

French 464W Syllabus

Fall 2007

Professor: Dr. Shirin Edwin

Textbook: Entretiens

Office: Evans 307

Office Phone: 294 4732

**Office Hours: TuTh 1 :00-2 :00 pm,
3 :30-4 :30 pm**

E-mail: see001@shsu.edu

Course: French 464(minor/major)

**Course meeting times: TuTh@
2:00-3:20**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is meant for students pursuing a minor in French. It is designed for those who have completed at least four or more semesters of college-level French or the equivalent. This is an advanced level course on a special topic. The special topic-conversation and modern French usage focuses on oral skills in French. These skills are acquired and enhanced through listening and reading skills and vocabulary acquisition. At the end of the course, a successful student will be able to grasp the nuances of French usage and engage in a simple to complex conversation in French on a number of topics and will have firmly mastered all the necessary grammatical structures required for success in this course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course will emphasize **oral** skills. Students should expect oral drills on pronunciation and **actively engage** in conversations- modeling behavior, role-playing and extemporaneous speech in simple French. In class activity will also comprise of reading exercises to improve intonation, pronunciation with the objective of making students comfortable and confident in orally producing French.

STYLE:

This class meets 2 days a week (on Tuesdays and Thursdays) for 1 hour and twenty minutes on each class day (i.e. 2:00 p.m. till 3:20 p.m.). The class will mostly comprise of instruction and testing of vocabulary and in class student participation in practice conversations along with exercises from the textbook that students will be expected to complete orally, teacher prepared exercises and activities, internet-web based exercises and listening and reading comprehension exercises. **The focus of all the above in-class activities/exercises will be to improve oral communication skills.**

CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT:

Please refer to <https://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>

***ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Please refer to Academic Policy Statement 810213.

*All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of f resource materials.

YOUR ENROLLMENT IN THIS CLASS CONSTITUTES YOUR LEGAL AND MORAL OBLIGATION TO THE HONOR CODE. Because this course is a listening, speaking, reading, and writing one, I encourage you to work together. **HOWEVER,** plagiarism--copying others' work with out crediting them for it--is legally and ethically unacceptable--AND GROUNDS FOR FAILURE, NOT JUST IN THE ASSIGNMENT, BUT IN THE CLASS. Paraphrases, as well quotes, must be documented. See the article, *Plagiarism*, posted in documents in Blackboard.

PHILOSOPHY:

This is an UNIVERSITY-LEVEL ACADEMIC COURSE WITH APPROPRIATE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS. You earn your grade on that basis. You do not receive university credit for "gender and/or ethnic consciousness" or language ability per se. Academic credit is based upon your intellectual and academic efforts, willingness and ability to reflect upon and respond to requirements of the class.

INTERACTION:

RESPECT FOR OTHERS' VIEWS AND SPACE, not necessarily in agreement with one's own, is required on the part of every participant, including what is expressed, shared, etc., in the course of class interaction.

***CELL PHONES & PAGERS:**

Please refer to Section 5.2.22 of the Code of Conduct.

CELL PHONES AND PAGERS must be on vibrate during class time except in pre-arranged-with-the-professor possibility of medical emergency to avoid grade sanctions.

GENERAL STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL MATERIAL, in books, presented in class, etc., whether you are listening or not.

YOU ARE PERSONALLY & SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR ACTIVITIES (ASKING QUESTIONS OR DOING HOMEWORK) IN ORDER TO MEET YOUR PERSONAL EXPECTATIONS AND DESIRE FOR SUCCESS/GRADE. Probable daily time needed for homework outside class will be a minimum of one to two hours per hour spent in class (3-6 hours per week). "Homework" is largely left to your discretion--you must assess how well you understand and how much practice, reading or written work outside of class you need. You are responsible for anything and everything in the syllabus, book or said in class. You are expected to highlight reading and take notes in class. You are expected to keep in contact with the professor and other students as personally needed.

***INSTRUCTOR EVALUATIONS:**

*Students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form towards the end of the semester.

***AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:**

*It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the University. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. The students should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

*SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If a student has a disability that may affect adversely his/her work in this class, then the student is encouraged to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with the instructor about how best to deal with the situation. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. **NOTE: No accommodation can be made until the student registers with the counselling center.**

***RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:**

*Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

“Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

***VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM:**

*Unannounced visitors to class must present a current official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

This policy is not intended to discourage the occasional visiting of classes by responsible persons. Obviously, however, the visiting of a particular class should be occasional and not regular, and it should in no way constitute interference with registered members of the class or the educational process.

***ATTENDANCE/PUNCTUALITY POLICY:**

You are expected to come to class regularly and punctually. **A)** You are allowed only 2 absences during the semester. Every absence beyond the permitted two absences will result in a 1 point deduction from your final grade. Absences documented with a doctor's note or family emergencies such as funeral or serious sickness are considered excused absences and you will not be penalized for them. However, absences due to fraternity, sorority and club meeting and activities are considered unexcused and you will be penalized for these. **B)** You are also allowed only two tardies during the semester-every tardy beyond two results in a 1 point deduction from your final grade. **C)** If you are a member of the university sports team, please notify your professor as soon as possible with a written letter from your coach with the dates you will miss on account of matches or sports meets.

***REQUIRED TEXTS AND REFERENCE/READING LIST**

Entretiens

***REQUIRED SUPPLIES**

- something with pockets for class materials (handouts, notes, etc.) with lined notebook paper for your own use plus journal entries
- pencil or pen for taking notes in class
- personal skills and attitudes: enthusiasm and interest; listening skills, willingness to speak and open-mindedness; time every day outside of class for reading and reflection, awareness that this class is an academic experience which requires intellectual efforts and results

***GRADE BREAK UP:**

Attendance=10%
Participation= 10%
Exams= 40% (4X 10% each)
Quizzes= 20% (4x 5%)
Final= 20%

***ASSIGNMENTS:**

COMPONENTS/EXPLANATIONS OF ASSIGNMENTS/GRADES AS

APPLICABLE TO UNDERGRADUATE

PRESENCE & PARTICIPATION IN CLASS:

Be present in class, having previously prepared each oral assignment on the schedule portion of the syllabus before coming to the class when that assignment will be discussed/practiced in class. Suggestions: Reflect afterwards and make notes of questions/observations.

***EXAMS**

You will be required to take 4 chapter exams during the semester. These exams will be oral in nature- topics on the exams will be announced and practiced in class during the classes leading up to the exams. Your final will be comprehensive and will cover all material discussed/practised in class during the semester. In addition, you will have 4 short quizzes-these will be written and will test vocabulary/expression acquisition useful for oral skills.

***STUDY TIPS**

MODERN LANGUAGE LEARNING STRATEGIES: FRENCH

GENERAL RULE OF THUMB: TRY TO INCORPORATE FRENCH INTO YOUR REGULAR, EVERYDAY LIFE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

Practice listening and speaking:

make a friend who speaks FRENCH (either as a student or as a native:
attend FRENCH Club

Practice listening:

watch television: news reports on TV5, anything on TV5
listen to the radio
go to movies or rent videos in FRENCH
Watch cartoons in French on www.youtube.com

Practice reading:

Buy or borrow books or articles in FRENCH: children's level, your particular interest: cookbooks, medical studies, etc.

Subscribe to, buy or borrow a newspaper or magazine: Paris Match, Elle etc(Ask your instructor for these)

Practice writing:

find a pen pal: write and receive letters in French
keep a journal/diary in French
write your notes in French

SPECIFIC STUDY STRATEGIES

Study with other students
get a tutor

Buy or borrow a workbook or a text by another author:
write out exercises

Review your text:
table of contents (write all you know and check)
exercises (redo)

Make note cards:
use ink colors to indicate gender of nouns, etc.
make visualization/collage cards

Listen to your text tapes extra times or get other tapes
repeat
do exercises in accompanying workbooks

Use computer programs:
Language Lab
Library
Personal software available