



**COURSE OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES:**

This course will focus on the development of the four skills: speaking, reading, writing and listening. Opportunities will be provided to practice these skills daily while learning the language in context. The format of the course will follow a thematic presentation of the units. Our units this year will be closely tied to the Middle Years Program's three fundamental concepts of foreign language learning as well as the five areas of interaction.

**TEXTBOOK:** Bien Dit: French I

The textbook will remain in class because the textbook also has online access to the textbook and activities. Students are able to check out a textbook if they would like to use the book for an assignment or to study. Students will also be required to keep a 3-ring binder, which will contain all notes, vocabulary, homework, handouts and tests. It is critical that the student come prepared each and every class with their materials in order to be successful.

**INTERNET:** The student will be required to use and complete assignments on the internet (ex. quizlet.com or my.hrw.com). Ample time and opportunities will be provided for internet access, but it is the responsibility of the student for completing the required work inside or outside of school on time.

**MATERIALS:**

Students must have and bring to class **everyday:**

- 3 ring binder – 1 ½ or 2 inch (not 1 inch)
- Dividers (5) with Tabs
- Blue or Black Pen/Pencils
- Highlighter or Pen of a different color
- Loose leaf paper



**CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:**

It is expected that each student:

- arrives on time or arrives with a pass from a teacher
- arrives prepared with materials and all assignments due
- is respectful to their classmates, the teacher, and any visitors
- is responsible for their **own** work and behavior
- participates appropriately and to the best of their ability

It is also expected that students strive for excellence and as a part of the IB/MYP program aim to achieve the characteristics of the learner profile:

- Inquirers
- Open-minded
- Knowledgeable
- Caring
- Thinkers
- Risk-takers
- Communicators
- Balanced
- Principled
- Reflective

## **HOMEWORK POLICY:**

Homework will be given approximately every class and will be due at the beginning of the following class unless otherwise instructed. The homework is expected to be completed for each assignment as it puts into practice the development of learning the language. Homework assignments will sometimes be checked (I will check for completion of assignment and will be reviewed in class) or graded (I will collect assignment). *Late homework assignments will not be accepted unless you were legally absent the day it was assigned.*

## **GRADING POLICY:**

- Homework: 25%
- Tests/Quizzes: 30%
- Participation/Classwork: 20%
- Projects/Essays: 25%

*As required by the district, I use Infinite Campus to post grades. I highly encourage all students and parents to regularly check Infinite Campus' Parent Portal in order to remain informed on the student's progress.*

## **ABSENCES:**

In the event of an absence, it is the responsibility of the student to make up any missed work, quizzes, or tests. There is a designated area in the classroom for the student to pick up work from the previous day(s) or other missing papers. The student should also speak with the teacher before homeroom or before/after class to collect any other work or ask questions for clarification on any assignments on the day the student returns. Please contact me if there is a period of time the student will be absent and I will provide any necessary materials ahead of time if possible. When a student is absent, any work that is missed and not completed within a timely fashion will be counted as a 0.

## **MAJOR THEMES/UNITS:**

Students will be assigned approximately one major assignment/project for each unit. Certain units and content will require more time and careful practice than others. It is important to understand that when learning a language, each new piece builds on a previous concept learned. Therefore if a certain concept is difficult to master, it's best to slow down and focus on that concept so that the next building block will be accessible.

### The major units will include:

- Friends and Family
- Having Fun
- Morning Routine
- Parties/Celebrations
- Food and Cooking
- Past/Good Old Days
- High School
- Health and Body
- Outdoors and Vacation

\*It is possible that units will be adjusted based on the students' performance.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:**

Students are expected to do their best work at all times. Although it can be easy to borrow work from a friend, this is considered cheating and will not be tolerated. The Internet is often a great resource, but for foreign language students it can also be tempting to use online translators. The use of translators is not only usually inaccurate, but copying translations also violates academic integrity and honesty.

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense – student is allowed to resubmit assignment the next day

- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense – student is allowed to resubmit assignment the next day for ½ credit with parent signature acknowledging reason for resubmission
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense – student is NOT allowed to resubmit work and will receive a zero; parent-teacher-student conference will be scheduled

**CELL PHONES:** The use of cell phones during class is not permitted. If a student needs to contact their parent/guardian they may use the phone in the transportation office across from the main office with teacher permission. If a student uses their phone for any purpose during class the following actions will be taken:

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense – Phone will be taken away for the rest of the class period
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense – Phone will be taken away for the rest of the school day
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense – Phone will be taken away and parent will be called to come and pick it up
- If problems persist, the situation will be referred to a building administrator

**EXTRA HELP OPPORTUNITIES:**

I am *always* willing to do as much as possible to enhance the experience in learning the language. I am very flexible and am available before, during, and after school. Please see me for specific times for additional help. Every question is important and I am happy to help explain an assignment, question, and concept.

**COMMUNICATION:**

**STUDENTS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS:** Email is the easiest and fastest way to communicate with me regarding assignments, questions, extra help, current progress and more. I check my email frequently and will typically respond within 24 hours.

Please email me at: [drcroisdale@buffaloschools.org](mailto:drcroisdale@buffaloschools.org). If you would prefer to speak on the phone I can be reached at 716-816-4230 ext. 1200.

**If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me! ☺**

**A special note to SENIORS:** Because you are enrolled in a class designed for 8<sup>th</sup> graders, there are both attendance and work requirements until the end of the school year (unlike IB/AP courses). You will be required to take the Second Language Proficiency Exam (SLP) at the end of June. This means that you will be required to come to class during your internship and complete all assignments. Signing up for this class means that you are aware and will fulfill all requirements until the end of the school year. Specific arrangements will be made after Winter Break.

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**French I**

Mlle Croisdale

Please sign below acknowledging you have read, understand, and agree to the syllabus. Please return ASAP.

**I have read the entire syllabus understand and agree to the class outline and expectations.**

Student Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Phone #(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 (for communication and updates – please print clearly)