



French I

Course Syllabus

9th Grade

Instructor: Mr. Mathieux (Monsieur Mathieux)
Email: DMathieux@ScottsdalePrep.org

Tutoring Information:

Mon,Tue,Thu,Fri 3:05-3:25pm
Room 228 **or** by appointment
7:15-7:35am in room 206

Website: <https://sites.google.com/scottsdaleprep.org/spa-mathieux>

Course Overview & Objectives

Welcome to Français I! In this course, you will learn to understand, speak, read, and write French. You will learn about the language, but that's not all! You will also learn about the people who speak French all over the world. You will learn in complementary ways, firstly from listening, reading and speaking, then from studying the rules of the language, especially those of grammar, and from doing written exercises.

Over the year, a good part of class time will be devoted to oral activities, which will help you to comprehend and 'think' in French. These will include guided and free conversation, interviews, role-play, reading, etc. Other activities will include writing and grammar exercises.

You should be able to attain objectives in the following areas:

- Listening: comprehend native speakers who enunciate clearly and slowly when speaking about familiar topics
- Reading: attain information from a variety of simple, authentic texts in French and read some brief, authentic literary texts that contain familiar vocabulary
- Speaking: answer and ask questions in class using the grammar and vocabulary studied; hold basic conversations with the teacher and classmates on a variety of topics
- Writing: write complete and accurate sentences using the grammar and vocabulary topics covered in class, with correct spelling; write longer texts on familiar topics of one to three paragraphs in length
- Cultural awareness: comprehend the cultural values of the French world and the underlying similarities and differences between those cultures and your own

Course Materials

Terrell, Tracy D. et al. Deux Mondes, A communicative Approach, McGraw-Hill, 2008.

French I Larousse French-English Dictionary 9780671534073

French I Mystère au Louvre 9781734316162

You will also need a binder (to keep all handouts organized) and 2 notebooks-one for taking notes (grammar etc) and another one that will serve you as a dictionary.

I advise you to divide your binder into 4 categories:

- homework
- tests & quizzes
- vocab handouts
- other handouts

Course Expectations, Assignments, & Assessments

Behavioral Expectations: “The philosophy of the Academy is that students are young adults in the making who will learn civil, polite, and respectful conduct by the example of their teachers...Several very obvious signs of such respect are a student's willingness to refrain from talking in class when others have the floor; a respect for the property of the school and of other students; [and] a willingness to refrain from sarcastic or critical comments towards others. In conjunction with parents/guardians, the Academy has the goal of developing not only habits of good scholarship and critical inquiry, but the character traits of courtesy, promptness, forgiveness, self-control, responsibility, diligence, courage, generosity, and magnanimity.” (*Family Handbook, p. 41*)

Class Participation: This is a French immersion class, meaning that French is the teaching language. Participation is key to learning a foreign language. It is therefore compulsory for every student to participate actively in class. Responding promptly, volunteering for reading, asking questions, collaborating actively to group activities, are all excellent ways to learn the material. Efforts and contributions will be rewarded in the calculation of the final grades.

Homework: You should allow 15-20 minutes per day for homework. It is important that you come to class well prepared with your assignment completed. If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to determine the homework requirements for the next day. Call a friend or send me an email (and cc your parents)!

Quizzes: You should expect weekly grammar or vocab quizzes at the end of each week. The teacher will notify you a few days in advance. Any missed quizzes need to be taken upon return (unless the student missed a substantial time of instruction).

Tests: Regular tests will be administered. Students will be notified at least a week in advance. Any missed quizzes need to be taken upon return (unless the student missed a substantial time of instruction).

Projects/Labs/Other: Occasionally students will be working on class projects in class and at home and will be asked to present them during the instruction time.

Course Grading

Course Work	Percentage
Participation & Preparedness	30%
Tests&Projects	30%
Quizzes	20%
Homework	20%
TOTAL	100%

Absent Work & Late Assignment Policies

School-Wide Absent/Missing Work Policy: Regardless of an excused or unexcused absence, students have the same amount of days missed to turn in missed assignments for full credit. For any absence, students are responsible for getting notes or assignments that were missed via a conversation with the teacher or the class website. If a student has missing work due to incompleteness, they have they can turn it in the following day for 50% credit. Two days post assignment if the work is still not turned in, a zero will be issued in the gradebook.

- Students are responsible for procuring, completing and turning in late/missed assignments/assessments.
- **Missed assignments** (from absences) are due on the day of return (plus extra days as per school policy).
- **Late assignments** will *only* be accepted one day late for 50% credit.
- **Partially-complete assignments** will be credited based on percent completed.
- **Missed quizzes/presentations** must be completed on the day of return (plus extra days as per school policy). Students are responsible for scheduling make-up time *in advance* (before school, during lyceum, or after school depending on availability). Failure to schedule or complete during regular office hours will result in a zero grade.
- Teacher will make reasonable exceptions for unusual circumstances if, and only if, the student reaches out immediately to request accommodation.
- All assignments and announcements are posted by 4pm on the course website's homework calendar. Hard copies of handouts can be found in the classroom file cabinet (self-serve).

How to be Successful in French 1:

An excellent language student will respond to questions, volunteer to read, collaborate with peers, and ask questions. Sometimes you will feel confused, but that means you are learning new things. You will learn more if you are not afraid to make mistakes. Good qualities to succeed in French are practice, perseverance, and patience. A good start for every student is to try to be organized in both your materials and your habits. Other tips for success are listed below:

- * Use class time wisely!
- * Pay attention in class and take notes!
- * Organize your binder.
- * Complete, correct, and keep daily homework.
- * Participate in class discussions and ask questions!
- * Prepare for quizzes and tests.
- * Complete homework
- * Review notes and textbook.
- * Ask for extra help if you need it! You can go to French tutoring during Lyceum (or schedule for before school).
- * Use our class time wisely, persevere through the daily homework, be patient with yourself (and me), and you will be surprised at how much you can grow!

Additional Information

Use of online translators or excessive help from native speakers (so easy to spot!), as well as other forms of cheating/plagiarism, will result in zero credit and additional disciplinary consequences per school policy.

Students are expected to write in complete sentences--beginning with a capital letter, ending with proper punctuation, and including a subject and a predicate. Sentences do not begin with "*parce que*" (because). Points will be deducted if this expectation fails to be met, regardless of content.

Please read, sign, cut and have your student return the section below to me:

Cut----- Cut and Return ----- Cut

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please take the time to read this syllabus with your student, so that you both may understand the expectations and requirements for this class. After reading the syllabus, please visit my teacher website with your child. My website can be accessed with the QR code below. I want to make sure all students know where to go to find class information if they are absent:



Please sign below to indicate that you have read and understand this information, and return to your student. One of your student's first assignments will be to return this page, with your signature, to me by Friday, Aug 7th.

Please feel free to contact me at any time throughout the semester with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mathieux

Student Name (Please Print):

_____ Period: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____