

SUFLE
Aix-Marseille University
Aix en Provence - France

1st semester 2014/2015

"OBJECTIVE B1+"

Classes: 20 hours per week, 260 hours/semester

OBJECTIVE: bring students to level B1+ of CECRL by the end of the 1st semester.

LANGUAGE

- FRENCH LANGUAGE– 11 hours and a half per week

Teachers (depending on group): Mrs RAYMOND, Mrs RICOUL, Mrs BREMOND, M. PAITA

Written comprehension

Written expression

Oral comprehension

Oral expression

- PHONETICS– 2 hours per week

Teachers: Mrs MERCIER

This class is an essential addition to language classes and develops the phonetic, syllabic and prosodic characteristics of the French language.

During the first semester, the emphasis will be put on the good pronunciation of vocalic sounds. Theoretical explanations will be given to make students aware of different sounds in the French language.

Hearing and oral exercises in class or in language labs will enable students to acquire a good pronunciation of the French language's sounds. The many problems related to differences between the written form of French words and their actual pronunciation will also be addressed.

At this level, students are expected to have a fluent pronunciation in French.

WORKSHOPS

Students wishing to obtain the diploma for the semester (*DU* – university diploma in "French language and culture", level B1+) must attend 2 workshops of 2 hours and 1 workshop of 3 hours.

- THE FRENCH SOCIETY: SOME SPECIFICITIES – 2 hours per week

Teacher: M. SANTACROCE

Located between the North and the South of Europe, France has a history stretching over several millenniums and is rich of many influences, giving it a complex and varied cultural identity. This class aims at discovering some of its essential specificities to understand better the French society and the contemporary life in France.

The main themes presented during this class are:

- Women of France: portraits (the status of women, family, inequalities)
- Cities and suburbs
- Everyday life in urban centres

- Immigration, the nationality code and integration

Students will be marked according to their oral participation during classes. In particular, they will be tested on an oral presentation organised during the semester and on a short essay (one page) related to one of the themes discussed in class.

- SCIENCES AND TECHNICS SPECIFIC VOCABULARY – 2 hours per week

Teacher: Mrs MOREELS

This workshop aims at giving students a general vocabulary related to sciences and technics. Students will use both written comprehension and oral expression.

Students will make oral presentations, individually or in groups, on current scientific questions (health, environment, nuclear power...). These presentations will be based on articles published in different scientific journals (Sciences et Vie, Sciences et Avenir, Sciences, la Recherche...).

Students will be marked on their oral presentation as well as on their participation in class and on their diligence.

- CONTEMPORARY ARTS: THE HUMAN BODY – 2 hours per week

Teacher: Mrs CROS

The human body: artistic object, literary object and cultural object.

This class presents an aesthetic approach of different art forms developed since the second half of the 20th century: plastic arts, poetry, photography and choreographic arts.

How do contemporary artists represent the human body? What are the artistic and cultural issues of the body's representation in artistic works and what are the questions that it raises in our societies?

- FRENCH FOR BUSINESS: LEGAL AND ECONOMICAL APPROACH OF FRANCE – 2 hours per week

Teacher: Mr. CHEVALIER

The objective of this class is to provide students with general socio-economical knowledge and know-how: taking notes, commenting on statistical data, making summaries, reading original legal documents...

During the first semester, students will have to think about the different aspects of professional life in the business world.

The following themes will be discussed in class:

- The different legal forms of companies (commercial companies)
- Contractual obligations through the creation and execution of main types of contracts: sales, work, electronic trade contracts...
- Taxes and social security contributions
- Currency (creation, forms and functions, method of payment)
- Exchanges with foreign countries (trade balance, balance of current transfers, payment balance)

- FRENCH CINEMA: THE NEW WAVE – 2 hours per week, plus a film screening one evening per week.

Teacher: Mr LORRAIN

OBJECTIVES:

Watch and get used to watching and hearing French movies in original version.
Discover some French film directors.
Learn more about French society and culture.
Extract information and commentaries from critics and/or analytical texts.
Talk and write about new subjects, based on a new source of knowledge.

AFTER THE FILM SCREENING:

Students will be provided with some articles and a questionnaire to allow them to have more arguments to make an oral or written analysis. A presentation made by two students open the session. After that comes questions, analysis, comments and complementary information (the method for the presentation will be given during the first class), as well as an extract from the movie. Discussion and comments generally take place in small groups.

During this workshop, students are introduced to the great works of the French literature but also to their relationship with other contemporary arts, such as painting, sculpture and music. From Rabelais to today's literature, using references to some famous artists, students will read and confront their comprehension of these works thanks to an anthology given to them during the first class. It will also allow us, if they want to, to extend their knowledge of the French literature by themselves.

- MYTHOLOGY IN THE LITERATURE OF THE 20TH CENTURY: MYTHICAL HEROES – 3 hours per week

Teacher: Mrs BREMOND

This class offers to study the transformations of the great Greco-Roman myths in the French literature of the 20th century. Students will first study the Trojan War and some of its heroes through the analysis of Jean Giraudoux's, *La Guerre de Troie n'aura pas lieu*. Then, the character of Oedipus will be analysed, through several extracts which aim at showing the different interpretations of this character: Gide's *Oedipe*, Ghéon's *Oedipe ou le crépuscule des dieux*, Anouilh's *Oedipe ou le roi boiteux*, Volkoff's *Oedipe*, Bauchau's *Oedipe sur la route*.

The extracts used may be changed.

Whenever it is possible, the myth will be illustrated with stylized representations, both old and modern.

Students will have two marks for the semester. They will be given dates for the tests and references for the books to purchase.

- KEY-DATES AND FAMOUS FIGURES OF THE HISTORY OF FRANCE – 3 hours per week

Teacher: Mr. Thomas

This class aims at showing, through the evocation of key dates (Alesia's Battle, Clovis' baptism, the Storming of the Bastille, the First World War) or famous figures of the History of France (Vercingetorix, Charlemagne, Jeanne d'Arc, Napoleon Bonaparte, Jules Ferry, De Gaulle and Jean Moulin), how arts transforms an historical fact to create an aesthetic object (literature, movie, picture, architecture...)

- LANGUAGE, CULTURE AND MULTIMEDIA – 3 hours per week (2 hours in class + 1 hour via the Internet)

Teacher: Mrs RAYMOND

In this hybrid course (both in class and at home, via the Internet) students will work individually on a computer, to develop their sociocultural knowledge thanks to a large scope of French cultural websites. They will practice their oral and written comprehension as well as their written expression. At the end of the semester each student has to write a cultural article on his or her home country. This article will be published on a collective blog called "invitation aux voyages"

<http://blog.univ-provence.fr/blog/langue-culture-multimedia/>

Comment: It is important to do this workshop to have an Internet connexion or to have easily access to an Internet-connected computer.