FRENCH 3120 – CONVERSATION

Syllabus

SPRING 2024

Instructor: Franck FINDLING

 Office: 305

Office hours: Mondays 12 to 2pm on appointment

Email address: rochester07@sfr.fr

Course description

The goal of this class is to help students improve their French speaking skills-with an emphasis on pronunciation-as well as their listening comprehension through guided conversations and debates, role plays and cultural presentations.

This class will also be an opportunity to review grammar points, to read French and learn idiomatic expressions.

No text book is required.

Objectives

Through the semester students will be encouraged to speak freely on given topics. To do so, they will be offered the chance to take risks as they will try out newly learnt structures and vocabulary.

As students who are eager to improve on their speaking skills, making mistakes will not be a problem or anything to be afraid of. Making mistakes being a necessary part of the learning process. Learning from individual mistakes will benefit the whole group in a positive and caring atmosphere.

Evaluation

-Attendance, preparation and participation in class: 50%

-Study of a French text (song lyrics or poem): 25%

Students will choose a French text, find out about its date, author, meaning, moral, anecdotes, etc… and share these pieces of information with the group as well as their impression and/or interpretation of the chosen text.

-Presentation of a French city: 25%

Students will choose a French city and region at the beginning of the semester, study it, and give a PowerPoint presentation to the group. The content of the presentation will be discussed in class. It can include historical facts, tourist attractions, economical interests, local gastronomy, etc.

Calendar:

Welcome to Europe! :
-Presentation of the syllabus and introduction to the course
-Familiarize with European countries and travel destinations
-spoken exchange on students' first impressions about Europe

Be a dinner party host :
-Have your friends over and impress them with a delicious homemade local meal
    -2 traditional local recipes
    -entertaining conversation at a dinner table

The French fashion :
-Presentations by the students of the great names of French fashion
-Conversation about clothing styles in France and the USA
-Role Plays: "At the shopping mall"

The French written press :
-Presentation of the main national and local newspapers - reading and discussions about chosen articles

-writing task using the future tense

At the restaurant :
-Role Plays: "Ordering food and beverages at a restaurant"
-Creation of a pop-up restaurant concept

France through music:

-Study of a classic French song

-Creative writing

-Personal research on a contemporary French music

Tourism in Metz and région Lorraine :

-Discovering the local tourist attractions through the official "Inspire Metz" website

-Role Plays "at the Office du Tourisme"

PowerPoint presentation of a French city

Presentation of a French song/poem

Ressources:

Presse écrite: www.onlinenewspapers.com

Presse quotidienne: www.lemonde.fr, www.liberation.fr, www.lefigaro.fr

Magazines d'actualité: www.lexpress.fr, www.nouvelobs.com, www.lepoint.fr

Télévision: Programmes internationaux en français sur www.tv5.org

Radio et télévision: www.comfm.com, www.msn.com, www.real.com, www.rfi.fr

Pour entendre du vocabulaire en français: http://clicnet.swarthmore.edu/rire/index.html
http://www.languageguide.org/french/

Acknowledgment:

Please note that this syllabus was developed using various sources, including:
- Georgia Tech's guidelines (https://ctl.gatech.edu/resources/syllabus)
- FREN 3120- S. Serafin