Flagstaff Arts & Leadership Academy

**Middle School French** 2015-2016

***Instructor: Miss Neta Email: NNeta@flagarts.com Office: Room 15***

*Availability: Please, note that I am at FALA on B Days only*

***BELOW ARE THE BROAD GUIDELINES AND TENTATIVE PLANS FOR THE YEAR TO WHICH I RETAIN THE RIGHT TO ALTER THROUGHOUT THE DURATION OF THE COURSE.***

**Course Description and Academic Goals:** This is a beginning French course that aims to develop the student’s basic skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. The student can also expect to make cultural explorations of the francophone world. This course is focused on developing four essential language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In this course, students will apply their knowledge of the French language and culture to projects emphasizing communication, collaboration, creativity, and investment.

**Character Goals:** We will spend as much time as possible in class practicing new language, but you must take personal responsibility to PRACTICE, MEMORIZE, AND RETAIN new words and sentence structures. Students are expected to be on time, participate, and help others in the classroom. Students are also expected to respect the deadlines for homework and assignments.

**Course Webpage:** The course webpage will contain the following: brief description of what is covered every day, homework due that day, quizzes and projects due dates, extra material for practice (when applicable). It is YOUR responsibility to look at this webpage, especially when you are absent.

**Strongly Suggested Material:**

* A 3-ring binder with dividers
* Basic classroom supplies: writing utensils, highlighters, small craft scissors, colored pencils

**Textbook:**

* C’est à toi! Level 1

**Late Work and Make-up Practices for the Modern Languages Department:**

These practices vary depending on the assignment type. Please, see below the descriptions of each assignment for details on late work and make-up policy.

**INFORMAL ASSIGNMENTS**

**Informal assignments are worth 40 % of your final grades. There are NO retakes allowed on informal assignments. Late work will not be accepted for informal assignments.**

**Homework and Class Work**

Homework will be due at the beginning of the class period unless otherwise stated by the teacher. In this class, most homework will consist of short writing assignments in your journal. I will NOT accept late homework.

**Quizzes**

 There will be short informal quizzes throughout the year. Quizzes will be announced at least 2 class periods ahead of time. Some quizzes will focus on memorization (of grammar and vocabulary), whereas others will focus on communication skills (listening, reading, speaking, writing). For vocabulary quizzes, I will often upload the list of words to study on [www.quizlet.com](http://www.quizlet.com) for you to study and practice.

**Preparedness and Participation**

We will be practicing French in class and you will be graded daily on participation. Here are the values on which I will base that grade:

 0: Unexcused absence or significant tardy, or disruptive or off task, or largely idle or rude to others

 1: Participates in small or large group settings only when reminded or is impatient with others, may not always try to communicate in French

2: Makes positive and relevant contributions in small and large group settings, is courteous and helpful to others, and communicates in French

**Pen Pal Exchange Program**

We will be corresponding with French students through a website called Edmodo. Students will share their culture and practice their language skills while getting to know someone who lives in France!

**FORMAL ASSIGNMENTS**

**Formal assignments are worth 60% of your grade. Retakes are allowed on formal projects and ELA assignments, but NOT on finals or portfolios. Late work will be accepted up to a week late for formal projects, but will result in point loss.**

**Formal Projects**

At the end of each unit, there will be a formal project. These projects will focus on what was learned throughout the unit and will ask you to perform real-world tasks in French.

You will be allowed to revise your formal projects up to a week after the assignment is handed back to you. For example, if you turn in the project on a Thursday and I give it back to you the next Tuesday with feedback, you are allowed to revise your project up to the following Tuesday (included).

Students can earn 100% for retake on formal assessments. If you retake the assignment and get a lower grade, your grade will be the average of the two grades you obtained.

If you turn in your project late, you will lose points (as defined in the grading rubric). If you turn in your project more than a week late, you will receive a zero.
If you turn in your project late, you will NOT be allowed to revise it.

Students are encouraged to revise their formal projects because they strongly impact their course grade.

**ELA and Portfolio**

Over the course of the year, students will write an essay and a summary in English about a given topic related to the French-speaking world.

Students will choose projects that reflect improvement and reflect on their growth throughout the year. The entire portfolio will be graded at the end of the year for a formal grade in the second semester.

**Finals**

At the end of each semester, there will be a final. Final exams and projects will focus on the skills and material covered throughout the semester. Students are not allowed to retake the final exams/projects.

