

ELEMENTARY FRENCH I (FRE K111) SYLLABUS: AUTOMNE 2017

Course schedule: lundi/ mercredi //Monday/Wednesday:(1:30-3:10) Location: D117

Instructor: Deb Bender E-mail: dbender@qvcc.commnet.edu

Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 12:30-1:15 (or by appointment) (KTRCC D117)

Bienvenue à la classe de français! WELCOME TO FRENCH CLASS!

ELEMENTARY FRENCH 101 COURSE DESCRIPTION - 4 CREDITS

This course introduces the basic principles of the French language and provides a cultural understanding of the Francophone world. The emphasis of the course is on developing and applying the basic skills of language learning: listening, speaking, writing and reading through classroom activities. This is a web-enhanced introductory course designed to improve understanding, speaking, reading and writing in French through the advanced beginner level. Students acquire language functions, vocabulary, structures and culture through contextualized presentations, interactive activities and extensive web based laboratory practice.

COURSE MATERIALS

Espaces, Rendez-vous avec le monde francophone, 3rd edition. Mitchell, Vista Higher Learning, 2015.

- FRE K111: Units 1 to 5
- This textbook introduces the basic grammatical structures of the language. Each chapter provides a variety of activities to help students practice the structures introduced, and is designed to improve pronunciation, listening, writing, reading and speaking skills. The readings offer a wide range of historical, social, political and artistic information to increase the student's knowledge and understanding of the Francophone world.
- To buy directly from Vista Higher Learning, go to:
<http://vistahigherlearning.com/students/store/french-programs/promenades-2nd-edition.html>

Please note: You will spend more if you buy your text and code separately, so shop carefully!

ONLY buy books that include the required Supersite code. Used books and books bought on other sites DO NOT include the access code.

Vistas Supersite Plus (WebSAM: Online Workbook/Lab Manual/Video Manual + vText)

- **Lab:** This is a four credit course since a minimum of one hour of laboratory/computer practice beyond the class meetings is required per week. The amount of time you will spend doing these activities will depend on your level of skills. You can use the New Language Lab (D117), the Tutoring Center (C117), the computers at the library or the labs at TRCC, or your own computer for that. You can access the Supersite from any computer connected to the internet.
- **Extended Hours & Student Tech Support: 1-800-248-2813**
Live support hours: Monday–Thursday: 8:00 a.m.–3:00 a.m. Friday: 8:00 a.m.–11:00 p.m.
Saturday: 11:30 a.m.– 8:00 p.m. Sunday: 11:30 a.m.–2:00 a.m.

*All listed times are in the Eastern time zone

Technical Support Home: <http://support.vhlcentral.com>

Technical Support Email: techsupport@vistahigherlearning.com

Dictionary. It's strongly recommended that you have your own dictionary. There are no specific requirements for dictionaries, any dictionary will work. Making your own vocabulary & grammar cards is greatly recommended since they prove to be very useful for foreign language learners. Several of these resources are available at the Language Lab, you can check them and see if any of those will fit your needs. Although you can't take them home, you are more than welcome to use them while in the Language Lab. You can also use online dictionaries and online pronunciation dictionaries.

**** Remember to keep your textbook and Supersite account for the future (your Supersite code is valid for 3 years). The same textbook is used in both French courses at TRCC, you won't need to buy any new material for future courses. Both courses (FRE K 111 and FRE K112) are required to fulfill the foreign language requirement.**

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

A) *Linguistics*

- a) Demonstrate listening, speaking, reading, and writing proficiency in French at a basic level
- b) Demonstrate knowledge of the French speaking world's linguistic diversity through the comprehension of French in a variety of situations, discursive modes and historical, regional or social variations
- c) Demonstrate ability to use the language to investigate, explain, and reflect on the nature of language through comparisons of the language studied and their native language, which may develop into further proficiencies in their native language

