

FRENCH 1 B SPRING 2010

- **Instructor** : Mireille McNabb
- **email**: mireillemc@aol.com (please, put 'French 1B' as subject heading on all emails).

All your emails through ANGEL will be redirected to this email address, and I will mostly use this address to communicate with you.

- **Office hours : in the language lab**, once a week (day and hour to be announced at the beginning of the session) _____
by appointment (evening and weekend appointments are available)
by phone : (408) 613-2166

BOOKS AND MATERIALS

- **Textbook**: *ESPACES*: Rendez-vous avec le monde francophone, 2007 (first edition)
Mitschke, Tano, Thiers-Thiam
- **The ESPACES SUPERSITE** is an online tool. It allows you to do exercises that are self-corrected and to practice your listening skills and pronunciation skills. The supersite *passcode* will be given to you when you purchase the student Textbook. The Supersite includes the **Lab Program MP3s**, the **Textbook MP3s**, and the complete **Video program**, all online.
- **Lab manual** : *ESPACES*: Rendez-vous avec le monde francophone, 2007 (first edition) Mitschke, Tano, Thiers-Thiam. mandatory for the 11B lab corequisite
- **Workbook / Video Manual** : *ESPACES*: Rendez-vous avec le monde francophone, 2007 (first edition) Mitschke, Tano, Thiers-Thiam : the workbook offers a lot of valuable additional practice but is optional.
- Note that you will have the option to purchase the option **Web-SAM** that offers Online workbook, Video Manual, and Lab Manual

To purchase the books and materials. please visit the site: <http://www.vhldirect.com/>

NOTE: The materials in these packages are for a two-semester sequence. If you took French 1A last semester, you won't need to buy any new materials and can use your passcode to the Supersite again

Additional resources:

A French/English English/French dictionary : Harrap's, Larousse, and Collins offer good pocket dictionaries, easily available.

CONTENT

Course Goals:

The goal of this course is to further develop basic language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) in French. The student will continue studying in more depth the fundamentals of French grammar and pronunciation, and acquire a vocabulary appropriate for a second semester (1B) college course. In addition, students will become familiar with selected aspects of the customs and culture of France and other francophone

countries. As this is an online class, you will partially miss the interaction with your professor and your classmates. The ESPACES program has been chosen because it offers many ways, through video sequences and audio recordings, to recreate some of the exchanges you would have in a classroom. Therefore, it is very important that you diligently do all the exercises assigned to you.

Units 1 through 7 were covered in French 1A. After a short review, we will move on to cover units 8 through 15 in French 1B

Students will be required to **have high-speed internet connectivity** and a high speed computer, and to have **a microphone** for their computer with which to record their voices for weekly pronunciation assessment.

COREQUISITE: FRENCH 011A (FRENCH LABORATORY): French 11B, a lab class, is required of all students enrolled in French 1B. The lab class is a separate .5-unit course which will earn you an additional .5 unit of credit. This is an essential part of this class as it allows you to practice your listening and speaking skills.

Your grade in the lab class will be completed as follows:

50%: completion of the Lab Manual exercises assigned.

40%: completion of a total of about 28 hours spent doing Lab exercises (this is the average time required to complete the lab manual and the pronunciation exercises in the SUPERSITE)

20%: completion of two cultural research projects (one on a French movie, and another of a cultural subject contained in one of the seven units covered in 1A. in the Lab Manual)

The lab Manual will be turned in and corrected, either through the Web-SAM or by sending your instructor the completed pages (units 8-11 are due after about 8 weeks of class, units 12-15 are due at the end of the class).

HOMEWORK

- Students will use the **ESPACES SUPERSITE** to submit most of their weekly homework.
- Students will use **ANGEL** (<http://wvmccd.angellearning.com/>) **to read the step by step instructions for completing each lesson, to access the calendar or other resources posted by the instructor.** Students will also use ANGEL to **complete quizzes, unit tests, midterm and final exams.**
- Written, listening and oral assignments are due weekly, **every Monday by 7:00AM.**

Students will complete a series of 2 cultural searches on the Internet. They will present the results of their searches into short compositions, in French, that will be sent to the instructor through ANGEL or through email.

Attendance will be assessed by your regular and timely completion of all the components of the homework assigned in this online course, including the oral assignments that will be done electronically or in person (on campus, by phone or other means that will be introduced later). Late work will be automatically penalized by the computer (10% per day). Poorly done homework will also be penalized. Most exercises are automatically corrected by the computer but I will also go over your answers to accept any correct

answer the computer was not programmed to accept. In the SUPERSITE, you will have TWO trials to complete most exercises. Once you submit your first trial, you receive an immediate feedback and you are allowed to understand your mistakes and correct them.

