

INTRODUCTION TO THE FRENCH LANGUAGE I
FRENCH 102

printemps 2006

mardi & jeudi 12h30-13h45 TH310 ; vendredi 13h-13h50 SA 353

Prof. E. N. Meyer

heures de bureau:

Office: SA 265

mard & jeudi 8h15-9h15

Tél: 465-2098

and by appointment!

courrier électronique: meyeren@uwgb.edu

Required Texts: *Allons-y! Le*
D. B. Rice

Français par étapes 6th ed. Jeannette D. Bragger &

Allons-y! Le Français par étapes Workbook and Laboratory Manual

Course Description and Objectives:

This class is taught on the assumption that you have the equivalent of one college semester's knowledge of French and that you want to learn how to speak, read and write the language. Emphasis will be on achieving proficiency (speaking, understanding and writing) in French in ordinary situations. You will acquire a familiarity with the cultures of French-speaking areas as well. In order to learn a language, active and daily effort is essential in class, at home and in the Language Resource Center.

While some of you may feel somewhat intimidated by my use of French in class, please realize that it is not necessary to understand everything to get along in the class or even in a French-speaking area. Hearing and speaking as much French as possible will help you to reach proficiency, however, and should prove to be fun! Be sure to ask me to repeat ("*répétez s'il vous plaît, Mademoiselle Meyer*") as often as you need. And, if you feel you need additional help, please see me outside of class. I would be delighted to help you. I am in my office during office hours and will also be there at other times --please drop by! I will be glad to make appointments with you as well. You can reach me by *e-mail* and I will respond as soon as possible.

We will be learning some other ways to use the internet to improve our French during the semester. Try our homepage which features lots of suggestions for fun sites and our lab has lots of fun games and software.

Testing: At the end of each lesson you will have both a written and an oral test (starting with lesson 6). For the first unit (lesson 5) you will have a written text but not an oral test. The written test will be given in class. The oral test will take place during class as well.

REQUIRED WORK

Attendance Regular attendance in class is required. Roll will be taken on a daily basis. After three absences your oral participation grade will be affected. Oral participation is very important in a language

course, so attendance is especially important. Note that attendance affects both your oral participation grade and the results of your quizzes or *dictées*. A missed quiz or *dictée* earns a 0.

Oral Preparation *Daily* preparation of assigned homework either at home or in the language resource center. Following every class, get in the habit of both reviewing what we have just done and looking ahead to the next time we meet. If you do your oral work in the language resource center, please try to record and then play back your responses. Listening to yourself will help you to improve your spoken French. Because of the heavy emphasis on the development of oral and listening comprehension skills in this course, it will not be sufficient to study the assignments silently.

Beginning with the first lesson (*Chapitre 5*), part of this time will be spent doing the listening and speaking exercises which you will find in the *Workbook/Lab Manual* (in the section called “Écoutez [Let’s Listen]”). This is an excellent way to build up your ability to understand natural, spoken French. At first, it may sound fast, but you may play segments as often as you want. (Make good use of the repeat button which almost instantly repeats the last sentence). Some exercises will ask for oral responses, a great way to build your spoken skills and your confidence. Be sure to do these exercises in a clear voice (nobody is listening to you if they are doing their own work--and if they are, they are probably Spanish students admiring your beautiful French pronunciation). Your book comes with a CD with audio recordings of the dialogues. Practicing these dialogues will prove helpful. Enjoy these learning tools!

There are other learning opportunities in the resource center as well. There are video tapes and satellite tv and radio which offer a variety of programming in French without any subtitles, a fine way to “train your ear.” There are interactive computers connected to CD ROM players and there is a videodisc player that has some useful French programs that are enjoyable ways to learn. The computers (which are networked) have games in French, and some writing software to help you with your French writing. We will go as a class to the Resource Center early in the semester for a demonstration of this learning technology. Certain work done on the Computer Center computers connected to the Internet may substitute for work done in the Language Resource Center. See me if this possibility interests you.

Other learning opportunities include: meeting at French club (*Le Cercle français*) with Maxime or Clarence (two French natives from Paris who are studying at UWGB this semester). You must attend the April 20 French concert.

One-hour minimum per week lab attendance is required. If you attend less frequently, your grade will be affected adversely. If you attend more frequently, your grade will be affected in a positive manner. Be sure to sign in with the lab attendant so that your presence is acknowledged. The language lab is located in Studio Arts 355. Hours are posted on the door.

Written homework: All written homework (exercises and compositions) **MUST** be handed in **ON TIME**. Be prepared to hand in written exercises, although sometimes we will correct them in class, and thus you may not turn them in.

The **Workbook** will be used outside of class for writing practice and as a way to build understanding of basic structures of French. The answers to the exercises in the writing section are supplied in the **answer key** at the end of the book. Obviously, you don’t want to simply copy those answers. It will both be very obvious and you will derive little benefit. You should try each exercise with only enough “peeking” to help you move through the exercises efficiently. I would suggest that you first do the self-correct exercises in pencil, without looking at answer, and then correct them. Be sure to compare the answers, and, **in order to help you remember the correct form, write in the correct form** in ink. If you have

any questions, please ask me!!!

Some of the exercises are more open-ended and the answers given are meant as examples. I may call for the Workbook/Laboratory Manual after each lesson, so be sure to keep it up to date. I do this in order to see whether you are having problems, how well you use the self-correct exercises, and to help with the open-ended exercises.

Class discussion list: You are required to send a *minimum* of ten messages in French to our class discussion list, c2323@uwgb.edu. Please do these on a weekly basis. Doing them all at once at the end of semester defeats the purpose of practicing your written expression in French, and for that reason will not be acceptable.

GRADING

Lesson tests: Each lesson will be followed by a written test. **If you miss a test, you will receive a 0.** The lowest of your lesson tests will be dropped in averaging your final grade.

Final. Your final exam includes participation in a group skit. An alternative oral exam is available under extenuating circumstances. The written exam is scheduled from 10:30a.m.-12:30p.m. on Thursday May 11, 2006. **If you miss the final exam, you will receive a 0.**

Final Grade:

30 %	Written Chapter Exams (1 score is dropped).
10 %	Oral Chapter Quizzes
20 %	Oral Participation (class & April 20 concert, lab)
20 %	Written Work (Exercises, compositions, dictées, and class discussion list on the internet)
5 %	Final Oral Exam
15 %	Final Written

FACILITIES The Language Resource Center is located in SA 355. In addition to the lab equipment there are networked interactive pc's, video tapes, a satellite dish, a computer program to help in writing French compositions, and a variety of games in addition to laser disk technology. Library The University Library subscribes to *Paris Match*, in case you would like to flip through and enjoy ads from a different culture. Soon you will be able to read some articles!

Accommodations statement:

As required by federal law and UWGB policy for individuals with disabilities, students with a documented disability who need accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at 465-2841. Reasonable accommodations can be made unless they alter the essential components of the class. Please contact the instructor and Disability Coordinator in a timely manner to formulate alternative arrangements.

Originality clause:

ALL written work handed into the professor **must** be the student's own original thought and expression.

Disclaimer: All dates on the syllabus are subject to change.