HU 3272: Level II-B French Language, Literature and Culture
Spring 2007

MWF 12:05-12:55
Walker 108

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Required Texts:
Personnages, 3rd edition, Oates and Dubois
Personnages: Cahier d’activités
Diversité, 2nd edition Budig-Markin and Gaasch

Course Description and Goals:
This is an intermediate-level course designed to reinforce proficiency in French grammar, vocabulary and idioms and to build knowledge about French and Francophone cultures through literary readings and other activities. The course aims to refine communicative competence in all four skills areas in French—reading, writing, listening, and speaking. In-class activities focus on active language use, which involves developing communication strategies and interacting meaningfully with other class participants. The cultural and literary component of the course centers on Senegal, Martinique, Switzerland, Northeastern France, and Belgium.

Written Exams and Quizzes:
Chapter exams will be given after each unit of the course. The exams are achievement tests enabling you to demonstrate the skills and information you have learned in each unit of the course. Each exam normally covers a chapter from Personnages, all cultural material discussed or assigned in class, and a reading from Diversité.

Oral Exams:
In addition to ongoing informal assessment of your speaking skills in French through your participation in class, there will be oral exams in the form of in-class individual or small group presentations or skits.

Homework and Compositions:
Homework will include assignments from the textbook and/or workbook as well as other short writing assignments. Homework assignments will be used and checked in class or collected. Compositions will provide an opportunity to creatively use the skills you have learned. Except in the case of excused absences, late homework will not be accepted.
Attendance:
Because success in this course is based on the interaction between class participants, you are expected to attend all class meetings and volunteer and participate actively during class activities. **Three (3) unexcused absences are allowed, after which your Participation Grade will be lowered by 5% for each unexcused absence.** Excused absences such as those due to a plant or interview trip or official MTU activity must be documented and assignments completed by an agreed-upon deadline. In the event of an unforeseen emergency or serious illness, please contact me promptly and supply adequate documentation.

Participation:
Participation includes attendance and promptness, preparation and involvement in conversations, skits, role-playing and other in-class activities designed to help you make progress. The class will be conducted in French, but do not be afraid to make mistakes in speaking French. Taking the “risk” in language is all-important. Occasionally you may need to ask a grammar question in English if necessary, but try to get in the habit of asking questions in French. **Preparation BEFORE and OUTSIDE of class are important to participation IN class.** This does not mean you are expected to master material before it has been presented in class, but you should be familiar with the lesson we are going to do that day. **Do any required exercises due that day and try some of the oral exercises, study the grammar structures and put new vocabulary and verb conjugations in a vocabulary notebook.**

*C* Cahier de vocabulaire. **Keep a vocabulary notebook with all the new words you learn. You may wish to have a separate section for verb conjugations. 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.**

Lab:
In order to develop listening and speaking 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 may count the time needed to complete your regular lab manual assignment towards this requirement (see below). Participation in the biweekly Cafe français may also be counted. You will need to record your lab hours on log sheets and turn them in in the lab in order to get credit for your work.

The workbook pages and in the first half of the Cahier d’activités and the lab manual exercises (“Radio Francophonie”) in the second half are standing assignments that are due in class, respectively, on the day before and the day of the exam date for each unit. **Workbook and Lab exercises should be torn out or photocopied and the separate sections stapled together.**
Grading:
Written Exams 40%
Oral Exam & presentations 5%
Homework 20%
Compositions 10%
Attendance, Participation, & Lab 25%

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

This syllabus is subject to change at any time for pedagogical and/or unexpected circumstances. You will be notified of such changes if they take place.

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, Dean of Students, (487-2212). For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department head, or the Affirmative Action Office (487-3310).

Devoirs pour vendredi le 19 janvier:

1. Écrivez une liste de 5 structures en français (verbes, tems, pronoms, autres points de grammaire) de chapitres 1-5 que vous voudriez réviser.

2. Révisez les formes et l’emploi du passé compose et de l’imparfait pp. 59-64; Écrivez des questions d’interview Ex. 8 p. 65

3. Écrivez une petite composition d’une page où vous décrivez ce que vous avez fait pendant les vacances d’hiver.