Syllabus - French 101

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***Course Background & Goals***

Congratulations on your decision to study one of the most fun, beautiful, and widely used languages in the world! French is spoken by over 200 million people in 57 different nations. After English, it is the #1 language of business and international diplomacy. It is a language that can take you not only to the top of the Eiffel Tower, but to the tropical islands of Tahiti and Martinique, to the icy tundra of Québec, or to the jungles of the Congo. This course serves as an introduction to the language and culture of France and French-speaking countries around the world. My goal in this course is to provide you with basic information about France and the Francophone world, while also introducing basic “language survival skills” that can help you begin to communicate with native French speakers around the globe.

***Required Supplies***

 - Writing Utensils

 - 1” or 1 ½’’ Three-Ring Binder (to keep handouts, notes, assignments, etc.)

 **\*Please have binder in class by Monday, August 27.**

 - Loose-leaf Paper (to be kept in binder)

***Class Expectations***

1. Arrive on time and be seated before the bell rings.

2. Follow directions the first time you are asked to do so.

3. *Parlez Français!*  Participate in class as much as possible as it makes class much more fun, interesting and beneficial to your language development.

5. Remain seated until the dismissal bell rings.

6. “Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle.” - Plato

\*No food, drinks, or gum will be permitted in class.

***Consequences***

1. Verbal reminder

2. Phone call home

3. 30 minute after-school detention

4. 2nd phone call home

5. 60 minute after-school detention

6. Office referral

***Class Procedures***

**1. Restroom/Passes:** No passes will be given during the first 5 or last 5 minutes of class. Please limit restroom requests to appropriate times unless it is an emergency. You must ask to use the restroom in French (we will go over how to do this). Passes will not be issued if you don’t have YOUR OWN agenda. No passes will be given to lockers! Keep in mind that taking even a short restroom break may cause you to miss important information, so please try to use the restroom during class changes when at all possible.

**2. Absences:** When you are absent, please check the absent tray labeled with your class period for any missed handouts (they will already have your name at the top). Check the homework calendar and with your “copain/copine” to verify assignments and to catch up on what you missed. I will also post daily activities and assignments on Progress Book. You have as many days as you were absent to make up assignments for full credit. If you miss a quiz or a test, you have ONE WEEK to make it up. You MUST arrange a time with me to make it up. I will not pursue you to make up work; it is your responsibility to make up missing assignments.

**3. Homework:** Homework will be given 2-3 times a week (just like learning to play an instrument or drive a car, learning a new language takes practice)! Homework must be completed and ready to turn in at the beginning of class or it will be considered late.

 **Homework will be accepted late for three days after the assignment is due with only a 10%**

 **deduction in total points.** If students choose not to turn in late work within the three-day grace period

they may schedule an after-school intervention session where they may complete an *equivalent*

 assignment with only a 10% deduction in total points. Failure to do this will result in a grade of “0” on

 the assignment. **Late work completed outside the intervention session, past the three-day grace**

 **period will not be accepted.**

Even when there is no formal homework assignment, it is a great idea to spend 5-10 minutes that evening reviewing your French materials during the commercials of your favorite TV show!

**4. Participation:** Participation will account for 10% of your quarterly grade. Students will earn a bi-weekly participation grade of up to 20 points. They will be assessed according to the attached participation scoring rubric. Please review the rubric and keep it for your reference. Students who regularly volunteer to answer questions in class every day may receive up to 2 bonus points per each bi-weekly period.

**5. Grades:** Your grade will be based on the following scale:

60% Assessments (i.e. tests, quizzes, projects, compositions, oral presentations, listening quizzes, dictations, etc.)

15% Classwork (including binder check twice a quarter)

15% Homework

10% Participation

**6. Notebook Grade:** You are required to keep a 3-three binder for your French class materials. Because we do not have enough text books to take home this year, this binder will serve as your primary resource for all French materials (a great study tool and homework helper).

You will receive two notebook grades each quarter, one at the midterm and one at the end of the quarter. Each notebook grade will be worth 50 points and will count towards your classwork grade. The notebook check will consist of a scavenger hunt in which I will give you a list of 10 items that you must find in your notebook and turn in to me.

You may decide how to organize your notebook. I will give you suggestions, but ultimately it is up to you to keep your materials organized. You might want to organize your notebook by unit, by date, or by category. Any handouts that are hole punched when you receive them MUST go in your notebook.

If you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to check the absent trays for any handouts that you missed. You should also check with a classmate to verify what was missed and get any notes from them.

There are sample binders located near the absent trays if you ever need to check to see what should be in your binder. There are also folders containing extras of class handouts in case you need to replace lost handouts.

**7. Tardy to Class Policy for Stebbins High School:**

 Tardy 1 & 2: Student informed of number

 Tardy 3 & 4: 30 minute detention 2:50-3:20 Tuesday or Thursday

 Tardy 5 & 6: Administrative detention 2:50-4:20 Tuesday or Thursday

 Tardy 7 & 8: Wednesday School 3:00-6:00

 Tardy 9 & 10: AIM

 Tardy 11 & up: Suspension

**8. Electronic Devices:** As stated in the student handbook, all electronic devices are to be turned off and left in the locker during the school day. Any violations of this policy will result in confiscation of the device and referral to the office

**9. Extra Help:** A simple “*aidez-moi*” can often make the difference between falling behind and truly understanding the material. Please ask for help when you need it. I will be happy to arrange a time outside of class for extra help as requested.

\*Your cooperation, hard-work, and positive attitude will help you to succeed in class and will allow us to have a great year. I want you to do well and to enjoy yourself in class. I am here to help so please come to me with any questions or concerns you may have throughout the year.

Please sign below to indicate that you have read and agree to all afore mentioned classroom expectations and procedures. Return this slip by **Friday, August 24, 2012**.

*Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

\*Parents, if you have any concerns or questions throughout the year, e-mail is the best way to reach me and receive a quick response. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time! Also, please check Progress Book frequently as I will post daily grade updates, homework assignments, and class materials.

**Please indicate the best way to contact you below**:

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

