HU 2271: Level I-A French Language and Culture (Fall 2008)

Dr. Maria Slocum
mlslocum@mtu.edu
Office: Walker 344
Office phone: 487-1084
Dept. secretary phone: 487-2540
Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays from 2pm-3pm or by appointment

Course meeting time: MWF 9:05-9:55am
Home phone (from 9am to 9pm): 483-0728

Course location: Walker 109
Office: Walker 344

---

REQUIRED TEXTS:
- Quia online *Mais Oui!* 4th ed. workbook/laboratory manual/video manual (I will distribute registration instructions for the online workbook. You will register for French IA, section 1 at 9:05am.)
- a 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. Your professor is committed to your success in this course! You are encouraged to meet with her during office hours or at another mutually convenient time for extra help or to assess your progress in the course.

EXAM DATES:
Fri., Sept 19  Chapter prelim. + Chapter 1  Wed, Nov 19  Chapter 4 + Chapter 5
Fri, Oct 17  Chapter 2 + Chapter 3  Fri, Dec 12  Chapter 6 + cumulative

GRADING CRITERIA (see descriptions on reverse):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written Exams</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compositions (2, worth 5% each)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Exams (2, worth 5% each)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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, absences will lower your grade. You will earn a participation grade each day that you are in
class. A maximum of three (3) absences are allowed, after which you will receive a zero for each day that you are absent. Save your three absences for emergencies. 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/maisouij3e/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. Assignments that you submit on line must be completed before the beginning of class the day that they are due. All of the homework in the online workbook will be graded based on completion; the computer will give you a “score” and feedback (the correct answers), but as long as you complete all of the assignments on time, you will receive full credit. You may complete an exercise multiple times for additional practice by hitting the “try again” button. If you have any questions about your homework, compositions, or exams, it would be best to let me know as soon as possible, preferably in person, by asking your questions in class or coming to my office hours. Some class time will be devoted to answering your questions and looking at sample homework questions together.

Compositions will provide an opportunity to use skills that you have learned in a creative way. You will submit a complete first draft of each composition and receive feedback before submitting the final draft so that you will have the opportunity to improve your work and your grade. 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.” Details will be provided in class.

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 expected 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.

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 (487-3310).

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

EXAM DATES:
Fri., Sept 19  Chapter prelim. + Chapter 1  Fri, Nov 21  Chapter 4 + Chapter 5
Fri, Oct 17  Chapter 2 + Chapter 3  Fri, Dec 12  Chapter 6 + cumulative

GRADING CRITERIA (see descriptions on reverse):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written Exams</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance, Participation, Lab</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compositions (2, worth 5% each)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Exams (2, worth 5% each)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>