

**MLL 128-01 WL Fall 2006**  
**French Language and Culture II**  
**TEXTS:** *Allons-y! 6th Edition*  
Text and Workbook/Laboratory Manual

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**OFFICE:** 408 Grubbs Hall  
**OFFICE HOURS:**  
T-Th 8-9  
M-F 10-11  
M & W 1-2  
**and by appointment**  
**FRENCH TABLE:** Th: 12-1

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This second semester course is designed for students having completed French Language and Culture I or for those students with previously acquired French skills equivalent to one semester of college French. Through the semester students will continue to develop proficiency in the four language skills—speaking, listening, reading, and writing—while exploring aspects of French and Francophone cultures. Students will acquire the basic grammar and vocabulary necessary to function in the everyday situations they could encounter in a French-speaking country while gaining an appreciation of the cultures and civilizations of the Francophone world.

### **WRITING TO LEARN STATEMENT OF INTENT & PHILOSOPHY**

Since this is a *Writing to Learn* course, students will write frequently as a way to improve this aspect of their French skills, but also for the purpose of writing about the experience of furthering their learning of a language and other cultures. Because of this dual goal, students will be allowed to write in English when expressing more complex or philosophical ideas about their learning experience. The philosophy behind these writing assignments is that you learn to write well by writing often about complex ideas and that by writing about what you learn, you better assimilate the material and concepts. In this way, writing can be seen as a knowledge-making tool by which new understanding is developed through the very act of expressing one's ideas.

With regard to foreign language skills, it is easy to understand that new material—new grammar concepts or new vocabulary, for example—are more likely to be retained if put to use not only orally, but also in writing. Writing assignments will range from short, in-class writings (sometimes collaborative), to keeping a journal, to writing essays.

## **STUDENTS RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Since the 5 hours a week we spend together are likely to be your only continuous exposure to a French-speaking environment, attendance and participation are essential in this course and are counted significantly in the course grade. **Five absences (excused or unexcused)** are permitted, after which students will be dropped from the class. Missing a class period will affect the Attendance & Participation portion of the student's final grade. Students who miss class are responsible for the work assigned on the missed day.

In addition to the daily exposure, students will also be required to **attend the French Table or the French Club activities** and participate in conversation **a minimum of four times throughout the semester**. This participation will count towards the Attendance & Participation portion of the grade.

Students will be given daily homework assignments as well as bi-monthly assignments (multi-media assignments and journals to be discussed below). Students will be required to **write a journal in French (2-4 entries, 5-8 lines each) and in English (1-2 entries, 25-35 lines each)**:

In the entries **in French** students will write about their daily life activities. Keep sentences simple, using the material studied in class. Try to find a comfortable level of language, and remember to use new expressions (vocabulary and structure). Students may use a French-English dictionary or the *lexiques* at the back of the textbook, but avoid using a translation program. The only rule should be: if you don't know how to say it, and can't find a way around (circumlocution), then write about something else. The main subject in the French entries is you and your life.

The entries **in English** will be an ongoing reflection on the process of learning another language and culture(s). Students will write about their feelings while trying to acquire another language: frustration, satisfaction, failure, success, difficulties, etc. Students will also write about the impact this new language and culture has on their lives: is it affecting it in any way? Is it changing your view on your own culture? Why or why not? How?

**Journals, both English and French entries, will be collected every other week in alternation with the multi-media assignments.** A total of six multi-media assignments (mostly written in English), using the multi-media resources available on campus, or personal computers, will be required. Students will conduct a research on the themes developed in the chapters studied, as shown on the syllabus (the numbers in parenthesis indicates the pages in your textbook that will guide you in your research). The Modern Languages Lab Assignment worksheet (to be collected from the office in Grubbs Hall 203) will guide you. Ask a student worker for one when needed.

