TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY – CORPUS CHRISTI

FRENCH 1311-001 Course Syllabus

Fall 2020

Time: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 5:30-6:45 p.m.  
Class Location: OCNR 115

Instructor: Dr. Anne Hilmy  
E-mail: anne.hilmy@tamucc.edu  
Ph.: 361-825-5783 (messages only)

Office Hours and Location: On-line, Mon. & Wed. 4-5 p.m., and by appointment.

*****

Course Materials:


Online material: for the homework, you will need access to online MindTap (ISBN: 978-1-337-90584-8) which provides the interactive learning activities that accompany the textbook.

Important note: MindTap is available for purchase on its own, or through Cengage Unlimited, a subscription that gives you access to all your Cengage access codes and online textbooks for $119.99 per term, $179.99 per year or $239.99 for two years. No matter how many Cengage products you use, they are included in Cengage Unlimited at no additional cost.

Prefer print? You can also get a textbook rental with your activation through Cengage Unlimited for $7.99 + free shipping and the option to purchase a loose-leaf version of your textbook, which you can keep. Cengage Unlimited is available in the bookstore or at cengage.com/unlimited. It is highly recommended that you acquire a hard copy (book - personal or rented - or the loose-leaf version because in normal circumstances students have a hard time navigating the book when doing any kind of assignment. In the case of on-line teaching, it will be even more frustrating to keep up with the class and navigating the book at the same time. To be revised in case of on-line teaching

As Liaisons and MindTap are used in French 1311 and French 1312, this syllabus covers Chapter P and chapters 1-3 for the Fall course

Others:

You also need to have or have access to a Computer, a Tamucc E-mail Account and the Tamucc video-conferencing system Cisco Webex.

A printed dictionary is always a good tool to have but is not compulsory for this class. The textbook offers an important Vocabulary list in the Appendix. Most electronic dictionaries are particularly useless for beginners because translations are offered without taking the context(s) into consideration. However, I recommend WordReference.com which functions as a traditional dictionary and has a wealth of contextual information and details.

Important note: The use of outside help or electronic translators is NOT acceptable in this class for any course work. Not only are electronic translators often inadequate but the resulting product does not represent the student’s own work (see section on Academic Honesty / Plagiarism). In plain words, it is cheating. Students using
such devices and presenting the assignment as their own will be asked to re-do it in its entirety for the next class session with an automatic drop of one letter grade penalty. Failure to comply will result in a grade of “F” or “0”. In the case of a major grade (written exam or final exam), the assignment will receive an automatic “F” or “0” and no chance for a retake.

Course Description and Course Objectives:

This course is designed specifically for students with no previous knowledge of French. Since it is my hope French will be of use to you in your college work and/or in your future career, the course will focus on purposeful speaking and interaction, meaningful reading and basic writing within a French cultural framework. Indeed, you will discover and explore the French-speaking world through cultural comparison, while also building on your listening and reading skills as well as on your writing and speaking communication strategies.

As a student, you will build your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in the context of the study of the French-speaking world. The exploration of a wide variety of topics will provide you with abundant opportunities to discover and connect with the cultures of the French-speaking world.

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, you will be able to function in natural contexts, communicate in a range of situations using adequate vocabulary and idiomatic structures, convey and understand written and oral messages with reasonable accuracy, carry on a simple conversation in French and demonstrate an understanding of cultural differences between the French world and your own.

Attendance: Regular attendance and active participation are essential in learning any foreign language. To better understand linguistic concepts and practice them in a supportive environment, you must be present. In-class additional explanations, supplementary information as well as cultural discussions and presentations are an integral part of the course, and will be integrated in the testing. You are expected to attend all classes as absences will inevitably affect your academic performance.

Punctuality: To be on time, be early! By arriving late, not only do you miss out on instruction but you disrupt the class. Please note: three (3) unexcused tardies or early departures (late or leaving early by 10 minutes or more) will count as one (1) absence. To be revised in case of on-line teaching

Participation: All students are expected to participate actively and show a positive attitude in class in order to maximize the learning experience. That means, being in class and on time, being ready for class (review and completion of assignments), turning in YOUR OWN work, volunteering in class, making an effort to use the French language in class as much as possible according to models, accepting the fact that making errors is part of the learning process. The participation grade will be based on all of these elements. To be revised in case of on-line teaching

Classroom expectations: Because speaking in French is a major component of the class, gum and food are not tolerated in class. Cell phones should be turned off as they are a distraction, unless their use is justified by the instructor for a specific class activity. No photo or video taken in class will be allowed without the instructor’s permission. Visitors will only be allowed in class if permission has been granted by the instructor in advance. Students are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct as described in the University Student Handbook and have an amicable and respectful attitude towards their fellow students, language lab staff and instructor.
Course Evaluation System:

Grade distribution:

Homework assignments (MindTap and first version of each writing assignment)  15%
Class participation                                      10%
Oral exams (5 to 6 oral readings and 1 skit or Power Point Presentation  25%
Written exams (a minimum of 5 short quizzes, and 3 writing assignments) 25%
Final Exam (Cumulative with listening, reading and writing activities) 25%

Grading Policy:

A  90-100    C  70-79    F  59 or below
B  80-89    D  60-69

Assignments due dates:

Homework will be distributed as follows.

- Practice homework from the e-platform called MindTap that accompanies the book will be assigned each Friday for the following week. Please NOTE: In order to count, it is due every Thursday (unless otherwise indicated) at the end of the day. Your scores will be automatically uploaded from MindTap to Blackboard.

- The first version of each of the 3 writing assignments will count as homework. Each final version will count as a written exam grade.

Oral Exams will include the following.

- Oral Readings (5-6) matching the chapter content will help you develop proper pronunciation, articulation, intonation, rhythm and delivery as well as acquire or reinforce vocabulary and structures, and will be practiced at the beginning of each class. These pre-recorded readings will also be available on-line for optional personal additional practice since the more you practice, the better the results. Finally, you will have a week to record yourself (YouTube recording) and forward your recording electronically to your instructor via campus email (NOT through Blackboard). You can also read the poem to me on-line during my office hours if you prefer. To be revised in case of on-line teaching

- Skit (total of 1) will be written and recorded (YouTube recording) outside of class and sent to your instructor via campus mail (NOT through Blackboard) (Oct. 22-Nov.12). Depending on the circumstances, the skit could be replaced by a Power Point presentation based on an individual creative writing activity (Sept 24-Nov. 12). To be revised in case of on-line teaching

Written exams will include the following.

- Short quizzes (at least 5) in class on specific vocabulary or grammar points (listening and writing). Tentative dates are Sept.1, 8, 22, Oct. 6, 22. To be revised in case of on-line teaching

- Writing assignments (total of 3) will be cumulative and include material covered in class. Tentative dates are Sept. 17, , Oct. 15, Nov. 10)
- **The Final Exam** will be cumulative with listening, reading and writing activities, and will be held on Dec. 1, 4:30-7:00 p.m. **To be revised in case of on-line teaching**

**College of Liberal Arts Syllabus statements**

TAMU-CC has several statements that are either required or recommended as part of your syllabus and these are listed below. They are provided every semester by the department administrative assistants.

**Required statements**

*Disabilities Accommodations*

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

*Academic Advising*

The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

*Dropping a Class*

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. Last day to drop a class in the full term is Friday, November 5th.

*Grade Appeals*

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C0.03, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps
in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C0.03, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught or the Office of the Provost. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at: http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.c0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf.

**Campus Safety Measures**

To promote public safety and protect students, faculty, and staff during the coronavirus pandemic, Texas A&M University has adopted policies and practices for the Fall 2020 academic term to limit virus transmission. Students must observe the following practices while participating in face-to-face courses and course-related activities (office hours, help sessions, transitioning to and between classes, study spaces, academic services, etc.):

- **Self-monitoring**—Students should follow CDC recommendations for self-monitoring. **Students who have a fever or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 should participate in class remotely and should not participate in face-to-face instruction.**

- **Face Coverings**—**Face coverings** (cloth face covering, surgical mask, etc.) must be properly worn in all non-private spaces including classrooms, teaching laboratories, common spaces such as lobbies and hallways, public study spaces, libraries, academic resource and support offices, and outdoor spaces where 6 feet of physical distancing is difficult to reliably maintain. Description of face coverings and additional guidance are provided in the **Face Covering policy** and **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)** available on the **Provost website**.

- **Physical Distancing**—Physical distancing must be maintained between students, instructors, and others in course and course-related activities.

- **Classroom Ingress/Egress**—Students must follow marked pathways for entering and exiting classrooms and other teaching spaces. Leave classrooms promptly after course activities have concluded. Do not congregate in hallways and maintain 6-foot physical distancing when waiting to enter classrooms and other instructional spaces.

- **To attend a face-to-face class, students must wear a face covering (or a face shield if they have an exemption letter). If a student refuses to wear a face covering, the instructor should ask the student to leave and join the class remotely. If the student does not leave the class, the faculty member should report that student to the **Student Conduct office** for sanctions. Additionally, the faculty member may choose to teach that day’s class remotely for all students.**

**TAMU-CC Face Coverings**

TAMUCC Face Coverings Policy and FAQs:

[https://www.tamucc.edu/fall-2020/face-coverings-faq/](https://www.tamucc.edu/fall-2020/face-coverings-faq/)

Rule and Procedure:

[https://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/34.99.99.c0.02_use_of_face_coverings.pdf](https://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/34.99.99.c0.02_use_of_face_coverings.pdf)
Recommended statements

Classroom / professional behavior

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outline in Article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

Statement of Civility

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Academic Honesty / Plagiarism

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examination materials, falsification, forgery, or plagiarism (plagiarism being the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work). In this class, academic dishonesty on an assignment other than an exam will result in the student being required to re-do the work in question by a given deadline and receive a one letter grade drop penalty on that assignment (for example, B+ → C+). In the case of academic dishonesty on an exam, the student will receive a grade of “F” or “0” for the work in question with no opportunity for a retake.

Statement of Academic Continuity

In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi, this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, University facilities (i.e. emails, websites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.