



Autrey Mill Middle School

French Level I part A Syllabus 7th Grade

2022-2023



Teacher: Madame Dana Blackburn
Email: blackburnd@fultonschools.org

Teacher: Madame Sharon Sudu
Email: sudus@fultonschools.org

Help Session: Thursdays 8:00 AM meet in café / by appointment
Online textbook + workbook Supersite: VHL (www.vhlcentral.com)
Bi-weekly 7th grade newsletter: main communication of assessments

Course Description :

Bienvenue à la classe de français ! Last year's 6th grade French course established a firm basis for success in 7th grade French. Students will be introduced to a variety of new topics and vocabulary to expand their active **speaking, listening, reading and writing skills**. However, this course is taught in a way that a new learner to French will also understand.

The **Level 1** language course focuses on the development of written and oral communicative competence in French and on understanding the cultures of the many francophone countries of the world. The course is taught over 2 years in middle school. Accommodations and modifications will be made to meet students' individual needs.

Note: Successful completion of both 7th and 8th Grade French will result in one Carnegie Unit of World Language credit toward High School graduation. The final semester grade from each semester of 8th grade French will appear on the high school transcript with credit for Level 1.

The 5 National Performance Standards for Foreign Language Learning adopted by Georgia:

- **Communication** - students engage in conversations, understand and interpret spoken and written language, and present information on a variety of topics.
- **Culture** - Students investigate, explain and reflect on the relationships between target culture products, practices and perspectives.
- **Connections** - Students connect aspects of their target language learning with information acquired in other subject areas such as math, science, social studies, English and the arts.
- **Comparisons** - Students demonstrate an understanding of the nature of language and culture, making comparisons between those of the target language and their own.
- **Communities** - Students find and engage in the target language outside of the school environment, and set goals and reflect on their progress in using the language for enjoyment, enrichment and advancement.

Text and Student Workbook

- *D'accord! Level 1 Langue et culture du monde francophone*. Replacement: ~\$95.00; can rent one to keep at home or find cheap on Amazon.
- *D'accord! Cahier d'élève* Replacement: ~\$45.00
- Students have access to the book, workbook, practice activities, flashcards, and more resources through their account at www.VHLcentral.com. We will create student accounts together in class.

Other materials:

- Interactive images, videos, and a variety of multicultural, multi-sensory learning materials provided by the textbook company, as well as teacher created materials
- **Spiralbound notebook** for handwritten notes; writing & art supplies; 1" binder space for handouts
- Sites we'll use include **FlipGrid, Quizlet, Kahoot, Gimkit**, etc.

Course Concepts:

Students will have opportunities to experience the products, practices and perspectives of francophone cultures through holidays, foods, music and more. Our course outline will cover Level I foundations and Units 1-2 of the book. The **topics** will include various cultural lessons plus:

Unit 1 Salut!:

- greetings
- nouns + articles
- numbers 0-60, how many?, phone number
- describing oneself and friends
- verb 'to be'

Unit 2 Au lycée.

- classroom objects and phrases
- opinion on school courses
- afterschool activities, -ER group verbs
- expressions with verb 'to have'
- stating when a class/activity occurs



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Grading Distribution: Assessments are based on the 4 Skills of Language Proficiency- Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking. Students will have solo and teamwork classwork, quizzes, non-graded practice, projects (which might include skits, dialogues, written stories or paragraphs, and art), tests, and written/spoken Performance Based Assessments (PBAs). **The final exam of each semester will be cumulative.**

Categories	Semester Percentage
Practice: open-note homework/classwork (4-6/semester)	10%
Minor Assessments: Quizzes (~ 4/sem) Projects (~ 2/sem) &	40%
Major Assessments: Tests (2/sem) PBAs (2-4/ sem)	50%

Assessment Recovery:

- All students will have one opportunity to redo each major assessment.
- Eligibility for a redo is on assessments of 75% or below.
- Replacement grade will be up to a 75%.
- Redo's must be complete before the next major assessment or 5 days before the end of a marking period if there is no additional assessment. Exceptions made for students absent in that 5-day window.

Proficiency Targets: At the end of 7th Grade students are expected to perform at the following proficiency levels (according to [ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines](#)) in each skill area. Please see a brief description below.

	Speaking	Listening	Writing	Reading
6 th grade Intro to French	Novice Mid	Novice Mid	Novice Mid	Novice High
7 th grade Level I Part I	Novice Mid	Novice Mid	Novice Mid	Intermediate Low
8 th grade Level I Part II	Novice High	Novice High	Novice High	Intermediate Low

- Interpersonal Communication:** I can communicate on very familiar topics using a variety of words and phrases that I have practiced and memorized.
- Speaking:** I can present basic information about myself and some other very familiar topics using a variety of words, phrases, and memorized expressions.
- Listening:** I can recognize some familiar words and phrases when I hear them spoken.
- Reading:** I can understand familiar words, phrases, and sentences within short and simple texts related to everyday life. I can sometimes understand the main idea of what I have read.
- Writing:** I can write lists and memorized phrases on familiar topics.

