HU 2271: Level 1-A French Language and Culture

Spring 2011
Course Location: Fisher 127
Course Meeting Time: MWF 12:05-12:55
Office Hours: MWF, 2:30-4:00 and by appointment

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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. We will also place special emphasis on the beginnings of conversational French. The course focuses on active language use, which involves interacting with me and your classmates to develop communicative strategies.

By the end of the course, with reasonable effort, you will be able to:

- Handel routine situations of concrete personal and social nature; 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
- Compose phrases and dialogue using learned elements of the French language

Recommendations:

- Your active participation will be rewarded at the end of the semester. Volunteer as soon as you feel comfortable in class. Show some enthusiasm. Try to answer every question whether you are called on or not.

- Be prepared for class every day. This means that you should consider the information and materials assigned before you get to each class. It is also a good idea to review on a regular basis and not just before an examination.

- When learning new words, focus on correct spelling and gender.

- Any time you are absent, you are responsible for obtaining class notes and/or any handouts given that day from a classmate.

- Contact me immediately if you are experiencing difficulties. DO NOT WAIT. Come to my office hour, or make an appointment.
ATTENDANCE:
Success in this course depends on in class interaction, therefore unexcused absences will lower your grade. Attendance is required. Students who miss three classes without university-approved excuses will lower their final grade by full a grade; those who miss more than three will lower their grade by a half grade for each subsequent absence. There will be no passing grade for students who miss more than 6 classes without university-approved excuses. Every third time you are late for class it will count as an absence.

- A simple email note or a verbal communication does NOT qualify as an officially excused absence. What is an officially excused absence? One that is authorized in writing by a doctor, another instructor, a coach, a program director, a supervisor, or the Dean of Students.
- If you have flu-like symptoms with fever, stay home!! Consult with a physician before returning to class with your note in writing.

PARTICIPATION:

Learning a language takes concentrated time and effort! I recommend that you spend at least one hour per day working on the assignments for this class, as well as reviewing what you have learned, and study the new vocabulary and grammar.

I am committed to your success in this course. You are encouraged to meet with me during my office hours or at any other mutually convenient time for extra help or to assess your progress in the course. Meet with me as soon as you feel you are having trouble in this class. DO NOT WAIT.

In addition to attending regularly, I ask that you come to class on time and prepared, i.e. with assigned pages read in advance and assignments complete, ready to use in class and/or to turn in. I also ask that you engage actively in class by answering or asking questions in French as much as possible. Even if it makes you feel silly or uncomfortable it is the ONLY way to speak French. The effort you demonstrate on a daily basis will be directly reflected in your participation grade for the course.

Please NO food, drink or gum in class. ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES such as laptops, cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, PDA, etc. MUST BE TURNED OFF in the classroom! Unless otherwise pre-approved by me.

CLASS MATERIALS:

During this term you will make use of a variety of Materials: 1) textbook; 2) student audio CD; 3) online workbook and lab manual; 4) DVDs and videos; 5) Materials found in the language lab; 6) Mais Oui student website: http://college.cengage.com/languages/french/thompson/maisoui/4e/student_home.html 7) in class materials provided by me.
HOMEWORK AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Homework provides practices with concepts that build on each other throughout the semester; it is part of the daily effort of learning a language. Homework includes written assignments from our text, listening activities on the student CD, and workbook and lab manual assignments. Assignments will be used in class and/or checked or collected on an unannounced basis. Please make sure to write all sentences out fully and if at all possible with a word processing program.

DICTE:
Every Friday there will be a dicté. A dicté is the way the French learn grammar. I will recite a paragraph in French and you will have to write, as best as you can, what I say. For the first few dictés I will help you with the punctuation and verb tense. As we go on they will become more difficult. The dicté will be graded on a credit/no credit basis. The only way to receive a “no credit” grade is to not complete it. These dictés will serve as a benchmark of your progress throughout the course.

COMPOSITIONS:
You will write 2 compositions during the semester each worth 100 points. The subject and a detailed format will be given several days in advance. One point will be subtracted for each day your work is late. Compositions must be typed, double-spaced and spell-checked. You may use Bon Patron after writing your composition. Submit it to bonpatron.com, and the writing assistant will help identify common spelling, grammar and expression problems in French. Print out the summary of errors and attach it to your composition.

JOURNALS:
Every other week, you will write maximum a page about yourself, the weather, and other topics, using the vocabulary learned in class. You may ask a tutor or me for help. Journals will be graded on a credit/no credit basis.

