Mme Katie Gordon Français I

kgordon@asfa.k12.al.us Room 246

Alabama School of Fine Arts

Course Description:

French I is a course in which the student will be introduced to basic French vocabulary and grammar. Emphasis will be placed on speaking the language; therefore, participation is very important. We will also discover French and francophone history and culture and enjoy some of the contributions of French-speaking artists and intellectuals.

Required Text:

Holt McDougal. *Bien dit! (rouge)* and accompanying workbook. The textbook will be kept in class, but it can be accessed outside of class via my.hrw.com. Students will be instructed on how to access the site the first week of school.

Grade Distribution:

There are two different categories: assessments and classwork/homework, and grades will be averaged using a total points system. Assessments are considered quizzes, chapter tests, projects, and exams. Typically, classwork will be graded for correctness, and homework will be graded for completeness.

Assignments:

In order to progress in this class, students must review the material daily. Quizzes may or may not be announced. Tests, projects, and exams will be announced in advance in class. Due dates will be posted on the board in class. Quizzes will generally focus on a specific concept from a single lesson. Tests will evaluate a chapter and will often combine grammar, vocabulary, and culture. Projects will typically be collaborative and creative. Guidelines for projects will be given in class and posted on Google Classroom. Exams will be cumulative.

Materials:

* 3-ring binder or spiral notebook, dedicated to French I (no sharing with other subjects)
* Writing utensils: blue or black ink pen or pencil for assignments and a different color pen for peer corrections
* Approved electronic device with headphones. Students will keep their devices in their bags unless needed for a specific activity. Please note: cell phones do not constitute approved devices according to the BYOD policy.

Policies:

* **Behavior:** There are 3 rules that I expect everyone to follow in my classroom:
  + Be on time. [Tardiness is disruptive. Get to class on time.]
  + Be prepared. [Bring appropriate materials to class every day. Take care of yourself.]
  + Be respectful. [Always respect your classmates, yourself, and your instructor. Rude comments or behavior will not be tolerated.]
* **Academic integrity:** Cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is taking the words or ideas of others and using them as one’s own. This includes the work of your classmates, as well as what you find on the Internet or in books. *This also includes using an online translator.* Plagiarism will result in a grade of zero on that assignment. The incident will be written up for further disciplinary action, and parents will be notified.
* **Absences:** When a student is absent for any reason, it is the student’s responsibility to find out about any missed assignment. I use the “three, then me” rule: First ask three students about the assignment. If they cannot tell you, then you can ask me. (Also, assignments will be written on the board and/or Google Classroom.)
* **Late assignments:** There will be a 20% deduction in the grade for all late assignments, unless a student has an excused absence. In the case of an illness, the student must make arrangements upon his/her return to complete the assignment in a timely manner. If a student has to miss class because of a school-sponsored activity, arrangements for assignments must be made **prior** to the scheduled absence. At any time, if a student knows of an absence in advance, the student must notify me in person to make arrangements for assignments. I will handle any emergency situation that may arise on a case by case basis.
* **Electronic devices:** Unless otherwise instructed, cell phones should be stored where your instructor and classmates cannot see or hear them. If a cell phone goes off in class, or the student chooses to get out his/her phone without permission, your teacher will confiscate it. The first time this happens, the student may retrieve the cell phone at the end of the academic day. If it happens a second time, the phone will be turned in to Mr. Marble, who will contact the student’s parents about retrieving it. If a student gets out a device during an assessment, the student will receive an automatic zero on that quiz or test.
* **Food and drinks:** Students are allowed to bring water to class, but it must be kept in a tightly sealed container. All food must be approved by the instructor prior to being brought into the classroom due to food allergies.

Please be sure to complete the Parent/Guardian Information Sheet on my ASFA webpage by Friday, August 26.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfuU4xwSvns_vo6UFet_rWC28TMlJot9VESKEDMl7hRO7fm3g/viewform?usp=sf_link>

I look forward to an exciting and successful school year!

Amitiés,

Madame Katie Gordon