HU 3272: Level II-B French Language, Literature and Culture (Spring 2003)

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Office Hours: Mondays 3:30-4:30, Thursdays 2:00-3:00, or by appointment

REQUIRED TEXTS:
Personnages, 2nd edition, Oates and Dubois, Houghton/Mifflin, 1999
Personnages: Cahier d'Activités

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS:
This is an intermediate-level course designed to reinforce proficiency in French grammar and vocabulary, and to build knowledge about French and Francophone cultures through literary readings and other activities. The course aims to refine communicative competency in all four skill areas (listening, speaking, reading and writing in French). In-class activities focus on active language use, which involves interacting meaningfully with other class participants and developing communicative strategies. The cultural and literary component of the course centers on the following regions: Senegal, Martinique, Switzerland, Northeastern France, and Belgium.

GRADING:
Written (40%) and Oral (5%) Exams, Quizzes (5%)
Homework, Compositions
Attendance, Participation, Lab

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%

WRITTEN EXAMS AND QUIZZES:
Chapter exams will be given once every three weeks on Thursdays (see Exam Dates below). The exams are achievement tests, enabling you to demonstrate the skills and information you have learned in each unit of the course (normally including a chapter from Personnages, a reading from Diversité, and all other cultural material covered in class). Occasional unannounced short quizzes will be given to assess your knowledge of vocabulary and grammatical structures and your basic comprehension of the readings.

ORAL EXAMS:
In addition to ongoing informal assessments of your speaking skills in French, oral exams will be administered. These exams will take the form of in-class individual presentations and group skits.

HOMEWORK AND COMPOSITIONS:
Homework includes assignments from our textbook and workbook as well as other short writing assignments. Homework assignments will be checked or collected, on an unannounced basis, at the BEGINNING of the class period only. The two assigned compositions will provide an opportunity for the creative application of skills you have learned. No late work will be accepted.

ATTENDANCE:
Because success in this course requires interaction among class participants, unexcused absences will lower your grade. Two (2) unexcused absences are allowed, after which your Attendance/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 prior to 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.

CLASS PARTICIPATION:
Participation includes attendance and promptness, preparation, and involvement in conversations, skits, role-playing and other in-class activities. (Please see section above on Attendance.) Periodic Participation grades will be assigned, to facilitate dialogue about your class participation. You are strongly encouraged to take part in the weekly French conversation group, “Le Café français,” which will meet on Tuesdays between 2:00-3:00 in the back room of the Campus Café (ground floor of Wadsworth Hall) beginning in Week 2.

LAB:
In order to develop all four language skills, we will be using a variety of multimedia tools, including lab cassettes or CDs, videos, CD-ROMs, and websites. You are required to spend a minimum of ONE HOUR per week using such resources in the Language Lab (Walker 114). You will use log sheets to record your hours.

NOTE:
MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities 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, 487-2212. For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office (487-3310).

EMPLOI DU TEMPS (provisoire)
Semaines 1 à 3 [du 14 au 30 janvier]
Personnages chapitre 6; Diversité: lecture n° 9 Sembène, “La Noire de...” (pp. 102-120)
EXAMEN: jeudi le 30 janvier

Semaines 4 à 6 [du 4 au 20 février]
Personnages chapitre 7; Diversité: lecture n° 6 Dracius, “La Montagne de Feu” (pp. 63-76)
EXAMEN: jeudi le 20 février

Semaines 7 à 9 [du 25 février au 20 mars]
Personnages chapitre 8; Diversité: lecture n° 2 Colimon-Hall, “Bonjour, Maman!” (pp. 10-23)
EXAMEN: jeudi le 20 mars

Semaines 10 à 12 [du 25 mars au 10 avril]
Personnages chapitre 9; Diversité: lecture n° 5 Le Clézio, “Le temps ne passe pas” (pp. 49-61)
EXAMEN: jeudi le 10 avril

Semaines 13 à 15 [du 15 avril au 1er mai]
Personnages chapitre 10
EXAMEN: jeudi le 1er mai

⇒ This syllabus is subject to modification at the discretion of the instructor, in response to student needs and abilities. ⇐