B) *Communication*

- a) Demonstrate ability to perform: Interpersonal communication (interact and negotiate meaning in spoken, non-verbal, or written conversations to share information, reactions, feelings, and opinions), Interpretive communication (understand, interpret, and analyze what is heard, read, or viewed on a variety of topics and situations), and Presentational communication (present information, concepts, and ideas to inform, explain, persuade, and narrate on a variety of topics using appropriate media and adapting to various audiences of listeners, readers, or viewers)
- b) Demonstrate knowledge of communication patterns and cultural behaviors in French and an understanding of the historical development and linguistic characteristics of French
- c) Demonstrate analytic, interpretative, and critical thinking skills in regards to language, culture and the communication process in order to apply them in a variety of real-life situations

C) *Culture & Literature*

- a) Demonstrate ability to identify, describe and illustrate aspects of the cultures and ethnic groups in the Francophone world by analyzing their cultural beliefs, values, behaviors, norms, identity, and worldviews on the socio-cultural topics in a global context
- b) Demonstrate ability to identify, connect, analyze and reflect on features of culture within their context, making connections with disciplines such as geography, history, sociology, and arts in the French speaking world

IMPORTANT DATES

Aug 28	Registration deadline and last day to drop classes for full tuition refund
Aug 29	Classes begin, add and drop periods begin
Sep 4	Labor Day - college closed
Sep 4	Last day for registered students to add a class - online (Sep 1 <u>in person</u>)
Sep 5-8	Welcome Week
Sep 11	Last day to drop classes and partial tuition refund
Sep 18	Constitution Day observed (classes in session)
Sep 22	Professional Day (classes in session)
Sep 26	Last day to select audit option
Oct 17	Reading Day
Oct 31	Advising Day (classes in session)
Nov 1	Continuing Degree-Seeking Student Registration for Winter '17 Intersession and Spring '18 Semester Advising day (classes in session)
Nov 7	Last day to select pass/fail option, last day to submit incomplete work from Spring '17 and Summer '17
Nov 15	New Student and Non Degree-Seeking Student Registration for Winter '17 Intersession and Spring '18 Semester, and last day to apply for spring graduation (May '18)
Nov 22	College open - no classes in session
Nov 23-26	Thanksgiving recess
Dec 11	Last day to withdraw from classes
Dec 18	Last day of 15 Week Session
Dec 22	Final grades due to Registrar's office
Dec 25	Christmas Day - college closed
Dec 27	Grades available on web

EVALUATION CRITERIA IN SUMMARY:

Class participation	10%
Homework (Text, Supersite online activities, Worksheets)	15%
Quizzes (Online and in class)	15%
Chapter Tests	20%
Skill based tasks	10%
Autobiography/Presentation: Les provinces de France	10%
Comprehensive Final Exam	20%

Numerical Grading Scale

94-100 A	83-86 B	73-76 C	65-66 D
90-93 A-	80-82 B-	70-72 C-	60-64 D-
87-89 B+	77-79 C+	67-69 D+	0-59 F

***Grade updates will be posted on Blackboard.**

CRITERIA OF EVALUATION AND POLICIES

CLASS PARTICIPATION: (10% of your final grade)

- **Attendance** is required for success in this class. Important information, assignment updates and meaningful communicative activities will occur at each class meeting. Any more than 2 absences will result in a grade reduction. Remember, if you are absent, it is **your** responsibility to become current regarding all assignments, assignment updates and classroom activities. Please take the time **now** to ask several classmates for their contact information and/or check Blackboard regularly!
- **Class participation** is a vital part of your language-learning experience. You can improve your participation grade by (1) coming to class prepared and ready to participate, 2) completing Connect French activities thoughtfully, thoroughly and in a timely fashion, and 3) consistently interacting in French with your instructor and classmates. Making an effort will not only improve your grade but also make the class more fun. Class participation will be graded on effort, focus and classroom engagement (in class as well as on line).

