HU 2271: Level I-A French Language and Culture (Fall 2006)

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Office Hours: Mon. 3:00-4:00, Fri. 1:00-2:00, or by appointment

Course location: Fisher 126
Course meeting time: MWF 2:05-2:55

REQUIRED TEXTS:
Thompson and Phillips. Mais Oui! 3rd ed. textbook and student CD
Mais Oui! 3rd ed. workbook/laboratory manual/video manual
French dictionary

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS:
This course is designed to develop basic 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.

EXAM DATES:
Fri., Sept 22 Chap. prelim. + Chap 1 Fri., Nov. 3 Chap. 4
Fri., Oct 6 Chap. 2 Fri., Nov. 17 Chap. 5
Fri., Oct 20 Chap. 3 Fri., Dec. 15 Chap. 6

GRADING CRITERIA (see descriptions on reverse):
Written Exams 40%
Homework 20%
Attendance, Participation, Lab 20%
Compositions (2, worth 5% each) 10%
Oral Exams (2, worth 5% each) 10%

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%

ATTENDANCE:
Because success in this course is based on the interaction between class participants, unexcused absences will lower your grade. A maximum of 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.
WRITTEN EXAMS:
The exams are opportunities for you to demonstrate your understanding of the material covered in each of the chapters we will study in this course. Note the exam dates listed on the first page of this syllabus. You will find some useful exam review activities at:
< http://college.hmco.com/languages/french/thompson/maisoui/3e/students/index.html >

HOMEWORK AND COMPOSITIONS:
Homework includes workbook, lab manual, and video manual assignments as well as written assignments from our textbook. Homework assignments will be checked or collected, on an unannounced basis, at the BEGINNING of the class period only. Compositions will provide an opportunity to use creatively skills you have learned. You will submit a complete first draft of each composition and receive feedback before submitting the final draft. **No late work will be accepted.**

CLASS PARTICIPATION:
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). You are strongly encouraged to participate in the French conversation group on campus, “Le Café français.”

LAB:
In order to develop all four language skills, we will be using a variety of multimedia tools, including lab CDs, videos, CD-ROMs, and websites. You are required to spend a minimum of ONE HOUR per week using such resources in the Modern Language Lab (Walker 114), for a total of at least TWELVE HOURS throughout the semester. You will use log sheets to record your hours. Lab hours must reflect steady attendance throughout the semester; students are not permitted to make up large numbers of missed hours at the end of the semester.

ORAL EXAMS:
In addition to ongoing in-class assessments of your speaking skills in French, pairs of students will meet with the instructor outside of class for two conversation exams (one at mid-term and one at the end of the semester). A list of communication situations to prepare will be provided in advance.

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 (487-3510).

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