**Extra Credit:**

You can do ONE extra credit project per semester. Extra credit projects must be approved at least 2 weeks in advance of the date they are turned in. Extra credit projects will not be accepted after the day of the final in your class. Please, see the separate handout for details.

**Conduct:** In addition to abiding by the rules in the student handbook, please **no cell phones in class**.

The academic dishonesty policy prohibits plagiary and cheating of any kind. In a foreign language class this includes the use of computer translators. If you submit work done by a translator or plagiarized from the Internet, the consequences are as follows according to the student handbook:

 1st offense: Earn a zero on the assignment

 2nd offense: Potential loss of credit for the course

**Attendance/Tardy Policy:**

**Absences:** If you are absent and a homework assignment or project was due that day, your homework or project will be due the day you are back. If you were absent for a quiz, you will take the quiz on the B day you are back (during class or at lunch).

**Please, check the class webpage when you are absent.**

**Attendance and Performances:** Students must attend school on the day of and the day after major performances (i.e. theatre, dance, music, etc.). Students will not be allowed to perform if they do not attend school and this will impact their grade accordingly. Students who miss school after the day of a major performance will attend lunch detention to make up their missing work.

**Attendance and Illness/Medical Conditions:** Please keep your student home if they are sick. If they have a fever, do not send them back to school until they are fever-free (without the use of fever-reducing medications) for at least 24 hours. If your child is unable to participate in classes for longer than one hour then we require parents to pick up their student so that they can recover at home. Students can return to school when they are able to participate in their classes.

**Tardiness:** Arriving after the beginning of each class period constitutes a tardy. Tardy students MUST sign in at the front office before going to their class. Tardiness is disruptive to the learning environment of the school. Any student tardy 3 times (unexcused) in one month (cumulative) will receive lunch detention. After a student reaches these limits each additional tardy will result in a lunch detention. Eight tardies (unexcused or excused) in any class will result in required attendance at the Student Success Program (after school) or lunch detention. Students will remain in one of these programs until their teachers confirm that all of their missing work is completed

**Attendance/Tardy Policy:**

**See Student Handbook PG 16 – 22 for more detailed information including but not limited to, Loss of Credit, Performance attendance expectations, absences and tardiness.**

**FALA Attendance and Tardy Policy**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Short-term consequences****(Quarterly)** | **Long-term consequences** **(Per Semester)** |
| **FALA Excused Absences** | None | None |
| **Excused Absences** | No initial consequences | **5 cumulative absences** (excused or unexcused) in any given class - Warning Letter & Counselor meeting**8 cumulative absences** (excused or unexcused) in any given class - Warning Letter & must attend tutoring if grades are affected. |
| **Unexcused Absences** | Detention, in-school suspension | **10 cumulative absences** (excused or unexcused) in any given class - Warning Letter & Parent/Dean Meeting**11 cumulative absences** (excused or unexcused) in any given class - loss of credit |
| **FALA Excused Tardiness** | None | None |
| **Excused Tardiness** | 1st and 2nd tardy: Warning3rd tardy: Letter sent home4th tardy: Lunch Detention & Parent Notification5th tardy: Lunch Detention & Parent Meeting6th tardy: Lunch Detention7th tardy: Suspension (in-school)8th tardy: Considered Habitually Tardy. Further  disciplinary action. | Potential loss of credit due to inadequate Instructional seat minutesaccording to the State of Arizona. |
| **Unexcused Tardiness** |  |

**Grading Points and Scale:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Letter Grade** | **Numerical Average** | **Grade Point Value** |
| A+ | 99-100 | 4.0 |
| A | 93-98 | 4.0 |
| A- | 90-92 | 3.67 |
| B+ | 87-89 | 3.33 |
| B | 83-86 | 3.0 |
| B- | 80-82 | 2.67 |
| C+ | 77-79 | 2.33 |
| C | 73-76 | 2.0 |
| C- | 70-72 | 1.67 |
| D+ | 67-69 | 1.33 |
| D | 63-66 | 1.00 |
| D- | 60-62 | 0.67 |
| F | Less than 60 | 0.0 |

PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION OF THE SYLLABUS BYOUR SECOND CLASS MEETING**.**

I have read and understood the syllabus. I agree to all terms.

Student: Signature:

Parent: Signature:

Comments: