Bienvenue à...

HU 2271  Level IA: French Language and Culture
Spring 2006 (MWF, 10:05 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.; Fisher 125)

Professeur: Michèle E. Anderson, Ph.D.
Téléphone: 487-3260 (Résidence: 483-0822)
Bureau: Walker 341 Office hours: MW, 12:05 – 12:55 (tentative) and by appointment
Email: mieander@mtlu.edu (or: andersm2@sbcglobal.net )

Note: This first-semester, first-year course is for students who have not studied French before or who did not receive a placement score allowing them to take the second semester of this course or higher. If you feel you canhandle a higher level of French for any reason, please see the instructor at the end of the second day of class or sooner. If you complete a higher level of French, such as HU2272, and receive at least a grade of C, you may receive placement credits for this course; thus, it is to your advantage to enroll in the higher-level course if you can.

Before We Begin, You Should Know:
Students who complete two levels of French consecutively may take UN1003 (Spring 2006, along with HU2271) INSTEAD of the four-credit-hour World Cultures lecture (UN1002). This means you would take HU2272 in the fall of 2005. Students may continue with second-year, third-year and fourth-year language courses of this language and count at least nine, and up to twelve credit hours of this course work toward the general education distribution requirement.

Required Texts:

**Mais oui!** 3rd Edition. Workbook, Laboratory and Video Manual. Lab CDs and video for the Workbook assignments are available in the Language Lab, Walker 114. These are different from the student CD that comes with the book.

Course Description: Introduction to basic French grammar, vocabulary, and idioms designed to acquaint students with the minimum essentials of oral and written French and with various aspects of contemporary French-speaking cultures. This course will help you develop listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in French, while exploring Francophone cultures through authentic listening and reading materials. The communicative approach helps you think in French and develop strategies for real-life situations. Cultural and literary readings, as well as video clips, will challenge your critical thinking skills and offer insights into the Francophone world.

Course Objectives: The text and materials for the course emphasize a communicative approach, which encourages listening and speaking in practical conversational situations. Reading, writing, culture and basic grammar are also important elements of this course. By the end of the semester, you should be able to greet people; discuss the weather, the calendar, your daily routines, classes and university life; give and understand directions; and order something to eat and drink in a café or restaurant. You should be able to ask questions and talk about the near future and events in the past. You should also be able to talk and
write about some basic aspects of Francophone cultures. Make use of the audio and video resources in the lab (Walker 114) and on the Web. Visit the *Mais Oui!* web site: [http://www.hmco.com/college/](http://www.hmco.com/college/).

**Qu’est-ce qu’il faut faire? (What do you have to do?)**

Language learning is a challenging and rewarding experience! The keys to success are discipline, curiosity, open-mindedness, humor, the willingness to take risks, and above all, continuous practice. Be prepared to set aside 6 to 9 hours per week for study outside of class, in addition to lab assignments. Additionally, you are expected to:

- Attend regularly and participate actively in class. Try to speak French as much as possible, but don’t be afraid to ask a question. Others may benefit from your question.
- Come prepared to class. **Advance preparation** is the only way we can cover the material in the time allowed and make the best use of class time.
- Bring textbook, workbook, notebook for vocabulary and grammar, paper, pen, pencil and a dictionary, if you have one, to class every day.
- Keep up with your workbook and other homework and lab assignments, which are designed to reinforce the work we are doing in class. It is hard to catch up if you let yourself fall behind in a foreign language.
- Be prepared to do work in groups, role-play, and give brief presentations in class.
- If you need extra help with assignments Email or visit the instructor, and/or visit the Language Lab. Some of the lab assistants are available for free tutoring during lab hours. Try to visit the lab during their work hours to benefit from this. Postings in the lab indicate the hours of assistants who know French. Be respectful and supportive of one another.
- Follow proper classroom etiquette as per MTU student handbook. Please keep cell phones turned off. No food, drink or gum allowed in class, unless you have a medical warrant. (Chewing gum will make it harder for you to pronounce French correctly!)

