

# Honors Program, SUNY Potsdam

## Repeat Course Proposal

**To propose an honors course you have already taught, please send the following to the Honors Program office at Dunn Hall 309 (email to [lawrenbs@potsdam.edu](mailto:lawrenbs@potsdam.edu) is preferred):**

1. This form, completed
2. A copy of the proposed course syllabus, complete with stated course objectives, pedagogical methods, and assessment tools. If you propose a **mixed-cohort course**, your syllabus must specifically indicate the ways you will provide the honors cohort with a suitable "honors" experience distinct from that of other students in the class

### Course Information

|  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Instructor: Celine Philibert           |                                   |
| Course Department and Number: FREN 203 | Term (e.g. Fall 2011): Fall 2011  |
| Day/Time: MWF 12:00 p.m.               | Credit Hours: 3                   |
| Full Honors (enrollment cap):          | Mixed-Cohort (enrollment cap): 15 |

### Does this course fulfill any specific degree requirements? If so, which ones?

|  |
|--|
| Major/Minor: YES   |
| Cognates for other majors:                                       |
| General Education descriptors: ML                                |
| Prior approval of course by General Education Committee (Y/N): Y |

### For Office Use Only

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Honors Council Approval (Y/N): | Date: |
| Department Chair's Approval:   | Date: |
| Dean's Approval:               | Date: |

# FREN 203 Oral & Written French I- Honors

## Fall 2010 MWF 12:00-12:50 Morey 221

Instructor: Celine Philibert  
Tel: 267-2031  
Office: Morey 221  
Office Hours: MWF 1-1:50, and by appointment  
E-mail: [philibcg@potdam.edu](mailto:philibcg@potdam.edu)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course focuses on "expressing yourself" -- telling about your experiences, giving your opinions, persuading, and expressing wishes and apologies. It is designed to help you deepen your knowledge of the French language and French and francophone cultures. We will practice the four language skills --listening, speaking, reading and writing – in the context of social situations and we will discuss many cultural topics. Grammar will be reviewed systematically. Since class preparation will regularly entail written expression, the emphasis in the classroom will be on speaking and interaction among students.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** At the end of this course, you will be able to

- Write a well-constructed 5-page essay/research report, properly documented.
- Interview classmates on assigned topics and write an interview report, beginning to develop interview skills as a research tool.
- Listen to short audio or video files, and demonstrate comprehension by answering questions
- Read short articles and justify your understanding by answering pertinent questions
- Manipulate technology in French: do word processing in French, inserting accents properly; send e-mail and attach documents in French; use the Internet to retrieve information in French relevant to your interests.
- Cite research sources in proper form
- Complete a final 15-minute Oral Proficiency Interview (ACTFL criteria) with an assessment of **intermediate low/intermediate mid/or intermediate high.**

**HONORS EXPECTATIONS:**

- **Active learning:** You will actively experience language and culture through studying cultural artifacts such as short texts, music, film clips, by creating with language, and by making presentations.
- Mastery of **theoretical aspects** of course content: the **theme** of the course will be to explore, compare, and contrast cultural identities from several Francophone regions, through linguistic and cultural artifacts.
- **Interactive processes:** you will "own" your own learning by working with partners and small groups, taking responsibility to report back to the group, planning ways to master material creatively and effectively and present it to others.
- **Student-initiated discovery.** Classroom activities may include tasks such as interviewing others in the class, introducing significant discoveries that have contributed to social progress. Students will be responsible for finding their own creative ways of demonstrating appreciation of aesthetic material and understanding of linguistic and cultural connections.

REQUIRED TEXT: Bravo: Communication et Grammaire, Muyskens, Harlow, Violet (Boston: Heinle & Heinle Publishers, Inc.), with CD. Note: this is available on line less expensively at CourseSmart.com, but if you continue with the next level FREN 301, the text will be used again, and it is useful to have a good text to keep as a reference book.

