

FREN 1B
Syllabus
Spring 2009

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Mariposa 2031
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Class schedule: Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30 to 7:20pm (Mariposa 2030).

My office hours: Tuesday and Thursday from 2 to 3pm; Wednesday from 12 to 1pm. If you can't make it during my office hours talk to me after class and/or make an appointment with me at a more convenient time.

Course description:

This second semester college French course is a second semester elementary course (the first semester elementary course is FREN 1A). It will continue to focus on the development of elementary linguistic skills. With a strong emphasis on the spoken language, we will continue to concentrate our efforts on the four language learning skills – speaking, listening, reading and writing – within Francophone contemporary, cultural contexts.

Catalog description:

Continuation of FREN 001A, with emphasis on reading, writing, listening and speaking. French culture and its relationship to language are given continued attention. Prerequisite: FREN 001A and a suitable score on placement exam; or instructor permission. 4 units.

Course objectives:

The objective of this course is to continue to develop equally the four language skills, to continue to familiarize the students with the Francophone world, and to provide instruction and practice towards competence in French oral and written communication.

In French 1B we will study Modules 6 through 10 in the textbook *Motifs*, as well as supplemental material.

We will continue to learn how to pronounce French words and practice throughout the semester. We will also continue to practice the rhythm and articulation of the French language.

Methodology:

Active participation of the students is required in class and outside of class. In class, the students are expected to be alert, ready to participate whenever it is possible. A foreign language class requires everybody's willingness to interact with the other students, and the instructor. The more you put into this class, the more you will benefit from it.

Participation outside of class implies your willingness to spend time on your homework, on studying the material, as well as a constant attention to any kind of information/events/activities related to French.

We will start the semester with more of the basics of French language, and then we will develop further our ability to communicate in French, our knowledge of Francophone cultures, and our knowledge of grammar. We will proceed gradually and carefully to learn the new material. We will also use the material we learn in a variety of ways: conversation, questions and answers, skits etc. Again it is important that each student understands how much his/her input is essential for the class to work successfully.

Students Learning Outcome:

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to demonstrate:

- 1/ the ability to communicate accurately in the target language within the cultural context at the beginning/intermediate level.
- 2/ that they acquired grammar skills in French at the beginning/intermediate level.
- 3/ the ability to pronounce French accurately within the cultural context.
- 4/ a better understanding of the culture of the language they are studying through the cultural context of the language that forms the basis of their study.

Important guidelines and expectations:

a/ Preparation:

Class material is presented in French, and, when necessary, in English. Both grammar and conversation are emphasized. Communication is an important aspect of foreign language learning, this means that students are expected to express themselves as often as possible and with as much comfort as possible. Patience with one another and respect of one another are therefore crucial for the experience to be both profitable and pleasurable.

In order to participate successfully in class, students will be given material that they will need to study before class. In class I will always explain the material studied at home.

b/ In-Class:

Active participation is essential in a language class. Therefore all students are expected to actively participate in class. This means speaking, as well as listening to the instructor **and** the other students. It is amazing what we can learn from others: new vocabulary, new ways of interacting with others, of saying certain things. We will practice oral expression in a variety of ways: questions/answers, group activities, skits etc.

c/ Outside Class:

Consistent practice of all four skills builds and reinforces our understanding of a language. It is therefore necessary that students practice French outside class in a variety of ways. Students are expected to study/practice French every day (30 to 60 minutes) through daily class assignments. Other, more pleasurable ways also include watching French movies, listening to French music, reading cooking recipes etc. Please ask me if you need ideas.

Expectations and ethics

Classroom behavior:

CSUS expects our students and faculty to conduct themselves with honesty and integrity. Therefore, each student is expected to uphold high ethical standards inside and outside the classroom. The classroom should be an environment for learning. Therefore, behavior that is disruptive, that belittles another or which discourages others from achieving their academic goals has no place in this classroom.

Academic misconduct:

When you turn in an assignment and take credit for it, it must be your own work. If it is not, you have committed academic misconduct.

- *Plagiarism* is representing the work of someone else as your own. Most commonly this occurs by copying from a textbook or other sources and failing to give proper credit to the author. You may avoid this problem by always using quotation marks whenever you use someone else's exact words and by always giving references whenever you quote from or paraphrase another author. However in translation you cannot use other people's work, all your translations have to be your own in order to be graded.

- *Cheating*: if you give or receive unauthorized aid while completing any of the requirements for this course, you have cheated. Giving answers during an exam, writing a paper for another student or copying another student's work are all forms of cheating. Assistance from the writing lab, talking to a professor or fellow student or forming a study group before an exam are all acceptable forms of aid.

Penalties:

The penalties for violation of this ethics policy will range, at the discretion of the instructor, from having to redo the assignments, to failing the course, to an appearance before the Dean.

