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## FREN 201-01, Intermediate French, Spring 2008

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**Rhodes College**  
**Department of Modern Languages and Literatures**  
**French 201: Intermediate French I**

Professor: Alison Halász  
Course: FR 201.01 | Palmer 208 | CRN 28395  
Monday/Wednesday 8:00-8:50 &  
Tuesday/Thursday 8:25-9:15

Office: Rhodes Tower 519  
Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 9:00-10:00 &  
Tuesday/Thursday 11:00-12:00, and by appointment

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**Bienvenue!**

Welcome to French 201. I am pleased that you have enrolled in this class to further your study of French. Please allow me to explain the goals and policies of this course and to present the numerous opportunities you'll have throughout the semester to improve your skills in French.

**Language-Learning Goals & Course Objectives**

The goal of this course is to help you develop and expand your skills for understanding and producing French, both spoken and written, and building socio-cultural competency for communicating with people in the francophone world. Since this course focuses on communication, it is extremely important to speak only French in the classroom in order to maximize your opportunities to use the language.

Course objectives for French 201:

- Speak French with enough accuracy to ask and answer questions on a variety of topics. Move beyond “survival” French and use French to develop ideas and descriptions into complete sentences with increasing accuracy and decreasing hesitation.
- Comprehend the main idea and some supporting details of short conversations (spontaneous or recorded) in French.
- Read and understand the main idea and most details in literary and non-literary texts.
- Write longer paragraphs that demonstrate use of transition and that are more cohesive than simple phrases, typical of writing at the elementary level.
- Have a better understanding of French and francophone cultures, and their cultural implications on written texts and visual images.
- Have mastered basic grammatical structures and develop a better understanding of how French functions as a language.

**Course Materials** Available at the Book Center as a package:  
*Intrigue* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition), Blood and Mobarek  
 Audio CDs to Accompany *Intrigue* (2 CD set)  
 Student Activities Manual to Accompany *Intrigue* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)  
 Audio to Accompany Student Activities Manual (2 CD set)  
 Answer Key to Student Activities Manual

## COURSE POLICIES

### Evaluation of Final Grade

Homework & compositions	20%
2 oral exams	20%
2 written exams	20%
Participation	20%
Quizzes	10%
Final exam	10%

### Assignments

Assignments include written textbook activities, student manual exercises, blog postings, and compositions. I will provide detailed calendars indicating the homework assignments for each week. Most homework assignments will be reviewed and then collected in class. Exercises in the student activities manual will be collected the day of written and oral exams and it is your responsibility to correct these activities using the key provided. Please do this in a **color different** than the one you used to write the exercises. Blog postings will be short, informal writings, and topics will generally be open; you may write about a French film you saw, a French website you visited, your experience at the weekly French Table, or a classmate's blog. You will also write two (2) compositions, and they will be longer, formal writing assignments. I will provide you with a selection of topics related to the themes of the course from which you may choose. Some work for compositions will be done in class. If you will not be present the day an assignment is due, you may submit your work by depositing it in my mailbox prior to class or via a classmate. ***Late homework is not accepted.***

### Attendance

Regular attendance is very important to your progress in this course, and I encourage you strongly to come to class. You are allowed up to four (4) absences per semester and there are no excused or unexcused absences. After your fourth absence, your final grade will drop by 5% points and 5% points or each subsequent absence. If a student has an average of 90% and five absences, then his/her final grade will be an 85%. If the same student with a 90% has six absences, then his/her final grade will be an 80%. A documented medical condition will constitute the sole exception to this rule. After eight (8) absences, you will be asked to withdraw from the class and you will receive an F for participation.

**Quizzes, Written and Final Exams**

Quizzes may be announced or unannounced and they will take place during the first 5-10 minutes of class so it is important to arrive to class on time. Expect approximately one quiz per chapter. Note that no make-up quizzes will be given: if you are absent the day of a quiz, you will receive a zero for that quiz. Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

There will be two written exams based on material studied in class and they will include a listening section, a reading comprehension exercise, and a short essay. The final will follow this format and it will be comprehensive.

**Oral Exams**

There will be two oral exams held during or at an hour outside of class.

**Participation**

Participation reflects your daily efforts in class and it accounts for a large portion of your final grade (20%).

Arriving to class on time and prepared is essential to your success in this course. In general, **outstanding participation** is defined as habitually arriving to class on time, listening attentively to others, asking relevant questions, participating and responding regularly. **Average participation** is defined as occasionally arriving to class late, sometimes listening to others when they speak, participating in some activities, and occasionally responding to questions. **Unacceptable participation** is defined as habitually arriving to class late, not listening to others when they speak, and seldom responding to questions. You will receive seven (7) participation grades throughout the semester, approximately every two weeks, and all of these grades count. I will provide you with a detailed description of how you will be graded in this category.

As a way to maximize your opportunity to hear different voices and work with different students, please select a different seat each class session. Also, please **speak French as soon as you enter the room**.

NB: Please be respectful of our classroom community by **turning off cell phones** before entering the classroom. Merci!

**Resources in French**

- French websites and news: [www.yahoo.fr](http://www.yahoo.fr) ; or see my website: [www.alisonhalasz.com](http://www.alisonhalasz.com) for thematically organized French websites.
- French Table: Wednesdays 12:00-1:00; Thursdays 5:30-6:30pm in the Rat
- Language Resource Center (LRC), Buckman 200: French Films, TV5 (French TV), study tables, TVs/VCRs/DVD players, and other useful resources.

**Honor Code**

All work completed for a grade must be your own. You are responsible for reading and checking over your own work. On all assignments you will submit for a grade, please write the French pledge “*Sur l’honneur*” or “*Déclaré(e)*” and sign your name. Should you have questions about the Honor Code, please do not hesitate to see me at any point in the semester.

**Disability Services**

*If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, please contact Melissa Butler McCowen, Coordinator of Disability and Career Services. Career and Disability Services (Modular building behind McCoy Theatre), 8:30 - 5:00, Monday – Friday, 90.843.3994.*

**Je vous souhaite un excellent semestre!**