

University School French

Instructor: Madame Bridges

Room: 217

Email: bridgesma@etsu.edu

Phone: 423-439-4333 (University School Office)

Required materials:

- Textbook and workbook: The textbook (\$80) and workbook (\$15) will be given to you at the beginning of the year. The textbook must be returned at the end of the year or you will be charged the cost to replace it.
- Binder or notebook with pockets: I recommend a three ring binder as the workbook you receive will be hole-punched to fit on the rings. As the year progress, the workbook has a tendency to fall apart if not kept in a binder. You will also have handouts and notes that you will want to keep secure and a binder works well.
- Pencils with black lead, pens with blue or black ink, and notebook paper for note taking and in-class activities
- A French/English dictionary is optional. If you have access to the Internet at home, I suggest using <http://www.wordreference.com> as your dictionary. It has a huge database and it is free. For those students wanting to purchase a dictionary, I recommend the Harper Collins dictionaries, which come in a variety of sizes and bindings. **Please do not use translating websites as they are frequently inaccurate and it will be obvious to me that you have used them. The use of translation websites would be considered cheating.**
- Shared classroom supplies:
 - If your last name begins with A-H, please bring: 1 box of Kleenex
 - If your last name begins with I-R, please bring: 1 pack of pencils
 - If your last name begins with S-Z, please bring: 1 pack college ruled notebook paper

Grading Policy:

All assignments are to be turned in on the due date. Late assignments will result in a zero. In the case of an excused absence or tardy, students are responsible to make-up the work. If an absence or tardy is unexcused by the administration, missed work will receive a zero. All sections of a homework assignment must be completed to receive credit. In doing your homework, if you come across a section that you do not fully understand, please offer your best guess. Each quarter your grade will be calculated according to the following percentages:

Tests	40%
Homework:	25%
Quizzes:	25%
Special Project:	10%

Your overall grade will be averaged as follows:

1 st quarter: 20%	3 rd quarter: 20%
2 nd quarter: 20%	4 th quarter: 20%
Midterm: 10%	Final: 10%

Learning Assessment:

Students will have a variety of ways to show their proficiency in the material that is covered.

- Tests: Tests account for 40 % of a student's grade. Typically, there are two-three tests per quarter.
- Quizzes: This category includes both announced and unannounced quizzes and is worth 25%.
- Homework: Homework, 25% of the total grade, is vitally important in developing a good foundation in language learning. Students will have homework most every night.
- Projects: Projects are 10% of the grade. Typically, there is one project per quarter. Projects can include plays, memorization of poems, reports, artwork, and cooking. Projects are often used to help students to better understand French culture.

Questions and Additional Help:

Students are welcomed and encouraged to discuss work in progress, grades, or other questions. I am available for after-school help on Mondays and Wednesdays or at other times by appointment.

Student Handbook:

Please take time to familiarize yourself with the student handbook as some policies have changed. Policies that are especially relevant include absences/tardies/make-up work, cheating/plagiarism, electronic devices, food/beverages, and dress code.

Tips for success in this course:

- **Come to class with a positive attitude**, a willingness to learn, and ALL of your materials. Henry Ford once said, “If you think you can do a thing, or think you can’t do a thing, you’re right.”
- **Be respectful** to and considerate of the teacher and your fellow students.
- **Do ALL the assigned work and hand it in on time.**
- **Participate.** Students that do not take an active part in class are not successful in this course.
- **Memorize.** Memorization is a main portion of learning a new language and is not optional. Memorize short phrases or sentences rather than individual words alone. Learn the ideas, not just the words.
- **Pay attention in class.** This will make your work outside class much easier. When the teacher is explaining or someone else is reciting, listen and think about what they are saying.
- **Imitate.** By listening and imitating me, you will improve your oral French. Try to imitate my pronunciation and speech pattern. In so doing, you form necessary habits that will make you a successful French student. By studying and reading aloud when you are alone, you develop good pronunciation habits and language fluency.
- **Study a little French every day.** Homework is part of the learning process. Doing homework helps you form good study habits and the vocabulary, syntax and language patterns that you learn from this will help you achieve mastery of the language.
- **Be authentic.** Do your own work and don’t copy. Both the student who copies work and the student who allows someone to copy their work will receive zeros for the assignment.
- **Do not fall behind.** Complete your daily work and you will find studying much more effective and long-lasting than if you try to cram at the last minute for a test or classroom performance. Successful foreign-language learners form good daily study habits and don’t rely on cramming before a quiz or an exam.
- **Build on what you already know.** As you progress in your language study, you will need to draw from what you learned the day before, the week before, the month before. In a foreign language course you build a strong foundation and keep adding to it. You can’t simply learn the material for a test and then forget it.

If you follow these hints, you will almost certainly succeed in your French work, enjoy your class, and form some great study habits.

Bonne chance! I’m looking forward to a great year!