

# BUTTE COLLEGE

## COURSE OUTLINE

### I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

**FREN 1 - First Semester French**

**4 Unit(s)**

**Prerequisite(s):** NONE

**Recommended Prep:** Reading Level III; English Level III

**Transfer Status:** CSU/UC

68 hours Lecture

This course is a study of beginning French emphasizing grammar, reading, writing and speaking. It also introduces the student to various aspects of the cultures of French-speaking regions. Students who have completed at least one, but fewer than two years of high school French (or equivalent) with a letter grade of "A" or "B" within one year of the present date, should register for Second Semester French.

### II. OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. recognize and begin to imitate French pronunciation
- B. comprehend basic French at the introductory level
- C. speak basic French at the introductory level
- D. write basic French at the introductory level
- E. formulate arguments supporting the importance of second language acquisition
- F. appraise elements of French culture

### III. COURSE CONTENT

#### **A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule**

Critical discussion of culture in French-speaking communities shall be infused throughout the course: Family and Daily Life, Politics, Education, Healthcare System, Arts, Economy, and History.

Lecture

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Pronunciation	4.00
2. Numbers	4.00
3. Number and gender	8.00
4. Present tense verb conjugation	6.00
5. Adjectives	8.00
6. Conjugation of irregular verbs	4.00
7. Conjugation of stem changing verbs	2.00
8. Indicating likes and dislikes	3.00
9. Direct object pronouns	4.00
10. Indirect object pronouns	4.00
11. Possessive adjectives	4.00
12. Prepositions	3.00
13. Adverbs	4.00

14. Immediate future	4.00
15. Preterit past of regular verbs	6.00
Total Hours	68.00

#### **IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION**

- A. Lecture
- B. Collaborative Group Work
- C. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- D. Discussion
- E. Reading Assignments
- F. Multimedia Presentations
- G. The class will be conducted in French except when English is needed to explain structural elements and to give other important explanations

#### **V. METHODS OF EVALUATION**

- A. Quizzes
- B. Oral Presentation
- C. Class participation
- D. Exams

#### **VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Reading Assignments
  - 1. Read a diagram with statistics about recreational activities of French youth and describe the information to a partner.
  - 2. Read a short text about the climates of different regions of France. Afterward, create a table with the most important information, such as high temperatures and precipitation.
- B. Writing Assignments
  - 1. Write a brief diary entry about the day's events, in order to practice the past tense.
  - 2. Write a short message to a friend describing the classes you are taking and your favorite subject.
- C. Out-of-Class Assignments
  - 1. Prepare outside of class an original skit based on a communicative context found in course materials. Perform the skit in class.
  - 2. Complete several "cloze" activities focused on accurate conjugation of verbs located in the textbook or handout and bring to the next class.

#### **VII. RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION**

Textbooks:

- A. Valette and Valette. Contacts. 8th Edition. Houghton Mifflin Co., 2009.

**Created/Revised by:** Ileana Gantt

**Date:** 11/07/2011