HOMEWORK (Text, Supersite Online Assignments, Worksheets) (15% of your final grade)

- Being prepared for class means that you have all the necessary handouts and books, and that your homework is neatly and completely done. You will be expected to prepare **TEXTBOOK MATERIAL BEFORE** each class. Read over grammar explanations, and complete assigned exercises in your notebook. **Assignments turned in after the due date will not be accepted unless there are extenuating circumstances and the professor has been notified via email.**
- Please note that on Blackboard Learn, students will find the syllabus for Elementary French I. In addition, a bulleted review of class highlights and activities will be posted at the conclusion of every class. Homework due for the following class will also be included. To access Blackboard Learn, you need to login to myCommNet at <http://my.commnnet.edu>. You can also link to myCommNet from the TRCC home page. You will need your NetID and your password.

QUIZZES (15% of your final grade)

- Quizzes provide a quick gauge of language comprehension and assess progress.
- Quizzes given in class will be short vocabulary or grammatical assessments and do not have to be announced. You **MUST** be present in class to take the quiz. There will be **NO** make ups.

CHAPTER TESTS: (20% of your final grade)

There will be 5 chapter exams in this course. Each exam will have listening comprehension, vocabulary, spelling, reading and writing components. **MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN ONLY IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS** (a physician's note and/or notification from an appropriate TRCC authority will be required). Students will have one week to make up a missed exam.

Chapter test dates are as follows: This is a tentative schedule.

lundi, le 25 septembre: Unité 1: *Salut*: pages 1-44.

lundi, le 9 octobre: Unité 2: *A la fac*: pages 45-88.

lundi, le 30 octobre: Unité 3: *La famille et les copains*: pages 89-132.

mercredi, le 15 novembre: Unité 4: *Au café*: pages 133-177.

Unité 5: TBD

SKILL BASED TASKS: (10% of your final grade)

Skill based tasks address one of the four core skills of language learning:

Listening: Designed to assess aural comprehension (may include in-class tracks, video clips, teacher and classmates' conversations)

Speaking: Designed to assess oral proficiency, pronunciation, and fluency (may include pronunciation recordings, on line chats, face to face interviews, presentations)

Reading: Designed to assess reading comprehension (may include articles, fiction/non-fiction excerpts)

Writing: Designed to assess written expression (may include short responses, paragraphs)

AUTOBIOGRAPHY AND PROVINCES OF FRANCE PRESENTATION: (10 % of your final grade)

Autobiography:

You will write your autobiography – en français, of course! Your autobiography will be comprised of a series of paragraphs (50 word minimum) that will be due at different times throughout the semester. There will be a draft of each paragraph. This work is an ongoing, informal conversation between you and your instructor and will give you additional practice with the pertinent structures that we are studying. Your autobiography should reflect your progress in the language and will be graded on effort, sentence structure, vocabulary, context and completion. **DO NOT LOOK UP A LOT OF NEW VOCABULARY WORDS.** Entries need to be typed and double spaced (font:12 Times New Roman). The final copy of your autobiography should be illustrated and will be due the last class before the final exam. Students will also be expected to present their autobiographies to the class. (Presentational communication)

Presentation: Les provinces de France

- Student will research an assigned province of France and will present their findings to the class.
- Student will receive a rubric explaining this project by mid-September.
- Province presentations will be due throughout the month of November.
- Students will sign up for presentation slots in class

COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM: 20% of the final grade

Students must take the final exam during the regularly scheduled exam time. Final exams are not given early.

Cultural Assessment: Please remember that **Culture** is an essential part of learning a foreign language. Global awareness, cross-cultural and multi-cultural perspectives are strong components of your general education. Students' cultural competences will be assessed in all of the criteria mentioned above. At the end of this course students will be familiar with cultural concepts and will demonstrate knowledge of the Francophone culture and how it relates to language and communication. Since all French courses at TRCC fulfill the International/Intercultural requirement your instructor will assess this content in different ways like tests, projects, discussions, Supersite, etc.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

Student's rights: All students in the College have specific rights and responsibilities. You have the right to expect a classroom environment that enables you to learn, including modifications if you have a disability.

Student's responsibilities: Your responsibilities to this class --and to your education as a whole-- include participation. You are also expected to be honest and honorable in your fulfillment of assignments and in test-taking situations. You have a responsibility to the rest of the class and to the instructor to help create a classroom environment where all may learn. At the most basic level, this means that you will respect the other members of the class and the instructor, and treat them with the courtesy you hope to receive in turn. Electronic devices other than those permitted for classroom use are not allowed during class time. Any student using a cell phone etc. will lose participation points and may be asked to leave the class.