METHODS:

- Short grammar presentations and exercises
- Partner and group conversations
- Class discussion
- Student presentations, including use of power point
- Interviews and interview reports
- Analysis, discussion, comparison and contrast of cultural values from different Francophone cultures.
- Field trip (optional) will give students the chance to interact with native speakers, and study Quebec history and culture first hand. Choices: Montreal or Ottawa

COURSE EVALUATION:

|                                  |      |            |
|----------------------------------|------|------------|
| Class Preparation                | 10 % | 100 points |
| Class participation              | 10 % | 100 points |
| Projects (3) & oral presentation | 10 % | 100 points |
| Quizzes (6) (grammar & culture)  | 40 % | 400 points |
| Assessed Listening activities    | 10 % | 100 points |
| Assessed Writing activities      | 10 % | 100 points |
| Oral Proficiency Interview       | 10 % | 100 points |

GRADING SCALE

|                          |               |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| 900-1000 points ...      | 4.0           |
| 875-900 points ...       | 3.7           |
| 850-875 points ...       | 3.3           |
| 800-850 points ...       | 3.0           |
| 775-800 points ...       | 2.7           |
| 750-775 points ...       | 2.3           |
| 700-750 points ...       | 2.0           |
| Less than 700 points ... | less than 2.0 |

COMMENTS

Attendance:

You are expected to attend class regularly, and come to class prepared to actively participate in class discussions and activities. You will be called on at each class session. **THREE UNEXCUSED ABSENCES** will result in a 0 for class participation (10 % of your final grade). Any additional absence will proportionally count against your final grade.

### Class preparation

Assignments are to be completed as scheduled and posted on Blackboard. Essays will be reviewed and suggestions for improvement will be made via Bb. **LATE ASSIGNMENTS** will be reviewed, but will not count towards your participation grade. Preparation: in addition to completing homework (exercises from the textbook, workbook or directly from Blackboard) as assigned on a daily basis on Blackboard (see **DEVOIRS**), you are expected to go over the material covered in class, read (aloud) the dialogues studied in class (from the textbook), listen regularly to the CD that accompanies the textbook, and practice your assigned questions and your own answers so that you are ready to actively engage in class communication. Language acquisition takes time and practice. You are encouraged to form study groups to practice together.

### Blackboard

To access the course on Blackboard, use your SUNY Potsdam User Name and Password. Make sure that they are valid before logging in. Select **French 203 Oral and Written French Honors**. Please check it daily so that you can be aware of any announcements, the assignments, and information posted by the instructor. Read your announcements and assignments every Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the evening (postings will be completed by 7 p.m.) to review what we did in class and learn what is due for next class session.

When completing your assignments, please practice complete sentences and become familiar with the way we type some of the most common French accents.

#### PCs:

|                 |                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| é (ALT and 130) | à (ALT and 133) | ê (ALT and 136) | ô (ALT and 147) |
| è (ALT and 138) | â (ALT and 131) | û (ALT and 150) | ù (ALT and 151) |
| ç (ALT and 135) |                 |                 |                 |

The computer will read your one-word answers as wrong if your accents are not correctly placed.

#### Macs:

|             |             |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| é (alt e e) | à (alt ` a) | ê (alt i e) | ô (alt i o) |
| è (alt ` e) | â (alt i a) | û (alt i u) | ù (alt ` u) |
| ç (alt c)   |             |             |             |

### Morey 253: The Modern Language Resource Center

Please familiarize yourself with the Resource Center, a place to study and complete your assignments. Dictionaries and other resources are available on site. A few assignments will be completed in the Center.

### Projects

Check the due dates on Blackboard.

Project # 1: Power point presentation: A trip to a francophone country (with partner)

Project # 2: Present a lesson creatively (grammar, vocabulary, culture) (with partner)

Project # 3: Power point presentation: Presenting a social issue pertaining to a Francophone country. Written version with bibliography will be required.

**On the PowerPoint, NO TEXT (full sentences) is allowed, (only short titles such as: "Mon voyage en Belgique," "mes activités," "mon départ," etc...)**

### Quizzes

6 quizzes will be part of the evaluation of your learning progress.

The final exam will be a 15-minute oral proficiency interview with the instructor. Time during the finals week will be arranged between the instructor and the students.

Always check Blackboard (Bb) for up-to-date assignment details, exercises, samples. If something is missing or you can't find it, let the instructor know right away. Any student who is having difficulty of any sort is urged to discuss problems with the instructor (call, e-mail or drop by). You are encouraged to organize your own study group or study partner and to ask for extra help if you need it. Students who need accommodations based on a documented disability or for some other reason, please feel free to make an appointment to discuss how best to accommodate your needs.