HU 2271: Level I-A French Language and Culture (Spring 2009)

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Office: Walker 344  
Dept. secretary phone: 487–2540

Course location: Walker 116  
Course meeting time: MWF 9:05-9:55am  
Office: Walker 344  
Office phone: 487–1084

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-2pm, and by appointment.

REQUIRED TEXTS:
- Quia online *Mais Oui!* 4th ed. workbook/laboratory manual. I will distribute registration instructions for the online workbook. You will access the online activities with the book key that came packaged with your copy of *Mais Oui!* 4th edition.
- 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. If you have any questions, or if there is something I could do that would help you learn, please ask or make a suggestion.

EXAM DATES:
Fri. Jan 30  Chapter prelim. + Chapter 1  
Fri. Feb 27  Chapter 2 + Chapter 3  
Wed. April 8  Chapter 4 + Chapter 5  
Fri. April 24  Chapter 6 + cumulative

GRADING CRITERIA (see descriptions on the next page):

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Written Exams</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Compositions (2, worth 5% each)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral Exams (2, worth 5% each)</td>
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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 need to be in class every day to practice the skills that we are learning, to
develop listening comprehension, learn vocabulary, discuss readings, and practice conversation in French. 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. If you miss class, you are responsible for completing any work that is due that day and submitting it on time. You are also responsible for finding out about any homework, compositions, or oral exams that may have been assigned and explained in class that day. Please exchange contact information with other students in the class so that you will be able to get in touch with someone if you miss class. Attending class regularly and completing all assigned work is crucial to success in this class.

There is a strict NO MAKE-UP policy for all assigned work, including homework, in class activities, 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. If you ever have a problem that prevents you from attending class, please let me know right away. In the case of serious illness or similar circumstances, you should contact the Dean of Students in the Office of Student Affairs as soon as possible and provide 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.cengage.com/languages/french/thompson/maisou/4e/site_index.html

HOMEWORK AND COMPOSITIONS:
Homework provides practice with concepts that build on each other throughout the semester; it is part of the daily effort of learning a language. Homework includes workbook and lab assignments, as well as written assignments from our textbook. These assignments will be checked or collected, on an unannounced basis, at the BEGINNING of the class period only.

Assignments that you submit online on the Quia website 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 credit/no credit 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. Since homework assignments help you prepare for class each day, and provide practice with new material that you are learning in class as it is introduced, it is essential that you devote time every day to completing these assignments. I recommend that you spend at
least one hour per day working on assignments for this class, as well as reviewing what you have learned, and studying the new vocabulary and grammar.

Compositions 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. The first version counts as a complete set of homework; the final version counts for 5% of your grade (see grade breakdown on the first page). The compositions are due at the BEGINNING of the class period only. You must be in class to turn them in on time. **No late homework or compositions 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. Participation includes small group activities where you will work with a partner. It is important to be engaged in all of these activities which provide practice with conversation in French and the new structures that you are learning. Please work with a partner as instructed for these activities. (Please see above section on Attendance).

**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. You may also work with language consultants for extra help or to practice conversation.

**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.

Academic Integrity: MTU’s Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “knowingly copying another’s work and calling it one’s own or not giving proper credit or citation.” The penalties for plagiarism and other forms of cheating range from a warning to a failing grade to expulsion from the University. Students who have any questions about the issue should consult their instructor or a coach in the Writing Center.

**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 (487–3330).

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