



# BELLOWS FREE ACADEMY

St. Albans, Vermont

## World Language Department Course Syllabus

Course Name: French I

Course ID: 10512

Course Credits: 1.0

Year: 2022-2023

Instructor: Kristi Waite

Room: A220

Email: [kwaite@maplerun.org](mailto:kwaite@maplerun.org)

Phone: 527-6563 (classroom) 527-6560 (language office)

~If I'm not in A220, look for me next door in A219

Availability: -Student Support time (Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday mornings 7:20-8:00)

-Advisory and Enrichments (except for Fridays through December)

**Course Description:** Students will learn to communicate in French on real-world topics such as: telling the time and date, describing themselves and others, daily life at home and at school, likes and dislikes, and relationships with family and friends.

**Prerequisites:** None

### Course Standards:

- Speaking - Learners communicate through spoken language to share information, reactions, feelings, and opinions. Learners orally present information, concepts, and ideas to inform, explain, persuade and narrate on a variety of topics.
- Writing – Learners communicate through written language to share information, reactions, and feelings. Learners convey in writing information, concepts, and ideas to inform, explain, persuade and narrate on a variety of topics.
- Reading – Learners understand, interpret, and analyze what is read or viewed on a variety of topics.
- Listening – Learners understand, interpret, and analyze what is heard on a variety of topics.
- Culture – Students demonstrate understanding of customs, beliefs, cultural differences, and traditions worldwide.

### Transferable Skills:

- Clear and Effective Communication: Assesses communication based on vocabulary use, grammatical accuracy, and presentational organization.
- Self-Direction: Assesses the ability to independently complete tasks, meet due dates, and come to class prepared.
- Responsible & Involved Citizenship: Assesses citizenship based on taking responsibility for personal decisions and actions, collaborative work, and responsible technology use.

## Course Outline:

In this course you will begin to learn the French language. You will develop basic listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, as well as a cultural awareness of many Francophone countries.

Verbs: être (to be), avoir (to have), aller (to go), prendre (to take), -er verbs

Grammar: articles, adjective agreement, negation, possessive adjectives, contractions

Vocabulary: alphabet, numbers, time, dates, greetings, politeness, adjectives, school, shopping, activities, likes/dislikes, family, home, café, locations, etc...

## Suggested Materials:

\*3-ring binder

\*Six dividers

\*Writing utensils (pencils and erasers preferred)

-The following five dividers are suggested to keep your binder organized: **Essentials, Notes, Worksheets, Assessments, Culture**. These dividers can be store-bought or home-made. It is my experience that students with well-organized binders tend to perform better on assessments. If you need help with organization, please make an appointment with me and I'll be glad to help.

-Regarding writing utensils, I recommend pencils and erasers for French class because it is much easier to make corrections. Highlighters and colored pens/pencils are sometimes useful for color-coding our notes, but not required. (Consider your own note-taking style.)

## Scoring

A course score average of 2.5 or better will receive credit for the course. However, there is a higher requirement for advancing to French II. You must score a 3 or higher in all five standards. For example:

Speaking: 1 Writing: 2 Reading: 2 Listening: 3 Culture: 4 <b>Course score = 2.4</b>  <b>Credit Denied</b> May not advance to French II	Speaking: 1 Writing: 2 Reading: 3 Listening: 3 Culture: 4 <b>Course score = 2.6</b>  <b>Credit Awarded</b> May not advance to French II	Speaking: 3 Writing: 3 Reading: 3 Listening: 4 Culture: 4 <b>Course score = 3.4</b>  <b>Credit Awarded</b> May advance to French II
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For more school-wide information regarding grading and scoring, please consult the BFA Parent & Student Handbook, as well as the [World Languages Scoring Scales](#).

## Missed Work (due to legitimate absences)

- After an absence, you will have two class days to make a plan with me for completing missed work. You can ask me during class, or come see me during Student Support time, Advisory, or Enrichment.
- When we meet, we'll come up with a new due date for whatever work you missed. If your work is not submitted by the new due date, you will receive a 0, which cannot be made up.

## Notes on Work Completion:

- Your work will have specific due dates for initial completion, and some assignments will also have deadlines for corrections.
  - Late assignments will **not** be eligible for redo opportunities.
- I take these due dates and deadlines seriously and urge you to do the same, barring any extenuating circumstances.
  - Please be in contact with me in advance of the due date if you need an extension.
- For all assignments that can be corrected, I encourage you to revise and correct your work in order to demonstrate that you fully understand the topics we're learning and thus receive the highest scores possible.
- Please always **be resourceful** and take full advantage of all materials that I provide (notes, websites, video links, quizlets, etc).

Note: "Being resourceful" does NOT include copying your peer's work or using a translation tool such as **Google Translate**. These processes are not beneficial for your learning. If I suspect that you've cheated in this way, you will receive a 1 on the assignment. It is very easy for me to tell. If you are struggling to express what you'd like to say and cannot figure it out using the resources I've provided, please contact me directly for guidance.

## Assessment Retake Policy:

- If you score a 1, 2, or 2.5 on an assessment, you are encouraged to study again and retake it. The highest score you can possibly earn on a retake is a 3.
  - If you score a 3 or 3.5 on an assessment, it may not be retaken. You will have many opportunities on later assessments within that same proficiency to improve your average.
- The retake will be an alternate version that assesses the same material a bit differently.
- I will always keep your highest score.
- I always set a deadline for retaking each assessment. The deadlines will be posted in the assignment descriptions in PowerSchool and the Important Dates document in Google Classroom. Check the Course Overview topic in the Classwork tab.
  - I allow for two weeks between the date of the original assessment and the deadline. That being the case, sooner is usually better. Use your time wisely.
- Fill out a retake form or send me an email if you plan to retake a quiz so that I have a copy ready when you come in.
- You can retake an assessment as many times as you would like prior to the deadline, but there is a limit to once per day.
  - Sometimes it is better to work with me and practice prior to just diving straight into the retake. It will save you time in the long-run.

## **Homework & Virtual Work:**

- Homework is a valuable way to allow you to practice on your own, so that you can assess how well you understand the concepts.
- I expect each assignment to be completed before class so that we can efficiently use our time to go over it by checking answers and exploring any questions that arise.
- I will keep track of whether you come to class with your homework assignments completed, but this will not count toward your proficiency score for the course.
  - However, I do plan to use this data to assess your transferable skill of Self Direction, which ultimately affects your athletic and co-curricular eligibility.

## **Behavior Expectations:**

- Students will be punctual to class with all necessary materials.
- Students will use French to communicate as much as possible.
- Students will work seriously and with a positive attitude.
- Students will be cooperative and participate in class activities.
- Students will be attentive, polite, responsible, supportive citizens in our classroom community.
- Students will respect teacher, self, classmates, and school property.
- Students will contact the teacher with questions, suggestions, or problems.
- Students will remain in their assigned seats until dismissed by the teacher.
- Students will keep all electronic devices (cell phones and wearable technology) silenced and kept in their backpack or a pocket. Violations of the above policy will result in immediate confiscation of the device.

## **Suggestions for Success:**

\*Study daily or as often as possible, even if it's only for a few minutes!

~Read over your notes aloud    ~Make flashcards or use Quizlet    ~Repetition is key

\*Pay attention to detail: notice accents, order of letters, spelling and pronunciation differences.

\*When someone else is called on, think about how you would answer and check to see if you're right!

\*Take chances! Embrace your mistakes and consider them learning opportunities!

\*Listen to a French radio station! (I like 96.9 from Montreal.) And watch movies in French, too!