

FRENCH CLASS EXPECTATIONS
Fall Semester 2007-2008
Charlotte Horovitz

COURSE GOALS:

My principle goals are for students to increase their fluency and to gain a solid structural understanding of the French language. Students should be able to hold basic conversations and comprehend the gist of any French they hear. It is essential that they practice their skills DAILY. Practice can take many forms; reading their textbook, learning new vocabulary, completing homework handouts, or best of all speaking and practicing together (I strongly encourage students to work together speaking French). It's no secret that the more you practice the better you get and it's a great asset to develop some solid study skills now, early in the game.

TEXT:

Parallèles, Communication et Culture. This is a college text beginning with a review of elementary French and ending at what would be considered third-year high school French. As mentioned in the text's introduction: "Parallèles develops the students' linguistic skills in tandem with their conceptual and cultural knowledge". It strikes a good balance between introducing new material and repeating old material as well as key cultural facts. I will also include extra cultural and historical facts throughout the year (in conjunction with the text book).

TOOLS THE STUDENTS WILL NEED:

- a) Students are expected to have their text, *Parallèles*, for each class (unless otherwise specified).
- b) A three-ring binder with dividers for handouts and class notes (sheets of lined paper). The binder and its contents must be brought to each class. Notes must be taken in class (date each entry).
- c) A French/English dictionary. It is not required to have it in class at all times, but encouraged.
- d) A computer! We will be working on the *Parallèles* publisher website.

REQUIREMENTS FOR COURSE CREDIT:

- a) Regular class attendance. Miss 8 classes (per semester) - no credit. If you do miss a class, for any reason, you are responsible for getting the information from a classmate.
- b) Class participation. Every student is expected to fully participate in class. The oral repetitions may seem tedious at times, but they work! If I have to remind a student more than 5 times (per semester) to "wake up and participate" - no credit.
- c) Homework/Assignments. All homework must be returned on time, if late they must be turned in by next class or they will be counted as missed. 2 misses (per semester), no credit. No missed major assignments.
- d) Assessments/Quizzes. Weekly quizzes, mid-term assessments, and term assessments must score 80% or higher or students will need to retake the quiz/assessment until they score 80% or higher.