Students will be responsible for the listening exercises that accompany *Allons-y!*. To obtain the CDs, go to the Language Lab and pay a \$3 fee, for which you will receive a CD covering several chapters. You will need to purchase three CDs for this class. **The listening exercises (*Point d'arrivée: écoutons!*) for each chapter must be completed and turned in on the day of the test (*interro*) of that chapter.**

There will be a test (*interro*) after each chapter, numerous pop quizzes and / or workbook tests, two interview-style oral exams (one mid-semester and the other at the end), a mid-term exam and a comprehensive final exam. There will be **NO MAKE UP QUIZZES, TESTS OR EXAMS**, except in case of extreme emergency.

Any student with special needs resulting from a disability please come talk to me.

## **RETRO-CREDITS**

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures has a retro-credits program designed to reward students who have already spent years learning languages in high school. Students must sign up for the program with Kathy Dyer, Departmental Secretary, during the first three weeks of the semester in which they take their **first** language course at PSU. That course determines their entry level and the maximum credits they can earn through retro-credits.

## **GRADING POLICIES:**

Your grade will be calculated as follow:

Attendance & Participation:	10%
Homework / Journal / Multi-media:	10%
Chapter tests and Quizzes:	40%
Oral exams:	20%
Mid-term & Final exams:	20%

Grading scale:

A = 90% - 100%
B = 80% - 89%
C = 70% - 79%
D = 60% - 69%
F = 0% - 59%

## TENTATIVE SYLLABUS

Août	21	Introduction/Révisions	Oct.	16	<b>Examen de mi-semestre I</b>
	22	Révisions		17	<b>Examen de mi-semestre II</b>
	23	Chapitre 7		18	Chapitre 10
	24	Chapitre 7		19	<i>Mme Krepps absente</i>
	25	Chapitre 7		20	<i>Mme Krepps absente</i>
	28	Chapitre 7		23	Chapitre 10 <b>journal 4</b>
	29	Chapitre 7		24	Chapitre 10
	30	Chapitre 7		25	Chapitre 10
	31	Chapitre 7		26	Chapitre 10
Sept.	1	Chapitre 7 <b>journal 1</b>		27	Chapitre 10
	4	<b>Labor Day</b>		30	Chapitre 10
	5	Chapitre 7		31	Chapitre 10 <b>multi-media (432)</b>
	6	<b>Interro Chapitre 7</b>	Nov.	1	Chapitre 10
	7	Chapitre 8		2	<b>Interro Chapitre 10</b>
	8	Chapitre 8 <b>multi-media (304)</b>		3	<i>Mme Krepps absente</i>
	11	Chapitre 8		6	Chapitre 11
	12	Chapitre 8		7	Chapitre 11
	13	Chapitre 8		8	Chapitre 11
	14	Chapitre 8		9	Chapitre 11
	15	Chapitre 8 <b>journal 2</b>		10	Chapitre 11 <b>journal 5</b>
	18	Chapitre 8		13	Chapitre 11
	19	Chapitre 8		14	Chapitre 11
	20	<b>Interro Chapitre 8</b>		15	Chapitre 11
	21	Chapitre 9		16	Chapitre 11 <b>multi-media (492)</b>
	22	Chapitre 9 <b>multi-media (350)</b>		17	<b>Interro Chapitre 11</b>
	25	Chapitre 9		20	Chapitre 12
	26	Chapitre 9		21	Chapitre 12
	27	Chapitre 9		22-26	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>
	28	Chapitre 9			
	29	Chapitre 9 <b>journal 3</b>		27	Chapitre 12
				28	Chapitre 12 <b>journal 6</b>
Oct.	2	Chapitre 9		29	Chapitre 12
	3	Chapitre 9		30	Chapitre 12
	4	<b>Interro Chapitre 9</b>	Déc.	1	Chapitre 12
	5	Préparation examen oral			
	6	Préparation examen oral <b>multi-media (394)</b>		4	Chapitre 12 <b>multi-media (544)</b>
	9	<b>Examen oral</b>		5	Chapitre 12
	10	<b>Examen oral</b>		6	<b>Interro Chapitre 12</b>
	11	Révision de mi-semestre		7	Révision examen final
	12-13	<b>Fall Break</b>		8	Révision examen final

**2<sup>nd</sup> oral exam: by appointment Nov. 29-Dec. 5**  
**Final exam: Monday, December 11, 11-1:50**