

Board Approval Date: August 27, 2018

Guidelines: Advanced Placement French Language and Culture

AP French Language and Culture is an advanced course that incorporates the three modes of communication (*interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational*) in order to build communicative skills and cultural understanding of the French language and the culture of francophone countries. The course focuses on six thematic units (*Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, Personal and Public Identities, Families and Communities, and Beauty and Aesthetics*) and uses authentic materials such as videos, podcasts, films, music, newspapers, magazines, original texts, and literary materials. The use of authentic materials ensures that students will have a good understanding of the *products, perspectives and practices* of the French culture and language and will be able to compare the French language and francophone cultures with their own. The course is conducted entirely in French and students are also expected to communicate exclusively in French. The course is designed to help students achieve the proficiency level to communicate effectively with a native French speaker. The course will also help prepare them for the AP exam.

In May, students will be able to take the AP French Language and Culture exam. Successful performance on the exam can often help students get college credit. You can check individual colleges and universities for their policies on AP credits.

Summer Assignment: In order to maintain proficiency in a world language, it is imperative to immerse yourself in the language over the long summer break. At the end of each month (June 30th, July 31st, August 31st), you will be required to complete a **minimum of two assignments per month** and to submit them on Schoology by the due date.

You will select one audio/video and one news article in the target language and culture from various news sites that will be provided by the instructor per month: in total, three audio/video and three news articles.

The topics of the audio/video and news article must cover each of the six AP themes:

- Global Challenges
- Science and Technology
- Contemporary Life
- Personal and Public Identities
- Families and Communities
- Beauty and Aesthetics

After watching the audio/video, you will record a two minute summary on Schoology. After reading the news article, you will write a 100 word summary and submit the assignment on Schoology. Each assignment will be worth 10 points for a total of 60 points and this will count towards your first marking period grade. The total grade for the summer assignment will be worth approximately 10% of the first marking period grade.

Please adhere to the Audio Recording and Written Summary grading checklists. Late assignments will be lowered one letter grade for each day late.

Audio Recording/News Article Summary Checklist

- ___ Organization: Introduction, Transitions, Conclusion
- ___ Content: summarize main points and include your opinion or how it relates to your life
- ___ Comprehensibility: use appropriate and varied vocabulary
- ___ Time: Two minutes in length for speaking/100 word minimum for writing

Textbook: You are responsible to bring *Thèmes* textbook to class every day. The book must be covered at all times.

Grading: The marking period grade consists of the following: assessments, homework, class participation, projects. Grades will be based on a point system. Numerical grades will be based on the number of points earned divided by the number of points for the assignment.

Assessments: Students will be given a variety of formative and summative assessments for each thematic unit. Assessments will include written tests and quizzes, essays, speaking assessments, presentations, and projects. The AP Scoring Guidelines rubrics will be used.

Homework: Students are encouraged to study and prepare for the class on a daily basis. Students will have a variety of homework assignments, which may include written assignments, reading, language practice, online assignments, and studying for assessments. Homework will count as part of the student's grade. Homework will be announced in class and also posted on Schoology.

Class Participation: Students are expected to actively participate in class instruction, partner work and group work. The class will be taught exclusively in French except when an explanation or clarification is needed. Students are expected to speak in French with the instructor and with their classmates. Students will receive a participation grade each marking period.

Notebook: Students should have a separate notebook for this class to easily find their materials.

Class Preparation: Students must bring their textbook, charged Chromebook, notebook and pen/pencil to class every day. Students will not be allowed to go to their lockers.

Behavior: Appropriate class behavior, as described in the handbook, is expected from all students. A student who disrupts the class will be handled according to school policy in the student handbook. Cell phones must be off and put away unless otherwise directed.

Absence: Students are responsible for checking Schoology for missed homework assignments. When a student returns to school from an absence, he or she must hand in make-up work and/or arrange a time with the teacher to make up any missed assessments.

Practice AP Exam: All students will be required to take a Practice AP French exam at the beginning of April. It will be graded by the instructor using the AP Scoring Guidelines in order to give students feedback in how to improve for the AP French exam. It will be part of the fourth marking period grade.

Final Exam: As according to the parent/student handbook, students maintaining a 90% average will be exempt from the final exam. Taking the AP Exam will not exempt you from the final exam.