

SYLLABUS: FRENCH 1-4

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COURSE/PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

In French 1-4, students will learn French grammar and vocabulary appropriate to the level of study. Students will be introduced to French history, geography and culture. Students will participate in dialogues and view French and English language movies with subtitles.

MATERIALS/TEXTBOOK INFORMATION

Primary Text: John DeMado, Séverine Champeny, Marie Ponterio, and Robert Ponterio, *Bien dit! French 1,2, & 3* Austin, Texas: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2008.

Students will also interact with **multimedia texts** from a variety of sources, including **authentic French content** from the World Wide Web.

Students are asked to bring to class everyday:

1. Laptop (charged and ready-to-use).
2. Writing Utensils: 1 blue pen; 1 red pen; 1 black pen; 1 green pen.
3. 2 Highlighters: blue and pink
4. A three-ring binder with loose-leaf paper.

***Please note that this supply list may be subject to change as the year progresses.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/OBJECTIVES

1. Students will understand spoken and written French according to their level of study.
2. Students will speak and write French with proper grammar and pronunciation.
3. Students will learn the **French-American connection** in language, history and culture and discover similarities and differences in the two countries, both past and present.
4. Students will listen to/watch **French songs, movies, television programs, news broadcasts**, and other multimedia content from the French-speaking world (Le monde francophone).

STUDENT PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Students will complete **daily assignments** and participate in **exercises to build vocabulary** and understand the rules governing French grammar and its proper usage.
2. Students will participate in **dialogue** and become proficient in **extended conversation**.
3. Students will recognize **similarities** and **differences** between French and English grammar and lexicon.
4. Students will **write paragraphs in French** about their own experiences as well as about French culture, history, and geography.
5. Students will view **French films** with subtitles and learn **French**

songs.

6. Students will **read, interpret, and discuss French texts**, with an emphasis on current newspaper and magazine articles available online.

CLASS PROCEDURES AND RULES

1. Students have one mission in this classroom: to learn French. The instructor has one mission in this classroom: to teach French. Students and the instructor will do everything in their power to ensure that everyone can carry out those missions **without hindrance**. This means: BE PUNCTUAL! BE PREPARED! BE POLITE!
2. Students **may not use any electronic communication device without the instructor's permission**. In other words, leave your cell phones off, in your bag, or best of all, at home. The instructor does not take calls during class, except from the HS office; neither will you.
3. All other school rules apply. Read your student handbook.

COMPUTER USE - LAPTOP AND INTERNET PROCEDURES

Students will bring their tablet computers, **charged and ready to use**, to class every day. The Internet and our tablet computers also provide an excellent platform for producing, sharing, and submitting regular coursework. The instructor will provide the much of the course content in electronic format, including the primary textbook, which students can access as a stand-alone PDF and as an interactive multimedia text via **my.hrw.com**. Students may submit some of their homework in electronic format. The instructor and school policy shall govern all student computer use in the classroom.

Computers have their place in the classroom; sometimes, that place is *off* and *out of the way*. The instructor reserves the right to declare a “computer-free zone” in the classroom when working without computers will foster greater communication, interaction, and learning.

HOMEWORK PROCEDURES AND MAKE-UP WORK

Students will often have some time in class to work on homework assignments. However, students should expect to take French work home with them for practice. Under our high school block schedule, we meet in class either two or three times a week. If you really want to learn French, you should listen to French, speak French, read French, and write French every day! The instructor will post all lesson plans and assignments online at mrsmeunierfrench.com, and will give clear due dates for all homework.

Complete assignments turned in to the instructor at the **requested date** and time will receive **full credit**. Assignments **incomplete** at the time the instructor checks them but turned in **complete by the end of the school day** on which they are due will receive **80 percent credit**. Assignments turned in **late after the due date** will receive **half credit**. Assignments turned in **more than one week** after the stated due date will receive **no credit**.

When absent, students should refer to the school website for assignments. The student may also obtain the assignments from the instructor during Spartan time or when possible during class time. It is the student’s responsibility to obtain, complete and submit the assignment within a **reasonable time period**. Students must arrange make-up tests with the instructor.

ASSESSMENT PLAN

Student assessment will be based on daily work, participation in dialogue, projects and tests. Letter grades for the course are determined by the school-wide grading scale outlined below:

96 - 100	A
92 - 95	A-
89 - 91	B+
86 - 88	B
83 - 85	B-
79 - 82	C+
76 - 78	C
73 - 75	C-
69 - 72	D+
65 - 68	D
60 - 64	D-
< 64	F

Your final grade is divided as follows: daily work, take-home projects, and prepared dialogues (30%); quizzes and tests taken in class (30%); oral participation (30%); semester exam (10%). **Anyone involved in cheating of any kind on any of the above will receive an automatic zero.** This includes copying/pasting from Google Translate or any similar online translator. I will not waste my time correcting a computer program's work. You will be allowed to retake one quiz/exam per quarter.

A **daily speech secretary** will record all interactions that occur in class. At the end of each quarter, an oral participation grade will be awarded accordingly based on your active participation in class. This grade is worth 30% of your grade. A **very heavy emphasis** will be placed on speaking in this class.

The instructor will round the final point-based percentage grade for the course to the nearest integer percentage. If a student's final point totals produce a 91.5%, the instructor will round that grade to a 92%, the lowest possible A-. If a student's final point-total

percentage is 91.49%, the instructor will round that grade to a 91%, the highest possible B+.

Extra Credit: There is none. Learning French requires steady, persistent effort. Doing an enormous amount of work at the end of the semester or school year does not produce the same results as steady, persistent effort throughout the school year.

WORLD LANGUAGE STANDARDS

Communication: Communicate in Languages Other Than English

Standard 1.1: Students engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions. **Standard 1.2:** Students understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics. **Standard 1.3:** Students present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics.

Cultures: Gain Knowledge and Understanding of Other Cultures

Standard 2.1: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the culture studied. **Standard 2.2:** Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and perspectives of the culture studied.

Connections: Connect with Other Disciplines and Acquire Information

Standard 3.1: Students reinforce and further their knowledge of other disciplines through the world language. **Standard 3.2:** Students acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are only available through the world language and its cultures.

Comparisons: Develop Insight into the Nature of Language and Culture

Standard 4.1: Students demonstrate understanding of the nature of

language through comparisons of the language studied and their own. **Standard 4.2:** Students demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.

Communities: Participate in Multilingual Communities at Home & Around the World

Standard 5.1: Students use the language both within and beyond the school setting. **Standard 5.2:** Students show evidence of becoming life-long learners by using the language for personal enjoyment and enrichment.

Note: The National Standards for Foreign Language Education are sponsored by the American Council of Teaching Foreign Language, Inc. and developed by a coalition of four national foreign language organizations. SD adopted the standards with the exception of changing the word Foreign changed to World to meet the needs of SD.

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