**Course Evaluation:**

25% Attendance and oral participation
40% Chapter tests and quizzes
25% Homework (including workbook)
10% Oral exams and presentations

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

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<th>Score Range</th>
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<tr>
<td>93-100</td>
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<td>92-89</td>
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<td>69-65</td>
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**A note on attendance, participation and preparation:**

Since this class meets only three times a week, the in-class listening and speaking practice in French are very important for learning the language. In addition, at least one hour of lab is required per week. Try to get to know at least one person in the class whom you can call on the phone for speaking practice or with whom you can practice dialogue situations outside of class. **Try not to miss any classes. Your grade will be seriously affected if you miss class without an official excuse** (a doctor’s note, an instructor’s note, or a note from the dean of students). **THERE ARE NO MAKE-UPS FOR MISSED QUIZZES OR EXAMS when your absence is unexcused.** If you know that you will be away or will miss class (with a good excuse), it is your responsibility to inform me IN ADVANCE and to complete the required assignments. **Unexcused absences are grounds for failure in class participation. If, for an extreme reason, you do not wish to be called on in class, let me know before the class so I can give**
you partial credit for passive participation (It is better to attend and at least listen than to cut the class for lack of preparation.) Otherwise I make an effort to call on every student. If you consistently arrive late for class, you will lose participation credit.

French is spoken in the classroom. This also applies to group activities. My expectation is that, when called upon for a response in class, you will have prepared the assignments and readings for that day and can make a reasonably good attempt at response in French. Do not be afraid to make mistakes; taking the “risk” in language is all-important. Advance preparation BEFORE and OUTSIDE of class are important to participation IN class. Look at the programme (A calendar of assignments will soon be posted on Web CT) and prepare the pages for that day in advance. This does not mean you are expected to master material before it has been presented in class, but you should familiar with the lesson we are going to do that day. Read through it and try a few items in at least some of the textbook exercises. Then, when the material is presented, you should be able to grasp it more quickly. The video, lab audio, student CD and reading materials should help you expand your vocabulary and cultural knowledge.

©©© Try to attend the Café français (Campus Café, Wadsworth Hall) for extra listening and speaking practice with students from other classes and native speakers of French! Even if you can only stop by for 5 minutes, please come and share some conversation and perhaps a snack. Those who are shy are welcome to just come and listen. Times will be announced in class.

Cahier de vocabulaire
Keep a vocabulary notebook with all the new words you learn. You may wish to have a separate notebook or a separate section for verb conjugations. Add a little to it each day and use the notebook to quiz yourself on meanings and conjugations. If you like to draw cartoons or add photos or pictures to the notebook, labeled in French, this is a good way to avoid English translation and think in French. Bring the notebook to class. J’aime admirer les cahiers de vocabulaire!

Devoirs (Assignments)
Hand in assignments on time to be sure you receive feedback before the tests. Due dates are meant to help you do some French every day so that you may absorb it more easily. Don’t try to do all assignments the night before a test. Please do all assignments in blue or black ink. Accents count as part of spelling. For tests and sentence or paragraph exercises, write your corrections in ink on a separate sheet of paper and hand in with the original paper. Textbook assignments should all be done in ink on lined paper, using both sides but skipping lines and leaving margins where appropriate.

You may not realize it right away, but by the end of the course you will see that REVISION helps you avoid making the same errors in the future. Homework grades – Excellent (++), très bien (+), and a check (OK) – are self-explanatory. If your paper is marked with NC (unsatisfactory/no credit), the assignment must be revised. Submit your assignments and/or revisions at the beginning of class unless I say we will go over it in class. In that case, hand it in at the end of class. Also, please do not ask, “Do I have any missing assignments?” It is your responsibility to keep on target with assignments (by following calendar of assignments, being attentive in class, or following up on our list-serv communication by Email.) DO contact me if you need help with any assignment or if you need to re-negotiate a deadline.

Language Lab
The Language Lab is located in Walker 114 (Turn left from front entrance and take the left hallway on the first floor, first room on right.) Consult with the monitors and/or coaches on duty there to acquaint you
with lab procedures so you can receive lab credit. Lab exercises will help you prepare for oral presentations and for quizzes and tests. Lab hours are posted on the door of the Lab. Monitors and “Coaches” (tutors) will be available to help you. A chart on the wall of the lab should indicate at what times a French-speaking student is working. Try to do your lab work at that time and practice French whenever possible. Please note: You are automatically charged a lab fee upon registration for a language class! Put this money to good use by taking full advantage of the equipment and varied materials, including audio tapes, videos, French TV, and computer software.

NOTES:

If you face circumstances that could affect your performance in this class, please see me ASAP so that we can make appropriate re-arrangements.

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 reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please call the Office of Student Affairs at 487-3465. For all other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office at 487-3310.

The syllabus and course schedule may be revised during the semester to accommodate the needs of either the students or the instructor.