

FRENCH 381 Reading in France

INSTRUCTOR Mme Elizabeth Anglin e-mail: Elizabeth.Anglin@usm.edu

### **COURSE GOALS:**

The purpose of this course is to give students the opportunity to use their skills to read, with increasing pleasure and decreasing effort, the things the French read and have read -- from a classic "bande dessinée" (comic strip) and a children's book, to a play we will see in Paris, to newspaper and internet texts. Students will expand their vocabulary, recognize and practice the basic structures of the language that they have learned in previous courses, expand their understanding of the cultural and historical context, and relate their reading experiences to their lives in Pontlevoy.

Class discussion and writing assignments in French will focus on the content of the texts, and will enable students to expand their speaking and writing skills ; grammar review will be included as necessary, with the ever-present goal of enriching the students' overall knowledge of the language and continuing the four-skill learning approach (listening, speaking, reading, writing).

**TEXTS:** Nicolas et les copains Sempé-Goscinny Folio edition ISBN 2-07-039260-0

(There is also a Gallimard Jeunesse edition 2070513424 -- that's okay too)

Tintin: On a marché sur la lune by Hergé Casterman

La Cantatrice Chauve and La Leçon by Ionesco (We will see these plays in Paris)

Newspaper and magazine texts from the Internet

One more text to be chosen by the class and purchased in France

Recommended: \* a good dictionary

\* a French grammar review book (one you have used before is best to review structures as needed)

NOTE: These texts can all be purchased in France -- they are all relatively inexpensive. The first text we will use is *Nicolas* -- students should either bring this one with them or let Mme Anglin know to order it for them BEFORE they arrive, so it can be waiting for them at the Abbey for the first day of class.

### **COURSE POLICIES**

**ATTENDANCE** Regular attendance is expected. For each absence over two, the course grade will be reduced by 5 points.

**TESTS AND QUIZZES** There will be frequent quizzes, usually short, on the texts and assignments; quizzes cannot be made up. There will be two tests and the final, which will be comprehensive and will count as two tests.

## **JOURNAL**

Students will be asked to keep a journal in French, including comments on readings, and observations from the world around them -- language they hear or notice, places they go, people they meet, life in Pontlevoy. The journal should consist of a minimum of 4 pages a week, or a total of at least 40 pages. Students are encouraged to include in their journals comments and observations regarding the "out-of-class learning experiences" and the "Other opportunities to excel!!" categories as described below, and to keep notes on structures and vocabulary from class on the left-hand page of the journal, saving the right-hand page for the actual journal entries, so you can relate class discussions to your life outside the classroom. (Specific assignments for journal entries will be made from time to time.) The journal must be turned in once before Paris week, and then before the final exam so it can be returned before departure. NOTE: The journal counts for 15% of the course grade, but can carry as much as 5% bonus credit for extra effort.

**Out-of-class learning experiences** You will have assignments related to the following activities, which will be required of all students:

- a. Visit to Bayeux tapestry and the Normandy landing beaches
- b. Daily participation in the Paris Events during our time there
- c. Attendance at (at least) one French film shown at the Abbey

**Other opportunities to excel!!** There will be a French-only lunch table at the restaurant where we all eat at noon. You are invited to come and speak French OR just to listen -- no English allowed! -- but attendance is not required.

We will have local guests join us for lunch at the French table from time to time.

## **COURSE GRADE**

Written assignments and quizzes	25%
Class preparation and participation	25%
Test average (final counts twice)	25%
Notebook/ journal, including vocabulary notes, corrected assignments and tests, class and reading notes	15-20%
Points to be added to the category showing the most accomplishment	10%

## ADA STATEMENT

If you think that you have a disability that qualifies under the Americans with Disabilities Act and requires accommodations, you should contact the Office for Disability Accommodations (ODA) for information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by ADA may include learning, psychiatric, physical disabilities, or chronic health disorders. You can contact ODA if you are not certain whether a medical condition/disability qualifies by the following means: Mailing address, USM - 118 College Dr. #8586, Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001; Telephone, 601-266-5024 TTY 601-266-6837 Fax 601-266-6035.

rev 11/01/07