As the work in the SUPERSITE is about 40% of your final grade, you can assure yourself a good grade in this class if you work diligently on the Espaces Supersite.

The online course will require about 8-12 hours per week of work. This includes the five hours you would spend in a class on campus (without counting the commute!) and the time you would spend on homework in a regular class

GRADING

Homework and Assessment

<i>HOMEWORK AND ASSESSMENTS</i>	<i>% OF GRADE</i>
Lesson quizzes (including Epreuves in Supersite)	20%
Completion of weekly homework	20%
Unit Tests	20%
Cultural research and presentation	10%
Oral assessments (oral interviews)	10%
Final Exam (including Oral Interview)	20%

It is highly recommended that you do some studying for this class EVERY DAY. This is not only the best way to learn any foreign language, but it is also the best way to keep up with an online class. You must be very organized and know how to pace yourself in order to meet all the deadlines. Make sure that you communicate regularly with the instructor and attend, if possible, the optional review sessions that will be offered on campus.

A final note for students taking French 1B online. How to be successful and get the help you may need!

- Make sure you read carefully the advice given to all students enrolling in an **Online class** or **Distance Learning class**. Go to the West Valley College main site and to the Distance Learning section.
- If you encounter a problem, **communicate!** Do it efficiently and politely. Remember that your instructor may deal with an average of 50 work-related messages a day .
- Free tutoring is available in the Tutorial Center, located in the Library building. The entrance is on the side of the building facing the Language Arts building, under the sign marked "TASK."

- I will be available in the lab once a week (time to be announced at the beginning of the session). You can also make appointments with me to see me and get help.
- I will arrange review session on campus regularly for students who want to practice conversation and pronunciation, or review points of grammar. If you can come to campus, try to take advantage of this opportunity. Times and location of the review sessions will be announced well in advance.
- I am available by phone (408) 613-2166, to practice conversation or answer any question you may have.

School policy:

- This class will be conducted in accordance with policies listed in the college catalog. **Cheating in any form** will not be tolerated and will be dealt with according to published policy. If you have any questions about this policy, please read the *Policy on Cheating, “Student Responsibilities,”* in the WVC Catalog. **Plagiarism will result in an “F” on the assignment and the possible failure of the class.**
- If a student decides to drop a class it is his/her responsibility to go through the Admissions and Records Office to officially withdraw. Students who do not notify the Admissions Office will earn an ‘F’ for the course.
- You also need to tell the instructor if you are taking this class for a grade or credit/non credit.

Most of the work in learning a language is not *studying*, but *practicing* the language skills as often as possible. Imitate the voices you hear on your CD or in the SUPERSITE. Listen actively and as often as you can! Then try to apply what you have practiced. Talk to yourself; talk out loud. Pretend that you are in a real-life situation and must communicate the best you can with the French you know. Try to do this as often as possible. It's much better to do a little bit each day than to try and prepare an entire lesson in several hours at one time.

It is important to realize that our goal is not perfection, but the ability to communicate and to become familiar with French-speaking cultures. Accept the fact that the learning process implies making errors. Learn from these errors and don't be discouraged. With regular preparation and practice, you will learn to communicate in French and gain a valuable new skill, while enriching your knowledge of language and culture.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU START

- All lessons on the SUPERSITE are due on **Monday, 7:00am.**

French 1B will work on unit 8 through 15. There are **two lessons per unit**, therefore you will cover one lesson per week.

- **QUIZZES and EXAMS** will be usually available from Wednesday morning until Sunday night

SUGGESTIONS

1. Download the **step by step instructions** posted each week on ANGEL.
2. Each lesson has detailed instructions and additional help. It is important that you read carefully the instructions as some exercises might not be required or you might be required to do additional work on other exercises.
3. Try to **pace yourself** and be finished with the SUPERSITE exercises on Saturday before the lesson is due. Then, work on the workbook and Lab Manual to review what was learned in the lesson. This is the best preparation for the test.
4. Exercises in the **the lab manual** MUST be completed as stated in the “step by step lesson instructions”. Additional practice will be suggested in the textbook or in the workbook.
5. **Communication activities** that require a partner are not assigned but I always suggest that you do some of them as they are similar to the questions you will be asked in the oral interviews.
6. As this is an online class, you will miss the oral interaction you would have with your classmates or teachers. Therefore it is imperative that you do the **pronunciation exercises** that are in the SUPERSITE. You need a good microphone to record your answers. if you have problems recording or hearing your voice, please contact your instructor right away.
7. **It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to check your email frequently.** I will often communicate with you by email.

