

**OSWEGO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Department of Modern Languages and Literatures**  
**FRENCH 101-810 CRN- 15907 M-W-F 11:30 – 12:25, MAHAR 103**  
**TENTATIVE SYLLABUS -- SPRING 2012**

Instructor: Mr. Stagl      Office: 259 Campus Center      Office Hrs: M-W-F, by apptmt.  
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**NOTE: You are responsible for everything in this Syllabus and the Calendar.**

**A. REQUIRED TEXTS**

- Contacts (8<sup>th</sup> edition, 2009), Valette/Valette. Houghton Mifflin/ Heinle-Cengage. With In-Text Audio CD
- Contacts – Student Activities Manuel (**SAM**) and **SAM** Audio CD Program [separate from Text Audio]

**B. ATTENDANCE**

1. Policy statement from OSU Catalog:

Class Attendance

General

**Regular class attendance is obligatory.** *An instructor may recommend that a student be dropped from a course for poor achievement due to excessive absence.* A student who is dropped after the deadline for dropping courses may be assigned a grade of E. Students who have two unexcused absences during the first two class meetings of the semester may be dropped from the course at the discretion of the instructor. The instructor or the department offering the course will notify the Registrar of this action. However, students should not assume that they have been dropped from a class just because the first two classes were missed. *It is ultimately the responsibility of students to drop a course that they are not planning to attend by the deadline published in the Official College Calendar. Failure to do this may result in a failing grade for the course.*

2. FRE. 101 Class Policies:

- Attendance is taken at every class meeting.
- More than three (3) absences will result in a lower final grade.
- Contact **Student Advisement Center at the COMPASS**, x-2240, 142 Campus Center, to document unusual circumstances; **no consideration will be given without appropriate documentation.** Verbal or email explanations are not sufficient.
- Repeated lateness or early departure will result in a lower final grade.
- Students are responsible for all announcements, assignments and class work missed during any absence.
- Request to be excused for a planned absence – beyond your control – **must be submitted in advance with documentation.** Appointments should not be scheduled during class time.

**C. PREPARATION AND CLASS PARTICIPATION**

Learning a modern language is a performance activity, which requires regular preparation and participation. **A minimum of 2 hours of outside preparation is required for each class.** Inadequate, lax or grudging participation, and/or incomplete or unsatisfactory preparation of all chapter materials – including audio components – will significantly reduce your final grade.

**D. QUIZZES, TESTS AND FINAL EXAM**

There will be 2 Unit exams and 3 *Contrôles (quizzes)*.

Unit exams and the Final Exam will include culture questions based on chapter materials, Vie pratique, and Images du monde francophone.

Any assignment may be collected, with or without prior announcement.

The official date and time of the **Final Exam** is online in MyOswego, Course Availability.

**E. INTELLECTUAL INTEGRITY**

**Any indication of intellectual dishonesty will result in a grade of zero** for any activity in question. See the official University policy statement at:

[www.oswego.edu/administration/registrar/policy\\_text.html#cpii](http://www.oswego.edu/administration/registrar/policy_text.html#cpii)

**F. PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

All such devices should be turned off during class. Sending or receiving text or verbal messages will result in a lower grade. Using any electronic device during an exam will be grounds for failure. Repeated disregard for this class policy will be grounds for a failing grade

#### G. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students who have a disabling condition which might interfere with their ability to successfully complete this course are encouraged to speak, confidentially, to the class instructor, or to contact the **Office of Disability Services, 183 Campus Center, x3358**

#### H. STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

You will be expected to demonstrate comprehension and control of first semester Elementary French through listening, speaking, reading and writing. In addition, you will be responsible for certain cultural information. These objectives are based exclusively on the Required Materials, above.

#### I. DETERMINATION OF FINAL GRADE – emphasizes end of semester performance!

Exams/Contrôles (5) .....20%; Final Exam & Oral Presentation...30% **(50% testing)**

Preparation &

Participation.....30%; Oral Presentations (3).....20% **(50% speaking/class)**

- *Reductions will be taken for lateness, absenteeism and/or missing work*
- *Missing any announced quiz, test or oral presentation will result in a zero (0)*
- **ABSENCE IS NO EXCUSE**

A = 93 – 100

C = 73 – 77

A- = 90 – 92

C- = 70 – 72

B+ = 88 – 89

D+ = 68 – 69

B = 83 – 87

D = 63 – 67

B- = 80 – 82

D- = 60 – 62

C+ = 78 – 79

E = 59 or below

A = full control of all vocabulary and structures, with high degree of accuracy and personalized expression of ideas in French.

B= fairly consistent ability to express ideas with appropriate vocabulary and structures, frequently achieving personal expression in French.

C= consistency and control will vary, with occasional original expression in French.

D= minimal ability to express oneself appropriately in French.

E= Nothing consistent or coherent in French; complete inability to produce appropriate phrases.

#### GOLDEN RULES OF LANGUAGE LEARNING

1. **The only thing that matters is How** you say it or write it in French; nobody will ask Why. Play the game; don't read the rule book.
2. **Consistency.** Practice during several short periods (15 – 30 mins.) each day. Two or three hours of cramming for a test is generally useless.
3. **Use it or lose it.** Start with some review, then move into new(er) material
4. **Personalize.** take it out of the book and put it into your own life context. BUT- you don't have to "tell the truth." If you can't say exactly what you want to say in French, just say something appropriate in French.... Use your imagination; or even lie!
5. **Contextualize.** Memorization may be the first step, but if you don't put it into sentences it won't help much.
6. **I'm already telling you the easiest way; it's labor intensive.** I will tell you if there are any tricks or shortcuts.
7. **You play like you practice;** the French word for "practice" is *répétition!*
8. **Repetition** is the most successful learning habit.
9. **The more you know the easier it gets.**
10. **If you keep doing what you've been doing, you'll keep getting what you've been getting.** Doing well? Keep doing what you've been doing. Problems? Address the issues and change your work habits accordingly. Ask me for suggestions.