

**PONT-AVEN SCHOOL OF CONTEMPORARY ART
SPRING SEMESTER 2010**

Course Title: French Language, Culture and Literature – Level 1

Credit Hours: 3

Instructor's Name: Laure Collier

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Course Description:

A serious class for complete beginners. Students live with French families and have frequent contact with the people of Pont-Aven through social and artistic exchanges. Classroom work will explore the language needs of the encounters and focus on French as it is used in everyday situations. Basic grammar and vocabulary will be covered through exercises, homework and discussion. Conversational skills will be emphasized, as students move out of the classroom to open-air market, field trips... In class studies are supplemented with audio Cds, books and French films.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this Course, students should be able to

- 1) Have basic conversation**
- 2) Know all the commonly used tenses and all the basic grammar rules**
- 3) Have daily routine vocabulary**
- 4) Have artistic vocabulary**
- 5) Write short descriptions and imagined conversations**
- 6) Show basic knowledge of French culture, literature and civilization**

Course Requirements:

Assignments for this Course:

- learn every new lesson
- complete all the assignments (both written and oral)
- practice with your host families and French people
- watch at least 4 French movies from PASCA's selection (deadlines for worksheets on Weeks 4, 7, 9 and 14, see textbook)
- listen to at least 4 Cds of French musicians and composers from the Instructor's collection (deadlines for worksheets on Weeks 4, 7, 9 and 14, see textbook)
- read the 2 required French books (written in English): Jean de Florette by Marcel Pagnol and Le Petit Prince by Antoine St Exupéry (deadlines for worksheets on Weeks 7 and 14, see textbook)

Expectations/Policies for this course:

- be on time
- you are allowed to miss only one lesson. Additional unexcused absences will affect your grade (if applicable)
- strong participation and active engagement are required

Number of hours students are expected to work outside of class: students are expected to work outside of class at least an additional hour on their studies

Travel/Study Trip Component

For the Paris study trip, you will be given an assignment where you can use your language skills to explore the city. It is expected that you use your language skills in daily communications.

Grading:

Grading criteria for this Course: *These are the elements that will determine your cumulative grade for this class, and the percentage of each of these elements to the total grade.*

Grading will be based on:

75% class participation and engagement (this includes workbook assignments, conversation practice, questionnaires, quizzes, writing exercises which reveal comprehension of grammar, vocabulary and verb tenses)

15% additional study (reading assignments, cinema and music assignments)

10% attendance, tardiness

Bibliography:

Jean de Florette by Marcel Pagnol and Le Petit Prince by Antoine St Exupéry are required. There is additional literature available in the classroom.

Supplies or Materials that you will need for this class:

Either a hard copy of a French dictionary or an electronic version (available in the French classroom) accessible on your computer.

Additional Information about this Course:

Learning a language is difficult and it requires work, practice and patience. As you are in France, everything is a learning moment. Newspapers, traffic signs, menus, art catalogs, exhibition texts... are all chances to practice your language skills.

Students are expected to have in their possession a current edition of the Student Handbook. Students are responsible for all the information contained in the handbook, and should refer to the handbook frequently for deadlines, policies, procedures, and responsibilities. The Studio Chair will provide further clarification, support and guidance during the academic term at the Pont-Aven School of Contemporary Art (PASCA).

Course Outline: Schedule of Topics, Activities and Readings
Weekly Topic/Activity/Assignment

Week 1 - Introduction

Week 2

Prononciation : l'alphabet et les consonnes

Les chiffres de zéro à trente

Vocabulaire : les salutations et expressions quotidiennes (1/2), les jours de la semaine, les mois et les saisons

Grammaire : les noms (*nouns*), féminin/masculin/pluriel, les articles (*articles*) : *definite article, Indefinite article*

Prononciation : voyelles

Les chiffres from 31 to 60

Vocabulaire : les expressions quotidiennes (2/2), la famille, les nationalités

Grammaire : *pronouns, subject pronouns, direct object pronouns, possessive adjectives, present tense : Verb ETRE (irregular), Verb AVOIR (irregular)*

Expression orale : inventez un dialogue

Week 3

Prononciation : les sons de 2 lettres ou plus

Les chiffres de 61 à 100

Vocabulaire : la nourriture (1/2) *food*

Expression orale : inventer un dialogue : au marché...

Grammaire : le présent (*present tense*), -ER verbs, *the negative form, Yes or no-question forms*

Prononciation : *nasal vowels*

L'heure (*time*)

Vocabulaire : la nourriture (2/2), les boissons

Expression orale : conversation : at the restaurant, inventer un dialogue : Au restaurant...

Grammaire : le présent des autres verbes (*present tense for other verbs*) *Most common irregular verbs*

Expression écrite : se présenter

Week 4

Prononciation : liaison

Les chiffres

Vocabulaire : le temps qu'il fait – La météo

Grammaire : verbes irréguliers (suite), les adjectifs *Demonstrative adjectives*

Madrid/Barcelone Cultural Site Seminar - Deadline for Worksheets

Week 5

Vocabulaire : le corps humain, les couleurs (1/2), les dates

Expression écrite : la description d'une personne

Grammaire : le présent des autres verbes : *-IR verbs*

Week 6

Vocabulaire : les transports

Grammaire : *reflexive verbs*

Conversation : à la gare

Expression écrite : une journée type

Vocabulaire : les vêtements/habits, les couleurs (2/2)

Grammaire : les mots interrogatifs, trop et assez

Expression orale : dialogue dans une boutique de vêtements...

Grammaire : les prépositions

Week 7

Expression orale et écrite : questionnaire sur Pont-Aven

Vocabulaire : la poste

Conversation : à la poste

Grammaire : expressions négatives

Deadline for Worksheets

Test

Week 8

Vocabulaire : les activités

Grammaire: le passé composé

Expression écrite : raconte ta journée d'hier.

Vocabulaire : la nature

Grammaire : la comparaison

Expression orale : conversation : à propos des vacances, invente un dialogue comparant la France et ton pays.

Expression écrite : compare la cuisine française à celle de ton pays

Week 9

Vocabulaire : les arts

Expression orale : parlons d'art...

Grammaire : le futur proche et le futur

Expression écrite : Quels sont tes projets pour le futur ? Imagine...

Culture française : Chanson de France Gall et Michel Berger : « Cézanne peint »

Vocabulaire : Paris

Chanson : « Paris s'éveille »

Culture française : DVD sur Paris

Week 10 – Paris and Berlin Study Trip (specific assignment)**Week 11 - Break****Week 12**

Review

Vocabulaire : tout revoir

Grammaire : revoir tous les temps

Expression écrite : exercices

Optionnel : écris une lettre à tes parents

Vocabulaire : la maison

Conversation : une maison à louer

Grammaire : les pronoms (2/2) *Indirect object pronouns*

Expression écrite : décris ta maison ou ton appartement dans ton pays

Optionnel : décris la maison dont tu rêves pour le futur.

Deadline for Worksheets

Week 13

Traduction des *artist's statements*.

Week 14

Vocabulaire : la Bretagne et la cuisine bretonne

Civilisation : la Bretagne

Grammaire : les adverbes et l'impératif

Vocabulaire : Pictionary

Conclusion

Deadline for Worksheets

Week 15

Questionnaire sur Quimper (excursion).

Dates and information on the above calendar are subject to change. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with hand-outs and assignment sheets for current information about this class.