Walk 144
MWF 2:05-2:55
Fall 2010

Dr. Diane Shoos
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Office: Walker 328
Office phone: 487-3247
Office hours: MF 12-1; W 3-4
Other hours by appt.

Required Texts:

Recommended Texts:
A good French pocket dictionary (Larousse is recommended)
The Personnages student website: http://bcs.wiley.com/

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 France, Québec, Tahiti, and the Maghreb (French-speaking North Africa). Your professor is committed to facilitating 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.

Written Exams and Quizzes:
Chapter exams will be given after each unit of the course (Chapters 1-5 in Personnages). 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 and all additional material discussed or assigned in class. Exams are designed to assess your knowledge of vocabulary, grammatical structures, and cultural information and your basic comprehension of the reading passages in the chapter. In addition, there may be 1-2 brief quizzes on this material during each unit.

Oral Exams and Skits:
In addition to ongoing informal assessment of your speaking skills in French through your participation in class, oral exams will be administered at mid-semester. These exams will be conversation exams with a partner in my office. You will also perform skits in small groups for the class near the end of the semester. These oral activities are opportunities to work with your classmates, practice your oral skills in French, and come up with a creative way to synthesize what you are learning about culture and language. They may be inspired by something that you have learned in class, but you may also select a topic that you want to learn more about on your own.
Homework:
Homework will include assignments from the textbook and electronic Student Activities Manual as well as other short writing assignments and will be detailed on a weekly assignment sheet that I hand out and also post to the class list on Fridays. Homework assignments will be checked or collected, on an unannounced basis, during the class period and graded based on completion (Credit/No Credit, with partial credit given for work that is partially completed. Please do any assignments on a separate piece of paper (i.e. not in the textbook). We will usually correct most assigned exercises in class so that you can have immediate feedback on your work.) For assignments that are only checked but not collected, please let me know if you have questions or would like more feedback.
No late homework will be accepted. A grade of zero will be assigned for any missing homework.

Compositions:
Compositions provide an opportunity to use skills that you have learned in a creative way. These are formal writing assignments that must be typed and double-spaced. You will have the opportunity to revise your compositions to improve your work after receiving feedback from your professor. No late compositions will be accepted. A grade of zero will be assigned for any missing compositions.

Electronic Student Activities Manual:
Your copy of Personnages should have come bundled with a registration card for the electronic Student Activities Manual that is required for class. I will provide a course key number which, together with your individual card number, will provide access to a website with writing and lab exercises for each chapter. These exercises are standing assignments that must be completed by the last day of class prior to the exam date for each unit.

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. Please note that late arrivals will affect your attendance and participation grade. Keep in mind that attendance is checked daily. More than 3 absences during the semester will result in no credit for attendance. You CANNOT PASS THE CLASS IF YOU MISS MORE THAN 5 SESSIONS. Excused absences such as those due to a plant or interview trip or official MTU activity must be documented and assignments completed prior to the anticipated absence or by a deadline given by your instructor. In the event of an unforeseen emergency or serious illness it is your responsibility to contact your instructor promptly and to supply adequate documentation to the Office of Student Affairs.

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 making appropriate progress. In order to earn a good participation grade you need to
come to class on time every day, be prepared, participate enthusiastically in all of the activities, and speak French in class. Please, NO food, drink or gum in class. I and your classmates appreciate your full attention: you need to be present not just physically, but also mentally. Electronic devices such as laptops, cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, PDAs, etc. must be turned off in the classroom.

Opportunities for Additional Practice: Lab and Café français
In order to all four language skills, you are encouraged to spend a minimum of one hour per week using such resources in the language lab (Walker 143). You may work with consultants in the lab to practice French conversation, watch dvds, listen to CDs consult websites, etc. See the lab schedule at: http://www.hmu.mtu.edu/lu_dept/taeilities/consultant_schedule.php
In addition, you are strongly encouraged to participate in the on-campus informal French conversation group, “Le Café français” (dates & times t.b.a.) Neither the lab nor the conversation group is required for this class; these are opportunities for you to get more practice.

Grading:
Written Exams 45%
Homework, incl. eSAM 20%
Compositions 10%
Attendance& Participation 15%
Oral exams and skits 10%

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 Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). If anyone in this class has a disability that requires a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education and services at MTU, please call the Dean of Students office (487-2951). For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department head/chair, or the Affirmative Action Office (487-3310).

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 issues should consult their instructor or a coach in the Humanities Multilitteracies Center (Walker 107).
Emploi du temps (provisoire) [Tentative schedule]

**Semaines 1 à 4** (du 30 août au 20 septembre)
Révision; *Personnages* Chapitre préliminaire et Chapitre 1 PARIS
**Examen: mercredi le 22 septembre**

**Semaines 4 à 6** (du 24 septembre au 6 octobre)
*Personnages* Chapitre 2 LE QUÉBEC
**Examen: vendredi le 8 octobre**

**Semaines 7 à 9** (du 11 au 22 octobre)
*Personnages* Chapitre 3 LE TAHITI
**Examen: lundi le 25 octobre**

**Semaines 9 à 12** (du 27 octobre au 8 novembre)
*Personnages* Chapitre 4 LYON
**Examen: mercredi le 10 novembre**

**Semaines 12 à 14** (du 12 novembre au 3 décembre)
*Personnages* Chapitre 5 LE MAGHREB
**Examen: lundi le 6 décembre**

**Semaine 12 (mercredi le 8 et vendredi le 10 décembre):** Présentation des sketches en classe! (Il n’y aura pas d’examen final écrit.)