

MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
MODL 1720, French I
Course Syllabus

Course Description

Per the California Modern Language Standards, the Level I French course seeks to teach effective basic communication (words and rehearsed phrases) and appropriate responses to everyday cultural situations and to increase cultural understanding and global perspective. Vocabulary, grammar, and structures are presented in real-life contexts and are developed around specific communicative functions.

Curricular Mapping

Grammar and vocabulary are presented as tools for effective communication. Each lesson incorporates engaging, dramatic and authentic videos, literary and cultural readings, and integrated technology tools to support skill-building and promote cultural understanding of the francophone world.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to use words and phrases and appropriate responses to rehearsed cultural situations and develop an awareness of francophone cultures and an appreciation of the relationship between language and culture. They will learn the phonetic structures and pronunciation of the French language and will be able to read beyond the first year level as they learn to use cognates. As they focus on increasingly complex grammatical structures, they will increase their awareness and understanding of English structures and proper English grammar.

Texts

- Your necessary digital texts for this class will be part of a “Required Course Materials Fee” thru the EdTech bookstore. This is a bundle purchase of digital texts for your full schedule of classes and will be available for purchase after 7/18/16. For further instructions please visit the [16-17 School Year](#) icon on the MVCS homepage. Please note: some courses may require additional purchases outside of the course materials fee.
- French/English dictionary (suggested choice for print version is Collins; suggested choice for app is Larousse French/English dictionary for \$4.99 or Collins French Dictionary for \$9.99)
- Class subscriptions for *Yabla*, *Conjugueamos*, and *Quizlet* will cost \$15.00 for the year, payable to the business office by the end of the first week of class.
- Various apps may be used, and most will be free:
 - Duolingo French (free)

- French Verb Conjugation – Maître de Conjugaison by Joseph Williamson (free, but some French classes may need to buy the upgrade for \$5.99)
- French Verb Conjugator/Conjugation with Vatefaireconjuguer.com by GymGlish A9 (free)
- Doceri (free)
- Notability or another note-taking app (you should have this already)
- iMovie or another movie-making app (you should have this already)
- Google Docs (free)
- Google Slides (free)
- Keynote or another presentation app (you should have this already)

Prerequisites

None

Course Outline

- Unité 1 (greetings and goodbye, expressions of courtesy) - people and things around a classroom, nouns and articles, numbers 0-60, the verb *être*, adjective agreement, greetings and manners, French diversity, and Le Monde francophone
- Unité 2 (academic life, everyday activities) - present tense of regular –er verbs, forming questions and expressing negation, present tense of *avoir*, telling time, French school life, le bac, et la France
- Unité 3 (family, friends, pets, more descriptive adjectives, professions and occupations) - possessive adjectives, numbers 61-100, prepositions of locations and disjunctive pronouns, the family in France, relationships, and Paris
- Unité 4 (places/activities around town, going to a café) - the verb *aller*, interrogative words, the verbs *prendre* and *boire*, partitives, regular –ir verbs, popular leisure activities, café culture, la Normandie, and la Bretagne

Grading

<u>Grade Book Categories</u>		<u>Semester Weighted Grading Configuration</u>	
Classwork & Homework	20%	Quarter	45%
Tests and Quizzes	40%	Quarter	45%
Projects/Essays/Oral Reports	30%	Final Exam	10%
Classroom Participation	10%		

The semester grade calculation for French I is 45% for the first quarter, 45% for the second quarter and 10% for the final exam. This course will be graded on the following major components:

- Classwork & Homework – 20%
- Most work for this course will be done in class. In-class work and homework can include reading, completing book work, watching/responding to videos, completing short written assignments, drilling vocabulary, verbs, and phrases, taking notes, and, of course, studying. Please note that all work needs to be handed in on time.
- Classwork/Homework: Full credit will be issued if turned in by the bell that marks the beginning of school (8:10 a.m. or 8:45 a.m.). Any work turned in after the bell but within 24 hours will receive 50% credit. After 24 hours, no credit will be given for late work.
- **Homework expectations per night:** There will be an average of 20 min. of homework per night. Suggested additional work will be available for those interested in excelling in/mastering the French language.
- Tests and Quizzes – 40%
- Tests will require you to be familiar with the material we have studied, and tests are cumulative (they will assume that you remember what you learned before). Tests will come in the form of multiple choice, short answer, and essays. Please note—if you know about a test before a planned absence, you will be required to take the test directly upon returning to school. Quizzes will be given periodically to challenge you to keep up to date with the material. A quiz may be given on short notice or with no notice whatsoever.
- Projects/Essays/Oral Reports – 30%
- Projects will provide opportunities for you to go in-depth with a particular topic we are studying. You will be able to express yourself creatively and artistically. Some projects will provide the opportunity to work cooperatively in groups with your classmates, while others may be accomplished on your own. Writing assignments will allow you to do some research and express yourself through prose. Oral reports will require you present something that you have studied and researched in front of the class. This segment of your grade is where you will be able to demonstrate in a practical manner what you have learned.

