

COURSE SYLLABUS

IB FRENCH

Mme Crane

Course Description:

IB French is an elective course open to all students who have completed the New York State Regents requirement in French and French IV/Pre-IB. The course is required for IB Diploma candidates who have chosen French as their Language B. IB French is a language acquisition course and stresses the practical application of language skills. While deepening their knowledge of the language students also explore the cultures connected to it. Class meets daily. French is the primary language of instruction.

Syllabus:

The core, which is common to both IB and French IV/Pre-IB consists of three topics and is a required area of study. In addition two options are selected from a choice of five.

Core

Social Relationships
Communication and media
Global issues

2 Options

Health
Customs and traditions
Leisure
Cultural diversity
Science and technology

Course Objectives:

- to enable students to understand and use French in a range of contexts and for a variety of purposes
- to enable students to use French appropriately
- to encourage through the study of texts and through social interaction, an awareness and appreciation of the different perspectives of people from various francophone cultures
- to develop students' awareness of the role of language in relation to other areas of knowledge
- to provide the opportunity for enjoyment, creativity and intellectual stimulation through the knowledge of French
- to provide students with a basis for further study, work and leisure through knowledge of French
- to develop students' awareness of the relationship between language and culture

Guiding Questions:

1. Do I understand and use the **language** accurately for communication?
2. Have I taken into account the **cultural interaction** of language and form?
3. Is my **message** clear?

These three areas: **language, cultural interaction** and **message** are the criteria used to evaluate all work in the four skill areas: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Types of Assignments: in response to audio, visual and printed stimuli.

Written communication

Letters (formal and informal)
Journal entries
Newspaper articles
Reviews of films, concerts, etc.
Opinion pieces
Ads
Brochures

Oral communication

Presentations
Paired conversations
Round Table discussions
Interviews
Giving instructions
Debates

Time Line

Mark Period I <i>Inaginez</i> Leçon 1 Leçon 2	Mark Period II <i>Inaginez</i> Leçon 3 Leçon 4	Mark Period III <i>Inaginez</i> Leçon 5 Leçon 7	Mark Period IV <i>Inaginez</i> Leçon 9 Leçon 10
<i>Communication Tasks</i>	<i>Communication Tasks</i>	<i>Communication Tasks</i>	<i>Communication Tasks</i>
Paired conversations Oral presentations Round table discussion Informal letters Journal entries Opinion piece	Interviews Giving Instructions Round table discussion Newspaper article Movie review Formal letter Ad	Round Table Interview Debate Formal letter Newspaper article Opinion piece	Round Table Paired conversations Interview Journal entry Formal letter Newspaper article Ad or brochure
<i>Language Structures</i>	<i>Language Structures</i>	<i>Language Structures</i>	<i>Language Structures</i>
Si clauses Prepositions with infinitives Forming questions Nouns and articles Reflexive/reciprocal verbs Descriptive adjectives & agreement Adverbs Il est and c'est	The passé composé vs. the imparfait The plus-que-parfait Possessive adjectives Demonstrative adjectives Expressions of Time Negation and indefinite adjectives and pronouns Irregular -ir verbs	Partitives The pronouns y and en Demonstrative Pronouns The subjunctive: impersonal expressions; will, opinion, and emotion, expressions of doubt and conjunctions; the past subjunctive Infinitives	Faire causatif Relative Pronouns Si clauses The future perfect The past conditional Review

Formal IB Assessment:

External assessment	
Paper 1 <i>Receptive Skills</i>	1 hour 30 minutes. Questions on three texts evaluate grammar, vocabulary and comprehension. Plus a written response to a fourth text. (125-150 words)
Paper 2 <i>Written productive skills</i>	1 hour 30 minutes: response to one creative writing task. (250-400 words)

Internal assessment	
Oral commentary	12-15 minutes: individual oral presentation followed by conversation with the teacher
Interactive Oral	Classroom interaction: One task chosen from work during the year

The Internal assessment is given in the latter part of the 2nd quarter, during the week prior to Regents exams. The External assessment is in late May.