Disabilities Statement: If you have a disability that may affect your progress in this course, please meet with a college Disability Service Provider (DSP) as soon as possible. You can make an appointment with a DSP by calling 860.215.9017. Please note: 1.) For academic adjustments, you will have to provide documentation of your disability to the DSP. 2.) Instructors cannot provide adjustments until you have delivered written authorization (from a DSP) to the instructor. 3.) Adjustments take effect when you deliver your written authorization to the instructor in person (provided there is adequate time for the instructor to make necessary arrangements). 4.) Adjustments do not apply to tests/assignments that were due prior to your delivering written authorization to your instructor in person.

College Withdrawal Policy: A student who finds it necessary to discontinue the course must complete a withdrawal form in the Registrar's office. Withdrawals are recorded with a "W". Students who stop attending but fail to formally withdraw are assigned "F" for a grade at the end of the course. This would apply to students who never came to class as well as to those who didn't attend or participate long enough to pass the course, in general it would be students that didn't complete at least 60% of the course. For online courses the F grade will be assigned if the student didn't participate long enough and didn't submit a sufficient amount of assignments in order to receive a passing grade. If you decide to withdraw, please make sure to make the withdrawal process in a timely matter so you don't receive an F in the class. Make sure that you are aware of the withdrawal due date at the Registrar's office each semester, it is your responsibility to withdraw before the due date.

Academic honesty and plagiarism:

- The use of translation software constitutes academic dishonesty in this course and will imply a grade of zero in your assignment.
- Please note that ALL written work is expected to be your own work, without the help of others. Keep in mind that turning in another's work as your own is considered plagiarism and constitutes academic dishonesty. This inappropriate behavior will be considered especially in relation to texts copied from Internet or done by people other than you. You can consult dictionaries and grammar reference sources and use a French spell checker (e.g. with a program such as *Microsoft Office Word*). You can't turn in a composition that translates your writing from English to French or use *automatic translation devices* from Internet or other sources (machine translation is easily identifiable and usually a bad quality one).
- False representation of a student's academic performance constitutes academic dishonesty. Knowingly or intentionally assisting another student to do so in any way (during a quiz, exam or written assignment) will have serious consequences. The instructor reserves the right to award an "F" for the course to the individuals involved.
- Any student found copying during an exam or any other individual piece of work that is to receive a grade will receive a grade of "F" in the assignment.
- If other case of plagiarism occurs, the student will be reported to the appropriate university authorities for whatever action is deemed necessary.

Blackboard Technical Support:

- Contact Blackboard support for students, they have a phone line where you can call them. This is the phone number for students: 860-493-0111
- Check the Student support website: <https://websupport.ct.edu/>
- Check the Help & Tech support tab in Blackboard or click on this link: http://www.threerivers.edu/Div_IT/EducationalTechnology/support.shtml
- If you have questions or need support for your own computer you may contact the IT Department at TRCC.

Class cancellations:

MyCommNet Alert is a system that sends text messages and emails to anyone signed up in the event of a campus emergency. Additionally, TRCC sends messages when the college is delayed or closed due to weather. All students are encouraged to sign up for myCommNet Alert. Students need to access MyCommnet and then click in MyCommNet Alert to be able to sign up for the free service, then follow the instructions. A tutorial is available on the Educational Technology and Distance Learning Students page of the web site.

