

COURSE SYLLABUS - FRENCH I

Mme Crane

General Overview: French I completes the New York State Syllabus Checkpoint A Level I of a Language Other than English and prepares students for the New York State Regents Proficiency Exam. Previous study is helpful but not required. The class meets every day.

Course Objective: Students will develop the four skills necessary for communication; i.e. listening, speaking, reading, and writing that are appropriate for Level I. Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of the French Speaking World. (See attached – “*Checkpoint A – Proficiencies*”)

Major Themes: Personal Identification - House and Home – Family Life – Community and Neighborhood – Physical Environment – Leisure - Education – Shopping Travel – Communication – Daily Routines – Meal Taking – Current Events – Cultural Aspects of the francophone world.
(See attached “*Checkpoint A Categories grades 5-8, Level I*”)

Structures/Grammar

- Number and Gender
- Adjective Agreement
- Definite and Indefinite Articles
- Possessive Adjectives
- Subject Pronouns
- The Present Tense of “er”, “ir”. and “re” Verbs
- Negation
- The Partitive
- Demonstrative Adjectives
- The Present Tense of High Frequency Verbs
- The Passé Composé (Past Tense)
- Reflexive Verbs

Timeline :

Mark Period I - Bon Voyage1 Chapters 1-5

- 2 formal writing tasks
- 2 formal oral tasks

Mark Period II – Bon Voyage 1 Chapters 6-7, and part of 8

- 2 formal writing tasks
- 2 formal oral tasks

Mark Period III – Bon Voyage 1 Chapters 8, 9, 10

- 2 formal writing tasks
- 2 formal oral tasks

Mark Period IV - Bon Voyage 1 Chapters 11-12

- 2 formal writing tasks
- 2 formal oral tasks

Texts/Materials: Bon Voyage 1. 2005. Glencoe Macmillan/McGraw-Hill.
Chapters 1-12

Supplies Required/
Grading Practices: See attached "*French I General Information*"

Written Work
Requirements: Students will be assigned two (2) formal writing tasks each mark period. Prior to the first assignment students will receive a copy of the NYS Second Language Proficiency Exam rubric which will be used to evaluate written work.

Assessment : The final (June) exam is the New York State Proficiency Exam. The exam has both a speaking and written component. Students' speaking skills are assessed in late May in individually administered interviews.. The written test at the end of June measures listening, reading and writing skills. Students **MUST** earn **both** a passing average of 65% for the four marking periods **AND** a grade of 65% on this exam in order to pass the course and receive one (1) high school credit. This exam is given **ONLY** in June. There is no summer school for Language B. Students who fail will have to repeat French I the following year.

Contact Information: My e-mail is ecrane@buffaloschools.org. I check my e-mail daily and make every effort to reply to any correspondence on the day it is received. I ask that parents furnish their e-mail address at the beginning of the year to facilitate communication. I find e-mail a very effective means of keeping parents informed and addressing their concerns.

Extra Help: I have extra-help for French I students on Wednesdays from 2:30-3:00. Students can also make arrangements for help before and after school and during my preparation period. There is also the possibility of peer tutoring with students in French IV and IB French. Students are encouraged to seek extra help.

FRENCH I General Information
Mme Crane

Bienvenue! Bienvenue means welcome in French. This «feuille de bienvenue» will give you an overview of the work you will be doing in French this year and outline our classroom rules and procedures.

Course Description: During this year we will study 12 chapters of the level 1 book *Bon Voyage 1*. We will develop the four skills necessary to communicate in French; listening, speaking reading and writing. This year begins a more advanced study of language. In June you will take the New York State Proficiency Exam, the first of two Regents Exams in LOTE. The Speaking Part of this exam is administered in May.

Supplies: You need to bring the following **every day**.

- Textbook (covered)
- 3-ring binder – for FRENCH **ONLY** – with 6 subject dividers
 - Pratique
 - Vocabulaire
 - Grammaire
 - Devoirs et Examens

loose-leaf paper

pencils and pens (black or blue for assignments + colors for checking and charts)

highlighter

Grades are weighted as follows:

Participation.....	20%
Graded Assignments....	25%
Quizzes.....	20%
Tests	45%

Participation includes all aspects of in-class activities: daily work, punctuality, cooperation, attention, **using French**, and ungraded homework. Students keep a self-check log their daily participation. Ungraded homework is logged by the teacher. Students may miss two ungraded assignments without penalty.

Homework: Homework will be assigned daily. It is due the following class unless otherwise specified. Neat, complete homework is ½ of the Participation grade. All Graded Assignments will be collected. A late assignment receives a 0. It can be made up and the two grades averaged. An assignment that is late due to illness or an excused absence should be made up within 2 days of returning to class.

Classroom Procedures: When the bell rings you need to:

Copy the homework assignment for the next class.

Get out the homework due for that class.

Begin work on the AFM assignment. I check homework at this time.

AFM assignments are exchanged and corrected for a grade. You may use your books and notes. There is a time limit. They serve to focus your attention on an important aspect of the work. If you are not getting perfect or near perfect scores in AFM exercises, that is the signal to ask me for extra help before you have to take a test on the material.

After AFM we correct any daily homework and then begin the new work of the day. Each class will have some practice in each of the 4 skills. Much of our speaking practice is done with a partner or in a group. This maximizes your opportunity to use French in class. This is very important practice. Remember that learning to speak is a physical as well as a mental skill. Time spent actually talking, listening to others, and taking part in conversations is the only way you will learn to really speak the language.

Extra Help: Don't be afraid to ask! Extra-help is every Wednesday right after school. Since most students in the class have already had some formal instruction in French, the first 4 chapters of the book are reviewed very quickly. If you need extra help, ask as soon as possible.

Commitment: Learning another language is difficult. It requires memorization and daily practice. But the rewards are great. Competence in French opens many doors and can be an asset to a variety of careers. This year will be a great beginning.