QUIA ELECTRONIC STUDENT ACTIVITIES MANUAL:

You textbook includes a “book key” that, along with a course code that I will supply, enables you to access the electronic Student Activities Manual that coordinates with our text. The manual consists of a workbook section that provides structured written practices of the materials introduced in the corresponding chapters and a lab section that contains audio exercises such as pronunciation practice and a variety of listening comprehension tasks. Assignments that you submit online on the Quia website must be completed before the beginning of class the day that they are due.
EXTRA CREDIT:

LANGUAGE LAB:
To give you listening practice outside of class and to develop your speaking skills and cultural understanding, I strongly recommend that you work in the language lab (HMDZ) for at least hour per week. While there you may do a variety of listening activities, including watching the video that accompanies your text or another introductory French program such as French in Action. We also have access to MTU cable, where you may watch French news broadcasts according to the SCOLA schedule posted, as well as a large collection of subtitled French films. You will receive 10 extra credit points for each movie, French tv news broadcast, or Mais Oui activity done while in the language lab. You may accrue a maximum of 100 extra credit points.

GRADE COMPONENTS:
- Attendance & Participation 50pts
- Unit Exams 400pts
- Oral exams (2 worth 50pts each) 100pts
- Homework/Student Activities Manual/dictée 150pts
- Compositions (2, worth 100 pts each) 200pts
- Journal (20 pts each) 100pts

TOTAL POINTS: 1000pts

GRADE 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 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, (2212). For other concerns about discrimination you may contact your advisory, department head, or the Affirmative Action Office (3310).

****Academic Integrity
Taking the work of others and passing it off as your own is academic theft and will be punishable by failing the assignment/course or dismissal from school. Cases of plagiarism will be turned over to the Dean of Students’ Office. See details about Michigan Tech’s Academic Integrity definitions, policies, and enforcement procedures at http://www.sa.mtu.edu/dean/judicial/aire/ and http://www.studentaffairs.mtu.edu/dean/judicial/policies/academic_integrity.html.
Devoirs

Premier Semaine: 10 Jan - 14 Jan

L: Introduction


Deuxième Semaine: 17 Jan - 21 Jan

L: NO CLASS: Martin Luther King Day Recess


Troisième Semaine : 24 Jan -28 Jan

L: Chapitre 1, Troisième Etape. Lire pages 38-45, et Activités Q, S, V.

M: Chapitre 1, Quatrième Etape Lire pages 45-48, Quia Online Workbook : WP- A,B,D ; LP- A, 2A, 2C ; W1- A, B, D, E, H, J, K ; L1-1, 6A, 6B.

V: Examen 1

Quatrième Semaine : 31 Jan- 4 Feb


M: Chapitre 2, Troisième Etape. Lire pages 67-78, et Faire Activités O, Q, et S

V: Chapitre 2, Quatrième Etapes. Lire pages 79-82. JOURNAL 2 Quia Online Workbook W2- A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J.
Cinquième Semaine : 7 Fév- 11 Fév

L : Chapitre 4, Lire pages 141-142 ; Chapitre 3 Troisième Etape. Ecouter « A l’écoute : Je cherche la rue... », Lire pages 106-113, et Faire Activités Q et W


Quia Online Workbook : W3- A, B, C, L

V : NO CLASS : Winter Carnival Recess

Sixième Semaine : 14 Fév.- 18 Fév

L : Examen 2, Composition 1

M : Examen Oral

V : Examen Oral

Septième Semaine : 21 Fév- 25 Fév


Quia Online Workbook : W3- D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, M

Huitième Semaine : 28 Fév. – 4 Mars


M : Chapitre 4, Troisième Etape Cont. Faire Activités M, N, O et T

V : Chapitres 3 and 4 Review

Quia Online Workbook : W4 A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I

SPRING BREAK
Neuvième Semaine : 14 Mars - 18 Mars
L : Examen 3

Dixième Semaine : 21 Mars - 25 Mars
L : Chapitre 5, Quatrième Étape, Lire pages 151-155
V : Activité en class.
Quia Online Workbook W5-I, J, K, L, M ; L5- 6B, 6G

Onzième Semaine : 28 Mars - 1 Avril
M : Chapitre 6, Deuxième Étape Com.. Faire Activités K, L, O, P
V : Activité en class JOURNAL 5 Quia Online Workbook : W6- D, E, G, I; L6- 1A, 2

Douzième Semaine: 4 Avril-8 Avril
L : Chapitre 6, Troisième Étape. Lire pages 221-227, Ecouter « Sport et culture »
M : Chapitre 6, Deuxième Étape Cont. Faire Activités K, L, O, P
V : Chapitres 5 et 6 Review Quia Online Workbook : W6- K, L ; L6- 4B, 5A, 5D, 5E, 5F, 5G

Treizième Semaine: 11 Avril-15 Avril
L : Examen 4
M : Film
V : Film
Quatorzième Semaine: 18 Avril - 22 Avril

L: Examen Oral 2

M: Examen Oral 2

V: Fête de fin d’année. Composition 2