activities.
Comprehensive testing program of skills, grammar and culture.

ATTENDANCE:
Because success in this course is based on the interaction between class participants, unexcused absences will lower your grade. Three (3) unexcused absences are allowed, after which your Participation Grade will be lowered by 5% for each unexcused absence.
There is a strict NO MAKE-UP policy for assigned work, including homework, quizzes and exams. A grade of zero will be given for any such missed work. Excused absences (such as those resulting from an official MTU activity) must be documented IN ADVANCE, and work, including exams, must be completed BEFORE the anticipated absence. In the event of an unforeseen emergency or serious illness, it is your responsibility to contact your instructor promptly, and to supply adequate documentation.

GRADING:
Written and Oral Exams, Quizzes 40%
Homework, Compositions, Lab 30%
Attendance, Participation 30%

University Grading Scale:
A = 93-100 %  AB = 88-92%  B = 83-87%  BC = 78-82%  C = 73-77%  CD = 68-72%  D = 60-67%  F = 0-59%
Texte:

Mais Oui!

2nd ed, Thompson and Phillips, student text;
Workbook & Lab Manual, and CD or audio tape lab program

During this semester (and beyond) you will make continuous use of a variety of sources: your text, workbook and CD's, tapes, the videos and CD-ROM's that are in the language lab (Walker 114), the Web, and the French news (broadcast nightly, 7pm, SCOLA).

Please also consult the Mais Oui! web site: www.hmcQ.com/collegel

You will register for HU2212, French level 2b or HU2215, French conversation and composition, level 2c, after successfully completing this course.

For those of you who will choose the World Cultures Language Option to fulfill your UN1002 GenEd requirement, this class and a HU22xx (2nd yr. French) class in the Spring, plus UN1003 (WC Activities, 1 credit) in the Spring will fulfill your World Cultures requirement.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Have Fun! Participate Actively! Come Prepared! Use the Lab!

SYLLABUS

Devoirs par chapitre:
Cahier: 3 sections: workbook, lab, video
À l'écoute (dans le texte avec cassette d'étudiant): 1 et 2
Compositions: sujets dans le cahier

Horaire hebdomadaire:

1ère semaine, le 27, 29, 31 août: Chapitres 1-4: intro et révisions
2e semaine, le 3 septembre: Chap. 5
3e semaine, le 10 septembre: Chap. 5, QUIZ (vendredi)
4e semaine, le 17 sept: Chap. 6
5e semaine, le 24 septembre: Chap. 6, QUIZ (mercredi)
6e semaine, le 1er octobre: Chap. 7
7e semaine, le 8 octobre: QUIZ Chap. 7 (lundi); intro chap.8
8e semaine, le 15 octobre: Chap. 8, QUIZ (vendredi)
9e semaine, le 22 octobre: Chap. 9
10e semaine, le 29 octobre: Chap. 9, QUIZ (mercredi)
11e semaine, le 5 novembre: Chap. 10
12e semaine, le 12 novembre: QUIZ Chap. 10 (lundi); intro chap.11

(Conjé: le Jour de Grace)

13e semaine, le 26 novembre: Chap. 11, QUIZ (vendredi)
14e semaine, le 3 décembre: Chap. 12
15e semaine, le 10 décembre: Chap.Complémentaire; eval; QUIZ (vendredi)

---This syllabus subject to change at any time for pedagogical and/or unexpected circumstances. You will be notified of such changes if they take place.---
Your grade for this course will be based on the following:

Attendance and Participation (30%)
Every day I will circulate a sign-up sheet during the first minutes of class. Make sure you get this sheet and sign it. If you don’t, you will be considered absent for that day, even if “you were there but I did not see you.” Active Participation points will be awarded based on your eagerness to ask as well as to answer questions, and to do so in French as much as possible. It is also important to come to class prepared, with lessons completed and with homework assignments, compositions, labs, or other assigned work ready to turn in at the beginning of the class period. Attendance at showings of French films and viewing French news broadcasts or other French language offerings on TV is strongly encouraged. If you are absent, even with a reasonable excuse, participation points can not be awarded for that day.