****** On all work, please note that Google Translate or similar software is not to be used. You need to stick to words and phrases that we have learned, since translation software doesn't usually provide accurately translated sentences, and the purpose of these projects is to practice and demonstrate the knowledge you have attained.

- Projects and papers will be deducted 25% each day beyond their due date.
- Participation – 10%
 - You are expected to participate in this class. Two of the main pillars of learning a language are listening and speaking. The more you are willing to actively participate in class, the more you and your fellow students will derive benefit.

You will be expected to communicate in the target language unless the teacher indicates otherwise.

High School Standard Grading Policy:

Please refer to the policy and procedures posted online in our Parent-Student Handbook.

Class Policies

The following policies are non-negotiable. Please see the teacher if you have any concerns with your ability to follow these policies:

1. Respect others and contribute to a safe and accepting environment so that all will feel comfortable taking risks practicing another language. Respect teacher and class time by staying on task and by not being a distraction to others. Devices that are a distraction will be removed from you.
2. Attendance: Students are expected to be in class daily. If you are unable to attend, it is your responsibility to get the classwork and homework missed. If you have questions, seek out answers.
3. Tardiness: When the bell rings, be in your seat and ready for work.
4. Enjoy water (in a bottle) in class but not food or other drinks.
5. Bathroom: Students should plan on using the bathroom before or after class.

School Policies and Expected Student Learning Results (ESLRs):

Students are subject to all academic policies of the school as found in the Parent-Student Handbook. Furthermore, it is each student's responsibility to read and follow all academic policies of Monte Vista Christian School. In addition to addressing each ESLR every year, we target a specific ESLR each academic year for particular focus.

Tips for the Students

1. Be proactive in improving your skills, work hard, come to class prepared, and seek help early.
2. Do all assignments completely and according to the instructions (not in a rush just before it is due!).
3. Participate.
4. Ask questions.
5. Take notes.
6. Do your work wholeheartedly, not just to check a box – this is how you will master the language.

Miscellaneous

1. You can access your grades on Focus. (Parents – the grade you see in Focus during first two weeks of any quarter might not be indicative of your student's final grade.)
2. Google Classroom will be used to assign work and communicate announcements. You will need to subscribe to the class (and be sure you choose to receive email notifications) in order to receive crucial information and to turn in assignments by uploading work.
3. Your iPad will need to be present in class every day and should be charged sufficiently to make it through class. The iPad can be used for note taking and will be often utilized for various in-class work.
4. We will be using our language learning to talk about and study many aspects of life, as language is all-encompassing in a culture. This means that we will definitely be using our language to sing worship songs and talk about the Bible and God! :)
5. This should go without saying, but copying someone else's work as your own is considered cheating and will result in a zero and a referral. Along those lines, do NOT share your work with another student. Doing so will earn you a zero, as well. Each student must do his/her own work!
6. Technical issues (internet/iPad) need to be communicated with the teacher immediately so that troubleshooting/alternative means for completing work may be accomplished. Communicating issues upon arrival in class when an assignment is due is too late. Extensions will most likely not occur in this case, and corroboration of an issue by a parent will be required in most instances. In short, communicate before deadlines!
7. One or more field trips will take place during the year – cost will vary from \$20-30 per field trip.
8. The students will also be communicating and collaborating with French-speaking students from a francophone country! In fact, this year we are planning an exchange, so you will have an opportunity to host one of our pen pals, and your student may go to France during Easter Break with us to tour France and visit our pen pals, too!

Bon courage à tous – on va s'amuser et apprendre beaucoup!