Date: February 13, 2017

ROSE STATE COLLEGE

Division Course Syllabus

Division: Humanities
Course Prefix and Number: FREN 1115
Course Title: ELEMENTARY FRENCH I
Semester and Year Submitted: SPRING 2017
Prepared by: EDMUND GERT
Credit Hours: 5
Hours Per Week: Class 5, Lab 0

Course Description (as it appears in Catalog)
This course is an introduction to the French language. Through study of French grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation, this course emphasizes the development of speaking, writing, reading, and understanding the language at a novice level while developing an appreciation of life in France as well as other Francophone nations. Prerequisite: ENGL 1113 or concurrent enrollment

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Text(s):
Title: VIS-A-VIS: Beginning French
Author
Publisher: Amon / McGraw-Hill
Copyright Date: 2014
ISBN #
Reading Level: N/A

Supplemental Materials:
(Other books, audio visual aids, etc.)
Language Software
CDs/DVDs
French/English Dictionaries
Outline for Remainder of Syllabus:

Rationale:

Students who plan to transfer to four-year institutions and complete degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences are generally required to demonstrate some competence in a modern language. For those students with no language background, the elementary-level French courses provide the foundation for further study. Elementary French I serves to introduce the student to the formal study of the language. Elementary French II continues that study in greater depth.

Furthermore, there is demand for bilingual skills in the work place. In order to be more competitive in the global market, American workers must understand other cultures and demonstrate the ability to communicate in other languages.

Expected Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, this course will allow students to

1. communicate orally and in writing at a novice level of proficiency;
2. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the cultures studied;
3. reinforce and further their knowledge of other disciplines through language study while recognizing distinct viewpoints;
4. demonstrate understanding of the nature of language and cultures through comparisons of the language and cultures studied and their own language and cultures;
5. participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world.

Methods of Instruction:

- Brief lecture (introductory in English, review in French)
- Whole class discussion
- Demonstration
- Questioning
- Repetition drills
- Pattern drills
- Communicative paired activities
- Assigned conversational groups
- Brainstorming
- Role-playing
- Individualized instruction
- Audio-tutorial
- Total Physical Response
- Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling
- Internet Search Activities
**Assessment** (Including Critical Thinking measurements):

Recommended methods of assessment may include

Tests: At the completion of each unit, students may be required to complete a test. A final and/or midterm exam may be given by the instructor. Tests should evaluate all four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing).

Daily Participation: Instructors may choose to give students a daily participation grade. To receive full credit, students should be in attendance and participate in all in-class activities.

Daily Work and Quizzes: This includes both homework and announced or unannounced daily quizzes. Homework should be assigned for each class session.

Writing Activities: Instructors should have their students complete rudimentary writing activities from the very beginning of their language study.

Oral Evaluations: Individual exams requiring the student to ask and answer questions in French may be administered by the instructor. Times should be scheduled during class hours and, if necessary, during instructor’s office hours. The professor should determine how often oral evaluations are administered.

Students who successfully complete Elementary French I should be able to speak, listen, read, and write at a novice level. The following are based on the 2012 ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.

**Speaking:** Novice level speakers can communicate short messages on highly predictable, everyday topics that affect them directly. They do so primarily through the use of isolated words and phrases that have been encountered, memorized, and recalled. Novice level speakers may be difficult to understand even by the most sympathetic interlocutors accustomed to non-native speech.

**Listening:** Novice level listeners can understand key words, true aural cognates, and formulaic expressions that are highly contextualized and highly predictable, such as those found in introductions and basic courtesies. Novice level listeners understand words and phrases from simple questions, statements, and high-frequency commands. They typically require repetition, rephrasing, and/or a slowed rate of speech for comprehension. They rely heavily on extra-linguistic support to derive meaning. Novice level listeners are most accurate when they are able to recognize speech that they can anticipate. In this way, these listeners tend to recognize rather than truly comprehend. Their listening is largely dependent on factors other than the message itself.

**Reading:** At the novice level, readers can understand key words and cognates, as well as formulaic phrases that are highly contextualized. Novice level readers are able to get a limited amount of information from highly predictable texts in which the topic or context is very familiar. Readers at the novice level may rely heavily on their own background knowledge and extra-linguistic support to derive meaning. Readers at the novice level are best able to understand a text when they are able to anticipate the information in the text.
At the novice level recognition and key words, cognates, and formulaic phrases make comprehension possible.

**Writing:** Writers at the novice level are characterized by the ability to produce lists and notes, primarily by writing words and phrases. They can provide limited formulaic information on simple forms and documents. These writers can reproduce practiced material to convey the simplest messages. In addition, they can transcribe familiar words, phrases, letters, or reproduce basic characters with some accuracy.

**Learning Objectives:**

**Communicative objectives (Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)**

On written or oral examinations and in written assignments, students will be able to demonstrate in French that they can

- meet and greet others;
- spell using the French alphabet;
- perform simple math problems;
- talk about the calendar and dates;
- describe classrooms and college life;
- identify colors and describe using colors;
- describe themselves, other people, and things;
- ask and respond to simple questions;
- ask for and tell time;
- talk about what various people do, have to do, like to do, and should do;
- talk about things that belong to different people;
- talk about how various people feel and their emotional states;
- make plans to do something with someone;
- ask for and give simple directions;
- talk about various members of the family;
- express desires and preferences;
- plan activities;
- point out people and things to others;
- compare objects and people;
- talk about leisure activities;

Students’ ability to communicate orally and in writing will be gained through understanding of grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation.

**Grammatical Constructs needed for Communication (Outcomes 1, 3, 4, 5)**

- Subject pronouns
- Present tense of regular -ER, -IR, and –RE verbs;
- Present tense of irregular verbs: être, avoir, aller, faire, préférer, prendre, boire
- Nouns and definite, indefinite, and partitive articles
- Formation of yes/no questions and questions with interrogative words
- Possessive adjectives
- Adjective agreement and placement
- Prepositions
- Imperatives

Vocabulary (Outcomes 1, 3, 4, 5)

A variety of vocabulary topics will be learned by students to help them communicate in French. These typically may include

- greetings and leave-takings;
- classroom objects;
- descriptive words;
- leisure time activities;
- family members;
- rooms, furniture, and chores;
- weather
- food
- nationalities

Pronunciation (Outcomes 1, 4)

- Vowels and consonants
- Word stress
- Written accent marks

Cultural Awareness (Outcomes 2, 5)

In English and French, students will be able to demonstrate that they can

- Make connections to cultures of France and other Francophone regions and countries to their own culture.
- Identify differences in and similarities of customs, beliefs, philosophies between students' native culture and language and those studied.