

## SYLLABUS for FRENCH LANGUAGE AP

Instructor: Maryvonne Marshall

Email: [mmarshall@ndsion.edu](mailto:mmarshall@ndsion.edu)

### **Objectives:**

To give my students a superior appreciation of the francophone cultures as they work at the level of competency of third-year college students, and to prepare them for the four parts of the AP French Language Exam.

Speaking: Students need to be able to express themselves coherently, resourcefully, and with reasonable fluency and accuracy on a variety of topics. To achieve this goal, students will regularly participate in numerous small group activities and class activities in the form of dialogues, skits, debates and presentations of picture sequence stories. All activities will be done in French.

Listening: Students need to be able to understand a text read at normal speed, and answer multiple-choice questions about it.

To enhance listening comprehension the class will be conducted in the target language. Students will have a chance to listen to their teacher, a native speaker, to their fellow students, to a variety of resources, such as material recorded on CDs and tapes, to the news presented on the Internet, and they will also work with authentic songs and movies.

Reading: Students need to be exposed to all types of writing styles - prose, poetry, literary selections, songs, newspaper articles, and advertisement. Their vocabulary has to be ample enough to read advanced-level texts without the use of a dictionary. Whether the main focus of a given class is learning new vocabulary, reviewing grammar structures or analyzing a particular reading, students will be practicing their reading skills. Some high level reading strategies will be taught such as the importance of cognates, word families, linking words that indicate cause and effect, contrast, the recognition of prefixes and suffixes, the identification of referents and the need to identify main and secondary ideas.

Writing: Students need to be able to write about any topic in an organized fashion. Accuracy and the-use of idioms and advanced grammar constructions are required. In this class students will have frequent opportunities to work at their writing skills as they review verb tenses, do exercises that require filling in a function word and answer questions about readings of various genres. On every other Friday they will be given the assignment to write a full-length essay. Sometimes we will do some brainstorming of ideas together. Errors will be coded so students can correct most of them on their own, or with the help of a peer. More idiomatic ways of phrasing an idea will be suggested. At times a re-write may be requested. Second semester students will be given the chance to write 40-minute in class compositions without the help of a dictionary to get them accustomed to the situation of the AP exam.

### Materials:

- Advanced Placement French : Preparing for the Language Examination by Ladd and Girard - textbook and companion set of tapes
- Dans le Vent - 4th edition - by C. A. Maley, Publisher: Harcourt College Publishers with CD program entitled *A vous l'écoute*. This book provides a wide variety of reading passages selected from current publications, such as L'Express, Le Point, Le Nouvel Observateur, Elle, as well as authentic realia. The vocabulary, grouped by topic, will be the source of in-class conversations and debates. Often the essay topic will also relate to the theme of the chapter.
- Une Fois pour Toutes by SturgesII, L. Nielsen, H. Herbst
- National French Contest exams, level IV, which include audio and reading comprehension sections
- Released AP exams
- Various sources of reading materials, such as a novel, some short stories, poems, articles from current newspapers: Le Monde, Le Figaro, Le Journal français d'Amérique
- Recordings of French news on the Internet; some songs and movies, source of listening comprehension exercise to be used as springboard for discussion
- Web sites:

<http://www.afp.com> site to read about news in French speaking countries -Europe, Africa...

<http://www.videos.tfl.fr/video>

<http://bbc.co.uk/languages/French>

<http://www.paroles.net/french>

[http://www.adminet.com/press/Le Monde.html](http://www.adminet.com/press/Le_Monde.html)

[http://www. LeFigaro](http://www.LeFigaro)

<http://www.quia.com/dir/french>

<http://songs.com>

<http://www.conjuguemos.com> to practice verb forms

Regular attendance is essential since class time is your opportunity to be immersed in the French language. Assignments can be made up, but not class time. In addition it is highly recommended that students take advantage of every opportunity to be exposed to the language outside of the classroom.

### **Grading**

It is cumulative. The final grade will reflect the level of achievement in French on daily work: quizzes on vocabulary and grammar points, chapter tests, oral performance in class, oral presentations, writing of short paragraphs and of full-length compositions. Work will be graded according to the rubric given by the College Board. It is posted in the classroom and on the web page. In case of absence, a student can refer to my web site to know what took place during each class period, as well as get the daily assignments. Late work: please refer to the Sion handbook. If no material is presented on the day prior to an announced test, the student will be expected to take it on the day she returns to school.

### **Cheating**

It will result in an automatic zero. Please refer to the policy stated in the Sion handbook. Online translators are prohibited, but students may consult dictionaries on the Internet.