Attendance & Tardiness:

Attendance will be checked regularly. Unexcused absences will affect your attendance grade which will be calculated in the following way: the number of unexcused absences will be divided by the number of times class meets during the semester. **Attendance and participation represent 15% of the final grade.**

Students who are regularly late will be counted as absent unless they have a valid reason for their tardiness. If you are late three times it equals to one absence.

Textbooks:

We will be using the textbook *Motifs*, by Kimberly Jansma & Margaret Ann Kassen, fourth edition, 2007.

Students may also wish to purchase a French/English-English/French dictionary. Please see me for advice on this. If you already own such a dictionary bring it to class and show it to me.

Language Laboratory:

Every other week or so, we will meet in the Language Laboratory located in Mariposa 2000 (see timetable below).

Students may also practice in the Foreign Language Listening Laboratory located in Mariposa Hall 2002 on their own time.

Homework & exams:

Homework & written assignments will be assigned regularly. It is essential that you complete your homework and turn it in on time. **Late work will not be graded unless there is a medical excuse with a doctor's note.**

Homework & written assignments represent 15% of the final grade.

Compositions: 4 compositions will be assigned throughout the semester (they are due the day after the test). I will not accept late compositions. If you have exceptional circumstances you need bring me a written document.

Compositions represent 10% of the final grade.

Tests: There will be 5 tests during the semester which will cover the material we have been studying. The tests reflect the variety of activities we have in class and your homework assignments. I will not allow make-up unless documented exceptional circumstances.

Tests represent 30% of the final grade.

End of semester oral exam: The oral exam consists in dialogues/conversations written by students in groups of two or three which they will memorize and perform for the class. There will be no make-up oral exam. The oral exam will take place on **May 14** in class.

Oral exam represents 10% of the final grade.

Final exam: will cover all the material we studied during the semester. It will reflect the variety of activities we have in class and your homework assignments. The Final will take place on **Tuesday May 20 from 5:15 to 7:15pm.**

The Final exam represents 25% of the final grade.

Tutoring:

The department of Foreign Languages offers tutoring for any student who needs help and/or practice further. The Tutoring Center is located in Mariposa 2032.

If you need help please let me know either I or the French tutor will help you.

Accommodations for students with disabilities:

If you have a disability and require accommodations, you need to provide disability documentation to SSWD, Lassen Hall 1008, (916) 278-6955. Please discuss your accommodation needs with me after class or during my office hours early in the semester.

Grading:

- A- very good work, almost error-free understanding and knowledge of vocabulary, grammar, sentence structure, and oral comprehension and proficiency (90-100%)
- B- good understanding and knowledge of vocabulary, grammar, syntax, and good oral skills but errors occur throughout homework and tests (80-89%)
- C- knowledge and ability at this level reflects some understanding and knowledge of most material presented, but confusion exists in the overall understanding of most concepts presented (70-79%)
- D- little understanding and knowledge of vocabulary, grammar, syntax, and oral comprehension and proficiency (60-69%)
- I- students who have to stop coming to classes and turning work can get an incomplete, but in order to receive this grade they must complete a written contract with the instructor.
- U- unofficial drops (equivalent to an F) are given to students who do not attend class or no longer attend class, turn in assignments, or take tests.

System of notation:

Attendance & participation	15%	Homework	15%
Tests	30%	Oral Exam	10%
Final Exam	20%		
Compositions	10%		
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			100%

Janvier	27	INTRODUCTION	
		Module 6	
	29	Module 6	
Février	3	Module 6	
	5	Module 6	
	10	Module 6	
	12	<i>Language Laboratory</i> (Mariposa 2000)	
		TEST 1	
	17	Module 7	[Composition 1 is due]
	19	Module 7	
	24	Module 7	
	26	Module 7	
Mars	3	<i>Language Laboratory</i> (Mariposa 2000)	
		TEST 2	
	5	Module 8	[Composition 2 is due]
	10	Module 8	
	12	Module 8	
	17	Module 8	
	19	Module 8	
	24	<i>Language Laboratory</i> (Mariposa 2000)	
	TEST 3		
	26	Module 9	[Composition 3 is due]
30 mars-3 avril		VACANCES DE PRINTEMPS	
Avril	7	Module 9	
	9	Module 9	
	14	Module 9	
	16	Module 9	
	21	<i>Language Laboratory</i> (Mariposa 2000)	
		TEST 4	
	23	Module 10	[Composition 4 is due]
	28	Module 10	
30	Module 10		

Mai	5	Module 10
	7	<i>Language Laboratory</i> (Mariposa 2000) TEST 5
	12	Révisions Examen Final
	14	Examen Oral Party!

Final Exam: Tuesday May 20 from 5:15 to 7:15pm.