Communication:

All communications sent by the instructor will be sent to your TRCC email address so you need to check it regularly as well as Blackboard Announcements to find information about the course or instructions for assignments. All TRCC students are assigned a TRCC email address and this is the official way of communication for ALL College related communications, whether it be with TRCC instructors or TRCC administrative offices. The consistent use of the college email enables you to more easily navigate communicating with instructors, and future instructors. You need to use this email account so you don't miss important academic information. Instructions for your TRCC mail may be found on this link: http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/Div_StudentServices/admissions/Student_email.shtml

You can also choose to have all your emails forward to your PERSONAL EMAIL ACCOUNT:

http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/Div_StudentServices/Registrar/documents/studentemail.pdf

You can contact your instructor via Blackboard email or via email directly to TRCC email account dbender@qvc.comnet.edu. If you would like to have a meeting with your instructor or discuss any academic related matter via chat please request an appointment via email

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Tutoring

- Languages tutors are available at the Tutoring and Academic Success Center (TASC) located in C117. Tutoring service is free to students. Check their schedule for each academic session.
- Teaching Assistants are also available for tutoring and support with the course, Blackboard and the Supersite. Check their contact information and tutoring hours in Blackboard and also check Open Lab times at the new Language Lab in D117.

SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO STUDY AND LEARN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Learning to speak:

1. Practice the language as much as you can.
2. Imitate as exactly as you can. Say everything out loud. If you read silently you are only using your visual memory if you study out loud, you triple your efficiency by adding auditory memory and motor memory.
3. Learn one concept at a time. Break up a lesson into small units.
4. Study for short periods of time. Start off with twenty minutes to a half an hour at the most; then turn to some other work; then come back for another twenty minutes; and so on. Four half hour periods of study will produce far better results than two uninterrupted hours.
5. Make full use of class time. Don't close your mind off when somebody else is responding in class. Recite mentally with him or her and get half the learning job done that way.
6. Keep up with the assignments and don't fall behind. Language learning is cumulative. You build on what you learned previously. You must know the concepts on chapter 1 because you need them for chapter 2.
7. Come to class prepared. Don't stay away from class if you are unprepared. You'll fall still farther behind. Tell your instructor and learn from the classroom work.
8. Learn to apply the grammatical rules you are learning rather than learn the rule. If you can't apply them, they are of no use to you.

Learning to read:

1. Read the assignment twice once for pronunciation and the second time for content. Don't look up every word you don't know. Verbs are the most important words in a sentence, if you know the meaning of the verbs, you can guess the rest.
2. Read the whole sentence before you look up a word that you don't know in a paragraph.
3. Literal translation from one language to another is not possible in many cases. Learn to read for meaning rather than just translating.
4. Don't try to cover the whole assignment in one sitting. Break up the chapter into structures, reread each part and then reread the whole, after that, close the book and recall what you just read.
5. Don't agonize over passages you just can't understand. Ask your instructor.
6. Make a list or flash cards of your own particular nuisance words; words you have to look up again and again spend special time on them. Except for such nuisance words, don't write out list of words you had to look up-unless you think you have time to waste.

Other suggestions:

- Listen to French radio stations or watch the news on the French TV channels.
- Listen to music in French and try to recognize some words.
- Use the language as often as possible with a classmate, French speaking people or by yourself.
- Prepare your own vocabulary cards to help you remember or get them at a bookstore.
- On TV, select the audio in French and/or the subtitles in French to practice listening and reading coordination.

My goal is to see you succeed in this course. These things can ensure this to happen:

- Attend every class and arrive on time.
- Ask questions in class if there is anything you do not understand.
- Do your homework. "You have to do it a thousand times before you can do it once."
- Study and review notes, vocabulary cards/sheets, and worksheets on a regular basis. Do NOT delay in learning the new vocabulary for each chapter! At the conclusion of each chapter you will find a refresher vocabulary list. You should know the meanings of the vocabulary words as well as the pronunciations and the spellings. Accents matter and are considered part of the spelling of the word or expression.
- Review the syllabus and classroom expectations for this class on a regular basis.
- Check Blackboard daily for any syllabus changes, updates, or resource materials.
- Listen to the radio or news in French to listen to and improve your pronunciation.
- Watch French films to improve comprehension.
- Make flashcards. Form study groups!
- And, above all, communicate with your professor in person or via email regarding any concerns or questions you may have! Amusez-vous bien et Bonne chance!

ANTICIPATED COURSE SCHEDULE : ELEMENTARY FRENCH I

Please note: This syllabus is subject to change. Please consult Blackboard for weekly assignments and updates.

