

## Fall 2011 Beginning French Syllabus

**Course #16100000 (6th) and #26101300 (7th)**

**Riverside Middle School**

**Mme. Traynham**

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**Room 123**

**864-355-7949**

### **Course Description:**

This is a semester course, to introduce students to a foreign language, based on speaking and listening activities in French. Students will focus on conversational French and use drama, art, music and hands on activities to aid their foreign language acquisition.

### **Course Objectives:**

Students will communicate in French working through thematic units, using beginning level vocabulary. They will gain knowledge of other cultures and will connect with art and music. Students will also use foreign language skills to participate in our multilingual community.

### **Required Materials:**

- 1" three-ring binder with pockets, or purchase folder for binder
- 1 pack of notebook paper for binder, or separate notebook
- Pens, pencils and markers or colored pencils
- 3 spiral-bound sets of note cards
- 1-2 dry erase markers
- Personal-sized hand sanitizer
- \* A French/English dictionary is highly recommended but not required

**This class conforms to all school and district procedures and policies. However, following are some additional rules and procedures for my class.**

### **Class Rules:**

1. Choose to cooperate and learn.
2. Sit in your assigned seat daily, with all necessary materials for class.
3. Respect all classroom items as if they are your most prized possession.
4. Encourage all classmates!

### **Class Procedures:**

1. All students will enter the classroom in an orderly manner, sit in their assigned seat and put their completed homework on the corner of their desk.
2. Any purses or bags will be kept at the front of the room, under the table.

3. Students will copy the new homework assignment, from the board, into their agenda and then immediately follow the given directions, on the board, for bell work.
4. All students will be expected to participate daily and follow directions as they are given.
5. No food, drink, gum or cell phones will be allowed in class.
6. Students will raise their hand before speaking or leaving their seat and if using pencils, they must only be sharpened before class.
7. Students will head papers properly and complete all assignments by their due date.
8. Absolutely no late homework will be accepted, from those who were present on the day it was assigned, for full credit. Students who come to class without completed homework will be required to fill out a homework excuse slip for documentation and receive half credit if returned the next day. After an additional day late, a grade of zero will be given.
9. Students who are absent will be responsible for obtaining their missed classroom work and assigned homework/projects, when they return, from the *While You Were Gone ...* folder.
10. Due to high frequency of group/partner work in class, there are special group procedures posted.
11. All students will encourage each other to succeed and laugh with each other, not at each other's mistakes.
12. The bell does not dismiss the class. Mme Traynham dismisses the class with "Bonne Journée." Students may only retrieve or pack up their possessions at this time.

**Group Work Procedures:**

1. You are responsible for your own job and the results of the group.
2. If you have a question, ask your support buddies first.
3. You must be willing to help if a support buddy asks for help.
4. If no one in the group can answer a question, appoint one person to raise a hand for help from the teacher.

**Course Evaluation:**

Major assessments will equal at least 3 per quarter totaling 50% of the final grade. This includes tests, interviews, presentations and significant portfolio projects. Minor assessments will equal a minimum of 12 per quarter totaling 50%. This includes quizzes, homework, note card checks and minor portfolio work. All homework will be graded and returned by the next school day. Minor assessments will be graded within two to three days and major assessments will be graded within three to five days.

**SC Academic Standards for Modern Languages:**

**Standard 1.1** Students engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.

**Standard 1.2** Students understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics.

**Standard 1.3** Students present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics.

**Standard 2.1** Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and the perspectives of the cultures studied.

**Standard 2.2** Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and the perspectives of the cultures studied.

**Standard 3.1** Students reinforce and further their knowledge of other disciplines through the foreign language.

**Standard 3.2** Students acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are only available through the foreign language and its cultures.

**Standard 4.1** Students demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of the language studied and their own.

**Standard 4.2** Students demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.

**Standard 5.1** Students use the language both within and beyond the school setting.

**Riverside Middle School Grading Scale:**

93-100	A
85-92	B
77-84	C
70-76	D
0-69	F

**Re-Do Policy for the Related Arts Team:**

Students earning a grade of 69 or below on a daily assignment/homework assignment will be given 24 hours to arrange a make-up time: before or after school upon teacher discretion. All work must be made up within 3 school days. The "re-do" grade will be averaged with the original grade. This policy is not applicable to projects, quizzes, or tests. Common expectations for acceptable/complete work are completeness, neatness, proper heading, and evidence of student's original work.

**Course Outline**

**Introductory Unit for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7th Grade "How to Survive in a Language Class"**

- Greetings, introductions and basic courtesies
- Proper use of register
- High frequency commands
- Classroom objects, locations and routines
- Teacher expressions
- High frequency prepositional phrases

Question words (who, what, where, why when)  
Survival phrases and commands for rules and procedures  
Reaction words and expressions  
Count out rhymes and songs  
Pronunciation of alphabet in French  
Punctuation and accent marks  
Cognates and Faux amis  
Basics of the Francophone world and French influence  
Géoculture of Paris  
Role play and interview assessments

### **Unit 1 for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7th Grade “All About Me”**

Vocabulary to identify people  
Forms of “avoir” to tell age and personal characteristics  
Adjective agreement  
Forms of “être” to identify people  
Physical characteristics  
Colors  
Profession vocabulary  
Questions to ask what people are like  
Personality traits  
Structures to express interest  
Questions to ask about others’ interests and degree of such  
Questions for gathering information and conjunctions  
Numbers 1-100  
Word order and intonation to form questions  
La Toussaint presentation  
Interpretive assessment, interview with peer and personality profile

### **Unit 2 for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade “Healthy Me”**

Food groups and vocabulary pertaining to each  
Dining habits of the French  
Structures to describe personal tastes  
Regional specialties  
Celebrations involving food  
Recipe research for “French Feast”  
Body image of target culture  
Telling time by the minute, 1/2 hour and hour  
Months and days of the week  
Words to describe family life  
Sports and hobbies that affect our health  
Parts of the body  
Games such as “Simon Says”  
Recipe research for French Feast

Skits

Interpretive assessment, peer interpersonal and personal food pyramid presentation

**Unit 2 for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade "Let's Travel!"**

Geographical terms

Verb "aller" + infinitive

Directional words and expressions

Transportation vocabulary

Places of interest

Clothing vocabulary

Animals

Weather and seasonal terms

Telling time by the minute, 1/2 hour and hour

Tourist activities

Basic geography of France

Important information about 10 French cities

Recipe research for "Francophone World Feast"

Geographical interpretive assessment

Weather and clothing interpersonal

Francophone country presentation

**\* \* \* This course outline is tentative and subject to change; use only as a guideline. \* \* \***

**You may contact me at [ttraynha@greenville.k12.sc.us](mailto:ttraynha@greenville.k12.sc.us) with any questions.**