Policies, Procedures, Expectations:

- Please refer to the Rules and Policies section in the [student handbook](#) along with other communications provided by AMMS for additional information regarding grading, homework, academic instruction, communication, and attendance.
- The use of an online translator for translating complete thoughts to do any class assignment is a violation of academic honesty. However, www.wordreference.com is an acceptable vocabulary reference tool as it is like using a dictionary. Rules will be strictly, but fairly, enforced. Parents will be notified if inappropriate behavior persists and disciplinary action will be taken as necessary. All these guidelines are consistent with the policies and procedures set out by the Autrey Mill Administrative Team.
- Classes are held almost entirely in French (with numerous visuals, props, interactive technology, gestures, etc. to aid in comprehension). Students are challenged to think critically to construct meaning. Classroom activities require teamwork as students use the target language and develop their communication skills.
- Respect** and a positive attitude toward others and self are necessary to make French class a productive learning environment. **Mme B's and Mme Sudu's #1 class rule is the Golden Rule.** Accepting & welcoming others is expected. Individuals should also treat *themselves* with positivity- **second language learning can be difficult, but courage and perseverance are key to success and understanding.**



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Communication:

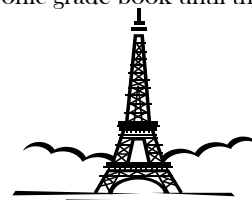
Each class has its own **Microsoft Team & OneNote Notebook** where announcements, assignments, projects, due dates, resources, and other information will be posted. Students are expected to check **email daily**. Please note also that **Infinite Campus** is a very useful resource for monitoring assignments and course averages.

Late & Make-up Work:

Students are urged to turn in work **on time** for teachers to be able to provide helpful feedback. When a student has been absent, s/he is to 1) check Microsoft Team for missed updates and assignments, 2) ask their classmates for any notes they need to copy before 3) coming to the teacher (verbally or via a professionally worded email) to ask what they missed. When emailing the teacher for help, please state the steps you've already taken to find a solution to your inquiry. A grade of "NHI" (not handed in) will be entered in the electronic grade book until the last assignment is received by the teacher. 10 points off per day for every day late (up to 25 points).

Report Card Feedback :

- **Self-Direction** - is the student on task during independent work time?
- **Collaboration** - is the student fulfilling their role during group work?
- **Problem-Solving** - does the student attempt to find solutions when they are stuck
- **Work Habits** - Does the student consistently turn in work on time and submit work that reflects their best effort



We have high expectations for the success of our students and look forward to working with you and your child this year. We are confident that we will have an exciting and rewarding experience as we explore the French language and culture together!

Mesdames Sudu & Blackburn

Suggestions for studying another language

1. **Be prepared for class every day!** You must have your textbook, notebook and writing utensils every day to learn and participate in class! **There is NO EXCUSE for not having all materials ready EVERY DAY.**
2. **Study consistently:** You **MUST** study a world language **EVERY NIGHT** to be successful. Whether it is written homework, or reading over notes, making flashcards, or studying for a quiz, you will **ALWAYS HAVE SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME.**
3. **Listen and imitate:** You must listen carefully and imitate as exactly as you can. Pronunciation affects meaning.
4. **Study out loud:** In reading over material silently, you only use your visual memory. Studying out loud doubles your efficiency by adding auditory memory. Motor memory (i.e. flashcards) quadruples your efficiency! Enlist your parents' or brothers' and sisters' help.
5. **Divide the material into small units.** Don't try to memorize a large body of material at once. Break it up! Studying smaller bits of information as we go along will be much less overwhelming once we get to tests.
6. **Make good use of class time:** We will do a lot of practice together and you **MUST** be on task and participating to fully benefit.
7. **Do not fall behind:** Language learning is cumulative, and we will build a large repertoire of vocabulary and grammar by the end of the year. You must know **ALL OF IT!** If you fall behind, the material will snowball.
8. **Take initiative:** You are responsible for your learning. If you need extra help, it is **YOUR** responsibility to seek it. Your teachers are here to help, but you must take the initiative to **ASK** if you feel you need extra help.
9. **Refer to "[Les Ressources françaises en ligne](#)" for extra resources!** There are numerous websites, videos, and vocabulary sheets here. Some of its resources are used in class and some are for supplemental learning. Or, if you are traveling to France soon, you should look here!