Week 1: (le 30 août/le 6 septembre)

Introduction to course, Syllabus, Supersite online account

Introduction to text: *Espaces*, Unité 1: *Salut*

Objectifs: In Unité 1, you will learn how to greet others, identify yourself and others and ask yes/no questions.

French alphabet, Accents, Making introductions, Greetings, Numbers 1-10

Homework (Devoirs): Due **MERCREDI, LE 6 SEPTEMBRE**

Read the syllabus carefully and thoroughly. Sign and return the form that acknowledges that you have read and understood the policies of Elementary French I.

Read, study and learn vocabulary on pages 2-3, 5.

Set up Supersite account: <http://www.vhlcentral.com/home>

Take time to explore the Supersite (Leçon 1A).

Week 2: (le 6/11 septembre): *Salut*

Nouns: gender and number, Definite and indefinite articles, Numbers 11-60,

Expressing existence with *Il y a*, Classroom vocabulary, Colors

Week 3: (le 13/18 septembre): *Salut*

Subject pronouns, Formal vs informal words and expressions, Irregular verb *être*, Adjectives, Noun/adjective agreement, *C'est / Il est*, Nationalities

Week 4: (le 20/25 septembre): *Salut*

EXAMEN: Unité 1: *Salut* (pages 1-44): lundi, le 25 septembre

Introduction: Unité 2: *A la fac*

Objectifs: In Unité 2, you will learn how to talk about your classes, ask questions and express negation.

Expressing likes and dislikes, Infinitive forms after verbs expressing likes and dislikes, Present tense of regular -er verbs, Verbs ending in *-ger* and *-cer*, Vocabulary

Week 5: (le 27septembre/ le 2 octobre): *A la fac*

Forming questions, Irregular verb *avoir*, expressions with *avoir*

Week 6: (le 4/9 octobre): Unité 2: *A la fac*

Telling time, Vocabulary

EXAMEN: Unité 2: *A la fac* lundi, le 9 octobre: (pages 45-88)

Introduction to Unité 3: *la famille et les copains*

Objectifs: In Unité 3, you will learn how to discuss family, friends and pets and how to describe locations.

Vocabulary: Family members, Adjectives of physical description

Week 7: (le 11/16 octobre): *La famille et les copains*

Irregular adjectives, Possessive adjectives

Week 8: (le 18/23 octobre): *La famille et les copains*

Vocabulary: Professions and occupations, Possession with "de"

Week 9: (le 25/30 octobre): *La famille et les copains*
Disjunctive pronouns

Examen: Unité 3: *La famille et les copains*: lundi, le 30 octobre: (pages 89-132)

Introduction to Unité 4: *Au café*

Objectives: In Unité 4, you will learn how to say where you are going,
say what you are going to do, order food and beverages and ask
for the check.

Vocabulary: au café, Irregular verb *aller*

Week 10: (le 1er/5 novembre): *Au café*

Vocabulaire: en ville, Le futur proche, the preposition *à* + contractions, Verbs *prendre*
and *boire*

Week 11: (le 8/13 novembre): *Au café*

Interrogative words, Vocabulary: Expressions of quantity, Using the partitive,
Contractions with “*de*”

Week 12: (le 15/20 novembre): *Au café*

Examen: Unité 4 *Au café*: mercredi, le 15 novembre:(pages 133-177)

Introduction: Unité 5: *Les loisirs*

Objectives: In Unité 5, you will learn how to talk about activities, tell how often and
how well you do things, talk about seasons and the date and discuss
the weather.

Vocabulary: Sports and leisure time activities, Irregular verb *faire*

Week 13: (le 27/29 novembre): *Les loisirs*

Vocabulary: Weather expressions, Months, Days of the week, Seasons, Faire expressions,
Irregular –ir verbs, Il faut

Week 14: (le 4/6 décembre): *Les loisirs*

Spelling change –er verbs, Numbers 101 and higher, Demonstrative adjectives, Passé composé with avoir

Week 15: (le 11 décembre): Révision

Examen final: To be announced: le 10-16 décembre

