

## TO THE STUDENTS OF FRENCH 1103

### Course description:

French 1103 is a one-semester **intensive** elementary French course designed for students who have had 1-2 years of high school French OR who have scored between 260 and 349 on the Vanderbilt placement test. If you have questions about your placement, please see your instructor as soon as possible. French 1103 is offered during the fall and spring semesters as well as during the summer session at Vanderbilt-in-France.

French 103 is the next course in the sequence; it is offered in the fall and spring semesters and also during the summer session at Vanderbilt-in-France.

### Required texts:

*Points de départ* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition) and the accompanying **access to MyFrenchLab**

**\*\* Your textbook will be in loose-leaf form in the bookstore. PURCHASE a 3-ring binder for your book.**

### Learning goals:

During the semester you will develop literacy skills in French by reading, writing, and talking about a variety of topics. In addition, you will develop awareness about second language learning and reflect on the ways that studying French language and culture shapes your identity as a multilingual, multicultural citizen of the world. To achieve these goals we expect you to spend about 2 hours preparing for each hour spent in class. French 1103 is a 3-credit course therefore you should plan to devote **6 hours per week preparing for class and completing assigned work.**

### Exams:

After each even-numbered chapter you will complete a take-home exam. These exams are designed to assess your understanding of the topics and readings as well as your use of the vocabulary and structures. Your teacher will distribute the exams at the end of class and you will turn them in at the beginning of the following class.

**Procedure:** After studying you will open the seal on the exam and write in ONE sitting, working independently with no resources of any kind. You will have 75 minutes to complete the exam. At the end of the exam you will sign your name indicating your work was done without consulting any outside resources.

### Classroom activities:

Class time will be devoted primarily to communicative activities; review of grammar concepts is to be completed before class. Thus, you must complete homework assignments before coming to class in order to participate. Because it is important to develop good listening skills, the class will be conducted almost entirely in French. **DO NOT PANIC**. It is important to relax and have a positive attitude about your language learning experience. If you feel unable to understand what goes on in class, make an appointment to talk to your instructor.

### Homework:

The syllabus and homework assignments are posted on **OAK**. Most of the homework exercises are on **MyFrenchLab**. Some exercises are computer-graded while others are graded by your instructor, but you are required to complete all the audio and written exercises listed on OAK and assigned in **MyFrenchLab**. Occasionally your instructor will require you to complete homework assignments on paper to turn in, as indicated on the syllabus.

**\*\*Your success in this course will depend largely on your autonomous preparation.**

### Written expression:

You will have five written assignments during the semester. The topics are indicated in the syllabus. Include a works cited page to include any research referenced in your assignment. There are five “writing workshops” included in the course calendar, during which you will proof and revise a draft of your composition. Your instructor will discuss this in class.

### **Oral presentations:**

Three times during the semester you will have oral presentations on a topic selected at the beginning of the semester. You may record your presentations using a variety of programs available on smart phones, computers, etc.

- 1) For the first presentation, you will record yourself reading a paragraph aloud in French and submit it to your instructor via Box.
- 2) For the second presentation, you will perform a dialogue between a classmate and yourself; recording of the dialogue is to be submitted to your instructor.
- 3) For the third presentation, you will present your selected topic to the class. The presentation cannot exceed the time limit and only one slide is permitted. You must submit your slide in advance to your instructor.

### **Center for Second Language Studies:**

Located in Furman 001, the Center provides iPads and digital recorders for students to use on-site. Foreign language TV programs run in the lounge space all day. For further information about the Center:

<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/cs/sl/>

### **Attendance:**

We expect you to attend every class, however you are permitted 3 unexcused absences. If you choose to miss class **you may NOT make up any missed work**. After three absences, each unexcused absence will result in lowering the final grade by **one** point. Absences will be considered excused with *written documentation* by a physician or the Dean's office. If you are a member of a Vanderbilt sports team and must miss class for sport events, you must bring written documentation from your athletic director.

We also expect you to come to class on time. Tardiness will be sanctioned as follows: **3 tardies = 1 absence**.

### **Classroom policies:**

Silence your cell phone **before** class starts. **NO TEXTING IS ALLOWED** during class. Because we hope to initiate you to cultural expectations of the francophone world, we ask that you refrain from chewing gum and eating during class.

### **Honor code:**

All work for this class must be done independently unless otherwise specified by your instructor. Please inform your instructor if you are getting help **from anybody**. Also note that anything copied off the internet is "plagiarism" unless the sources are clearly cited.

### **Your grade for this class will be based on the following criteria:**

Class participation & preparation (as outlined in assessment rubric)	20%
Oral presentations (3 @ 5% each)	15%
Written expression (5 @ 3% each)	15%
Take-home exams (5 @ 10% each)	50%

**→ FINAL EXAM TO BE TURNED IN BEFORE 5 P.M. ON THURSDAY, APRIL 23**

### **GRADING SCALE FOR ALL 100-LEVEL FRENCH COURSES**

95 -100: A	87 – 89: B+	77 – 79: C+	67 – 69: D+
90 - 94: A-	84 – 86: B	74 – 76: C	64 – 66: D
	80 – 83: B-	70 – 73: C-	60 – 63: D-

**→ Consider studying at Vanderbilt-in-France!! <http://www.vanderbilt-in-france.com/>**