

Course Syllabus French

Teacher: Ms. Andrea Utz, email: autz@sacoschools.org

Materials: a notebook, a pen or pencil,
earbuds (grade 6 only needs a folder, not a notebook)

Extra Help: I am available during Advisory to give extra help. Please arrange with me ahead of time so I can be prepared for you.

Course Description

- 6th grade (Quarter Class): Students will begin to develop novice-low communication skills through class conversations, stories, and games. Students will learn to greet people and say goodbye, to write and say numbers, and to recognize people and places that are important to Francophone cultures. Students will be introduced to strategies to increase their proficiency outside of class through the use of technology.
- 7th Grade (Semester Class): Some students will continue to develop novice-low communication skills, while others may move into the novice-mid proficiency level. Students will talk and write about themselves; people and pets that are important to them; basic information such as the day, date, time, and weather; and their likes and dislikes. Students will begin to recognize that words in French have gender and how to write using the correct adjective and noun agreement. Communication skills will be developed through class conversations, stories, and games. Students will be taught and encouraged to use strategies to increase their proficiency outside of class, mostly through the use of technology.
- 8th Grade (Semester Class): Some students will continue to develop novice-low and novice-mid communication skills, while others may move into the novice-high proficiency level. Students will talk about their school and class schedule, including the times of their classes. We then will move into the topic of food in the French-speaking countries and the cultural importance of specific foods. Students will continue to write in the target language, focusing again on adjective and noun agreement but will now begin to develop an understanding of verb conjugation. Communication skills will continue to be developed through class conversations, stories, and games. Students may also read a simple novel in the target language.

Seating Policy

You will be assigned a new seat once or twice per quarter. Your table mate is your study buddy. If you are absent, get notes and handouts from him or her. Speak French to one another in class and check each other's work when appropriate. You are a team, and your goal is to help each other meet the class standards!

Absence Policy

Your class will spend almost an hour each day acquiring language (the easy way!) and you may have to spend a similar amount of time at home to make up the learning that you have missed. Check our google classroom on your first day back to see what work needs to be made up.

Speaking Policy

If Mme. Utz asks a question in French, you must answer in French. If she asks a question in English, you may answer in French or English. If you MUST say something in English, you must first ask, "En anglais, s'il vous plaît?" A portion of your grade will be based on speaking. Points will be deducted for speaking English in class, unless it is an emergency situation.

Entering the Room

These things should all be done before the bell rings:

1. Take out your notebook.
2. Borrow a pencil and paper, if needed.
3. Sit down at your seat.
4. Begin working silently on the DO NOW activity.

Transition Signal

Throughout the year, I will use an energy chime to get your attention. I will sound the chime, the whole class will stop what they are doing, take a deep breath, and then everyone will be quiet with their eyes on me, ready for my instructions.

Leaving the Room

1. Return borrowed materials, if applicable
2. Clear your table and floor
3. Push in your chair

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic Integrity is being honest and responsible with regard to your schoolwork. Most basically, it means that your work is your work, and anything that you have found somewhere else is credited to its source. Students will receive a non-negotiable “0” on any assignment in which academic integrity has been breached. You may not copy another student’s work or allow someone to copy your work. You may not use online translators to write sentences or essays. You must cite any website, book, article, etc. from which you gather information.

EVALUATION: Standards Based Grading & Grade Categories

Your grade will be determined by how your performance compares to the standard expected for each category.

Advanced A - 95 You are confident and are reaching for the next level. You consistently meet the standard without help from the teacher and are ready to move on.

Proficient B - 85 You can meet the standard in familiar tasks and situations.

Developing C - 75 You know what to do to meet the standard and can do some things, but need help accomplishing it.

Emerging D - 65 You know what the standard is, but are confused and probably frustrated.

Beginning F - 55 You need some help to get started!

No attempt F - 0 You have not done enough to be evaluated.

The target proficiency levels and the corresponding expectations for speaking, writing, reading, and listening will vary depending on the course level and time of year. Detailed expectations will be given for each assessment.

Summative & Performance Based Assessments 60% of total grade: these happen at the end of a Unit of Study to determine if student has learned what was expected during that unit. These will be comprised of reading, writing, listening & speaking.

Interim Assessments in Speaking & Writing 30% of total grade: these happen mid-unit of study to determine what should happen if anything, to assure unit expectations are met.

Homework is 10% of total grade. It ensures proficiency is increasing.

Students will be expected to participate in class in order to acquire French language. You look like you are engaged (participating and paying attention) by maintaining eye contact with the teacher and sitting up straight. You speak French. Points will be deducted weekly from their overall grade if they are not actively participating in class. It is the **MOST** important thing in order to be successful in French class.

HOW (Habits of Work) details are found in the SMS Student Handbook. They are posted on my classroom walls, and are an integral part of my daily classroom experience. Students need to maintain their HOW grades in order to be eligible for retaking any assessments they may have scored below par in.

Behavior: You are kind and respectful of yourself, your classmates, your teacher, and your school. You do not disrupt your learning or your classmates' learning.

GRADE REPORTING

Some classwork assignments are formative assessments (showing how well you understand the material while we are still learning it), and some are summative (showing how well you understand the material after we have finished studying it). Formative assignments will not be entered in the gradebook, and are considered supporting evidence for your grade in each category. Summative assessments are entered in the gradebook.

I have read and understand this syllabus. I have emailed Mme. Utz if I have questions or concerns.

Date: _____

Students Name Printed: _____

Student's Signature: _____

Parent's Name & Signature: _____

This is your first homework assignment. It is due back by September 13th. Merci!