Participation includes attendance and promptness, preparation, and involvement in conversations, skits, role-playing and other in-class activities designed to assess that you are maintaining appropriate progress. (Please see above section on Attendance) Periodic Class Activities Grades will be assigned and distributed, to facilitate dialogue about your class participation. You are strongly encouraged to participate in the weekly French conversation group, "Le Café français." Tuesdays from 2-3, Campus Café, lower level Wads.

Please do not chew gum or wear hats in class. Eating and drinking during lessons is not conducive to active participation, so please refrain, unless you bring, with prior approval, something French for everyone to share.

Devoirs, Workbook, Lab (30%)

Devoirs: À l’écoute 1 and 2 (for each chap), oral presentations and other oral and written tasks given daily in class and homework, such as (but not limited to) dialogues to learn, say and/or write, group work, interviews, paragraphs, essay questions, exercises from the book, etc. Since no late or make-up work will be accepted as a matter of course, you are responsible for your assignments even in the case of absence. Be prepared, communicate with your classmates about work missed, and notify me in advance or as soon as possible of any illness-related or other problems. Attendance at and active participation in each class period is very important. Assignments may seem spur-of-the-moment, but are planned activities that I may occasionally modify in response to the individual student’s and to class needs.

Workbook: The Cahier d’activités that accompanies your text should be worked through one lesson at a time as we complete that lesson in class. There will be a number of minor items in the text that we will not cover in detail in the class, but these will be dealt with in the workbook. All exercises should be completed in a timely manner, and I will check completion regularly in class. Please do not hesitate to ask questions in class or during my office hours about material that you find puzzling. It would give me great pleasure to go over materials so that you do not feel lost. Yes, we will be moving quickly, but office hours and extra lab hours are here to give you the extra practice you may need.

Lab: To give you additional, and needed, listening practice, to develop your listening comprehension, speaking skills and cultural understanding, you will work in the language lab (114 Walker) for at least 1 hour per week (15 hrs/sem). While there, you may watch the videos or listen to the cassette tapes that accompany the units and lessons in our text, or consult the CD-Rom resource materials. We also have computerized study modules available in the lab, as well as French films and access to MTU Cable, where you may watch French news broadcasts according to the SCOLA schedule posted. Three or four of the computers in the lab have Internet access.
Your workbook has follow-along exercises for the lab cassettes in addition to the written exercises previously mentioned. Remember to log your lab time so that you will be credited for the work you do. Your name, my name (E. Murrell) and the course number (HU1215, sec.2) should appear on all lab log sheets.

I will collect all workbooks on quiz days to check completion of exercises. No credit will be given if you forget to bring your workbook to class.

GRADING for devoirs and cahier/lab work will be a 10-5-0 format:
10pts = completed with few errors (check +)
5pts = partially done and/or multiple errors (check)
0pts = not done, not turned in on due day, illegible, etc. (check -)

Quizzes (40%)

There will be a quiz given after every chapter, beginning with Chapter 5. Each will cover material from that chapter's materials and may vary in length. There will be an oral part and a written part that will include a short composition. The oral and composition sections may be given on the preceding or following day to allow adequate time. Because of the nature of foreign language learning, these quizzes represent cumulative control of grammar, vocabulary and cultural items, even though I may appear to be testing only one verb, noun or other form. Partial points will usually be subtracted for spelling and other errors no matter where they occur on the quiz. Also, because each quiz is cumulative, because of the amount of other work required throughout the quarter and because it is expected that all in the class will continue pursuing proficiency in the French language and cultures long after the end of this quarter, there will be no "final" exam.

Please note: For excellent review exercises keyed to our text, consult the Mais Oui! web site at: www.hmco.com/college

Important Info:
International Programs Office, Dr. James P. Cross, -3055, jpcross@mtu.edu
SCOLA Broadcast. Internat'l News and Cult. Prog.: MTU channel 4 and 5, see schedule in ML lab, 114 Walker.
Modern Language Lab. 114 Walker, 7-3036
Browsing the French Web (and other European countries): http://www.syselog.fr/eurolink/or: http://humanities.uchicago.edu/romance/french/
French Scientific and Technical Resources: http://www.hu.mtu.edu/~emmurrel/hu275/

(MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disability Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Associate Dean of Students, (2212). For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department head, or the Affirmative Action Office (3310).)