### **Sequence**

Every day students will be engaged in several aspects of language learning through a variety of ways and resources.

#### First semester.

##### *August*

Collect summer journals: a minimum of two-page weekly entry

Go over summer reading - A novel entitled Le Petit Nicolas by Sempé/Gosciny. The chapter summaries will be collected. Each student will be assigned a chapter to be presented orally. Class discussion to follow.

Grammar review: present tense of all verbs and its uses (UFPT, ch. 1)

Assessment: quizzes followed by comprehensive chapter exam

Theme for vocabulary and listening exercises: *Le Téléphone* (Dans le Vent, Ch. Préliminaire

How to make a phone call; idiomatic expressions; look at realia published by France

Télécom; role play

Reading: Voulez-vous être branché? (page 17) followed by written answers to questions and in class discussion about the use and value of the Internet and other forms of communication: pros and cons

Writing assessment: 3-page essay on the same topic

Oral presentation: picture sequence (the blind man) using mostly present

##### *September*

Grammar review: impératif

Assessment: write list of rules of conduct dictated by parents and school, dialogue: giving directions to someone

Grammar review: subjonctif présent et passé; its uses (UFPT, ch. 4)

Assessment: quizzes followed by comprehensive chapter exam  
Active situation: write a letter of complaint to a car dealership  
Oral presentation: cartoon strip and summary of a current event. Full-length essay - Be watchful of AP rubric

Vocabulary theme: *La vie scolaire* (Dans le Vent, ch. 1)

Assessment: quizzes

Listening of corresponding chapter section of CD

Readings: Des trucs pour avant et après l'examen - discussion of personal habits

L'école contre les filles (article from Le Nouvel Observateur) - read then answer questions

Song: "En sortant du lycée" Complete lyrics as you listen and work on pronunciation

Debate: Parents and children will never understand each other

Review specific vocabulary to be included in AP compositions, such as linking words.

Essay: Opposing feelings of young people, pessimism or optimism - AP book, p. 40 # 4

Work in AP book: These assignments will be done at home, then checked in class.

Readings: 1,2 Function words: 1, 2 Verbs: 1,2, 3 Listening in class: dialogs 1, 2, 3, 4 for

homework: rejoinders series 1, 2

*October*

Grammar review: passé composé,

imparfait; plus-que-parfait (UFPT, Ch. 2)

Compare and contrast the uses of the three past tenses

Assessment: quizzes followed by chapter exam

Essay: Write a fairy tale

Speaking: picture story from Released AP exams. Use all past tenses.

Vocabulary theme: *La vie familiale* (Dans le Vent, ch. 2)

Assessment: quizzes on vocabulary

Short essay: use vocabulary to tell story of the meeting of your parents

Readings: Un homme au foyer (Extrait d'un article d'Elle) p. 55 - read then summarize in writing

Debate: Should moms always be the parents to stay home?

La famille du futur (Article de l'Express) p. 53 - read and discuss in class Write thank you note or invitation to a family member. Listen to corresponding chapter section of CD

Essay: New role of men in family life; compare and contrast with situation in the past.

Speaking: current event or picture sequence from former AP exam, 2005

AP book: Readings: 3, 4, 5, 6

Function words: 3, 4, 5

Verbs: 4, 5, 6, 7

Listening in class: dialogs 5, 6, 7, 8 for homework: rejoinders series 3, 4

Watch movie: Les Parapluies de Cherbourg - without subtitles

Assessment: comprehension questions as we view the movie, summary, reaction essay

## *November*

Grammar review: passé simple (UFPT, ch. 2)

Assessment: quizzes followed by exam

Current event: newspaper article about Halloween in France

Vocabulary theme: *La santé* (Dans le Vent, ch. 3)

Assessment on vocabulary

Readings: Cinq sages en colère (from an article of L'Express) p. 72 - read and summarize in writing

La jeunesse devant l'alcool (article from L'Express) p. 154 - read and discuss the text, then discuss the role of advertisement in the consumption of drugs - find newspaper ads on the internet. Listen to corresponding chapter section of CD. Essay from AP book, #32 Speaking: picture story in AP book on page 162, 163 + extra questions

Grammar: review futur and futur antérieur (UFPT, ch. 3)

Assessment: quiz followed by chapter exam. Essay: What are you grateful for and to whom?

AP book: Readings: 7, 8; 9, 10

Function words: -6, T, 8~

Verbs: 8, 9, 10, 11

Listening in class: dialogs 9, 10, 11, 12

For homework: rejoinders series 5, 6

Some songs from the musical Notre Dame de Paris

## *December*

Grammar review: conditionnel; si-clauses

Assessment: quizzes followed by comprehensive chapter exam

The verb DEVOIR in all tenses

Assessment: sentences to be translated

Listen and discuss to the news in French on the Internet

Reading: La chirurgie du futur (from article published in Le Figaro) Dans le Vent, p. 74, 75 - read and summarize

Debate: Should we use any means of treatment to cure someone's life?