Teaching and Classroom Assessment

Classroom activities are conducted in French. Students are expected to become comfortable using French for day-to-day communication. To this end, there are social conversation times as well as prepared discussions of the topics studied. Streaming video from French internet sites is used to follow current events and societal trends. Students use the computer lab for certain written assignments and listening and speaking practice. Each lesson or unit in the textbook is built around an award winning short subject film in French produced in a francophone country. The use of this authentic material that is both accessible and enjoyable is an important element in building language skills and meeting the course objectives of developing an appreciation of the various francophone cultures and providing the opportunity for enjoyment, creativity and intellectual stimulation through the knowledge of French.

Students are graded on participation (which includes in-class work, classroom demeanor and attention as well as independent listening and speaking practice), vocabulary and grammar tests, oral, and written assignments. Students are required to log their independent work with the Rosetta Stone and keep a notebook which includes all writing assignments and notes for oral presentations.

The **assessment criteria** for written assignments and oral activities are organized according to the three areas of the guiding questions that underlie the course i.e.

- **language** handling the language system accurately (grammar, syntax, etc.)
- **cultural interaction** selecting language and format appropriate to a particular cultural and social context
- **message** understanding ideas and how they are organized on order to communicate with clarity and purpose.

Students receive detailed copies of these IB assessment criteria descriptors in both English and French and use them to guide their work and develop self-evaluation skills. Tables showing conversion of IB grades to letter grades appear at the end of the General Information for students section.

Academic Integrity:

Students are reminded that all assignments must be their own work. The use of on-line or electronic translators other than dictionaries is strictly prohibited. This is in keeping with the standards of City Honors as well as the IB diploma program.

Grades are weighted as follows:

Communication Tasks.....	50%
Tests and Quizzes.....	30%
Participation.....	20%

Texts /Materials:

Imaginez: le français sans frontières Vista Higher Learning 2008

This is a 200 level college text, which includes a film component of authentic prize winning short subjects produced in different parts of the francophone world.

The Rosetta Stone

Facettes de la France

chez nous magazine

Internet sites

Video clips Antenne 2

Teacher prepared materials

Advance Materials

Scholastic

France Panorama

Supplies required:

Subscription to chez nous (\$9.00)

3 ring binder with 4 section dividers

French/English dictionary (students must purchase)

Academic Integrity:

Students are reminded that all assignments must be their own work. This includes a prohibition of on-line translation sites or other electronic translators. This is in keeping with the standards of City Honors as well as the IB diploma program. The use of on-line dictionaries is permitted and encouraged.

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.

Major Assignments - Communication Tasks

Each mark period there are several written assignments of 125-150 words and one of 250-300. Late written assignments will be given a zero. If made up by the next class, the two grades will be averaged. In cases of absence due to illness, assignments are due within two (2) classes of return to school. There will also be three graded oral assignments. These oral and written assignments are IB specific and count in the Communication task grade.

You will receive a copy of the IB criteria for evaluating written and oral work. These descriptors should be kept in your notebook. It is important to understand how to evaluate your own work. The assignments are usually based on the topics of the readings in *Imaginez* and will reinforce the language structures and core concepts of the IB program.

Writing assignments are generally due on THURSDAY.

Every day there will be an informal oral activity of some kind. This gives you practice speaking on your feet and is essential for building skills and confidence for the graded oral tasks.

The first few minutes of each class you will spend working on an AFM assignment.

This work is done in the «Mise en Pratique» section of your binder. These short assignments are designed to illustrate a point of grammar, clarify vocabulary, or focus your thinking for the work of the day. Often this work helps guide your study for quizzes and tests.

Tests:

There will be vocabulary quizzes from your text and also tests for each Leçon or unit.

In class writing assignments, quizzes and tests that are missed due to illness must be made up as soon as possible. Arrangements will be made to make up the test either before or after school. No tests or quizzes may be made up during class time.

Using French:

French is the language of communication in the classroom. You earn daily participation points by using the language.

Contact Information: My e-mail is ecrane@buffaloschools.org

Grade Conversion Table

		10	A+
30	A+	9.5	A
29 - 28	A	9	A-
27	A-	8.5	B+
26	B+	8	B
25-24	B	7.5	B-
23	B-	7	C+
22	C+	6.5	C
21-20	C	6	C-
19	C-	5.5	D+
18	D+	5	D
17-16	D	4.5	D-
15	D-	4	F
14-0	F		