Oral presentation: picture story in AP book, p. 165, 166 followed by extra questions

Full-length essay

Poetry by Prévert. Students will analyze and recite a poem.

## Review for final exam

AP book: Readings: 11, 12 (13, 14, 15 during winter break)

Function words: 9,10 (followed by review test 1-10)

Verbs: 12, 13, 14, 15

Listening in class: dialogs 13, 14

For homework: rejoinders series 7, 8

Winter break: read a short story and summarize it. La dernière classe d' Alphonse Daudet

Watch the movie: Le Ballon Rouge

## Second semester

### January

Grammar review: pronoms directs et indirects (UFPT, ch. 5)

Assessment: comprehensive chapter exam

Listen to the news in French on the Internet - discussion

Vocabulary theme: *La mode et la beauté* (Dans le Vent, ch. 4)

Reading: La Beautécratie ou Les hommes et les femmes sont-ils devenus fous? (articles from Le Nouvel Observateur) p. 99

Read and answer questions

Listen to CD section on this theme

Essay: Are clothes the only way to express your personality?

Oral presentation: picture sequence in AP book on p. 180. 181

Work with National French Contest material - listening, grammar and reading components

Essay: The environment, AP book, p. 158 #57

AP book:

Readings: 16, 17, 18, 19, 20

Function words: 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 Verbs: 16, 17, 18, 19,20

Listening in class: dialogs 15, 16, 17, 18 For homework:  
rejoinders series 9, 10, 11

### February

Grammar review: pronoms et adjectifs interrogatifs (UFPT, ch. 7)

Assessment: quizzes and comprehensive chapter exam

Idioms with Avoir et Etre

Vocabulary theme: *Le voyage et les moyens de transport* (Dans le Vent, ch. 5)

Assessment on vocabulary

Look at current realia: ads, drivers' licence, cartoons

Reading: La voiture du futur (Publicité de Renault in Paris Match), p. 117 - read and answer questions

Essay: In-class composition

Review for National French Contest - use former exams Listen

to news in French on Internet

AP book:

Readings: 21, 22, 23, 24, 25

Function words: 16,17,18,19,20 (followed by test over 11-20)

Verbs: 21, 22, 23, 24, 25,26

Listening in class: dialogs 19, 20, 21, 22

For homework: rejoinders series 12, 13, 14

Watch the movie: La Gloire de mon Père ou Chocolat

*March*

Grammar review: pronoms et adjectifs possessifs et démonstratifs (UFPT, ch. 6)

Pronoms relatifs (ch. 8) Assessment: chapter exams

Idioms with Faire

Vocabulary theme: *Les vacances: le logement et la nourriture* (Dans le Vent, ch. 6)

Assessment on vocabulary

Reading: La fringale des congés (Extrait d'un article du Point) p. 134 - read and answer questions in writing

Oral presentation: Mes vacances idéales

Full-length composition from Released AP exams

Listening of section of CD on this theme

Review for National French Contest - use former exams

Listen to and discuss news in French on Internet

In class composition - topic given during a previous AP exam

AP book: Readings: 26, 27, 28, 29, 30

Function words: 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26

Verbs: 27, 28, 29, 30, 31,32

Listening in class: dialogs 23, 24, 25, 26

For homework: rejoinders 15, 16, 17 Vocabulary review in AP book

Spring break - read a short story: En voyage de Guy de Maupassant and summarize.

*April*

Grammar review: Les négations (UFPT, ch 9)

Les prépositions et conjonctions (ch. 10) Assessment: quizzes and chapter exam

Vocabulary theme: *Les Français sont aussi comme ça* (Dans le Vent,' ch. 7)

Assessment: quiz on vocabulary

Reading: Les Français et leur police (Extrait d'un article du Point) p. 152 - read and oral discussion

Cartoon by famous cartoonist Faizant on p. 153 - read and comment on cultural differences

Take actual AP exam(s) over several class periods

Oral presentation of picture story followed by questions, no lead time preparation AP book:

Readings: 31, 32-, 33,\*34, 35

Function words: 27, 28, 29, 30 (followed by review test: 21-30)

Verbs: 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38

Listening in class: dialogs 27, 28, 29, 30

For homework: rejoinders 18, 18, 20 Vocabulary review in AP book

Vous êtes prêtes à comprendre, lire et parler en français!