**Valencia College – East Campus**

**Fall 2018**

**FRE 1120 CRN 13778 TR 10:00 am -11:50 am Aug. 28-Oct. 18**

**Professor: Mr. Groover email: jgroover4@valenciacollege.edu**

***Bonjour!***

***Bienvenue au monde francophone!***

***(Welcome to the French-speaking world!)***

**Required Text: *Portails ,*** Mitchell, Tano

**Supersite log in:** <http://www.vhlcentral.com/>, plus sign-up instructions

**Pre-requisite: None**

**Course Description:** Elementary French I is a 4-credit-hour course for students without two years of recent high school French within the last three years, or department approval. Students who are beyond this level will intimidate beginning students, and they must be appropriately placed in a higher level course. There is a **mandatory** on-line component to this course which will give the student time to practice grammar skills and listening skills in French. This is a basic course in French language and culture which emphasizes the four skills –listening, speaking, reading and writing. The successful student will be able to respond in complete sentences and engage in basic dialogues on topics such as: greetings, asking/answering questions, describing people, expressing likes and dislikes, describing daily routines, dealing with time, talking about places, activities, the weather, etc.

**Course Objective:** The objective in French 1120 is to provide a balanced, four-skill approach to learning French language. Upon completion of the course, the successful student will have mastered basic vocabulary and structures of French language and will have gained an appreciation of Francophone cultures. All vocabulary will focus on practical, everyday life and situations one may encounter when traveling or living in a Francophone country. Learning activities will be reinforced through group work, drills, and oral presentations.

**Students with disabilities:** Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a letter from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with the professor. The goal of the OSD is to open doors, remove barriers and assist students in any way they can. Please see <http://www.valenciacc.edu/osd>.

**Academic Honesty:** Each student must follow the policies set forth in the admissions catalog and the student handbook (6HX28: 8-03). **Please note that the use of an on-line translator is forbidden in any foreign language classroom.**

**Expected Student Conduct:** Valencia College is dedicated to promoting honorable personal and social conduct. By enrolling at Valencia, a student assumes responsibility for knowing and abiding by the rules set forth in the Student Code of Conduct (6Hx28:10-03). The instructor reserves the right to refer disruptive students to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action.

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**Attendance:** Regular attendance is necessary for successful completion of this course. Students are allowed the equivalent of  **three (3) absences** during the term. Upon the 3rd absence, the student will be notified that a further absence will result in their withdrawal from the course. On the 4th absence, the student will automatically be withdrawn from the course by the instructor. A student will be marked absent if: they do not answer when their name is called, or if their signature does not appear on the sign-in sheet for that day; if they miss more than 15 minutes of class by arriving late or leaving early; or if they do not take the final exam. It is the attendance records of the instructor, not the recollections of the student, which will be consulted for proof of attendance/absences.

Exceptions will be determined on a case-by-case basis for extremely extenuating circumstances, such as, but not limited to, complications regarding pregnancy, lengthy hospitalization as a result of a major medical condition, or military service. Exceptions will require clear and precise documentation which should be provided in a timely fashion.

**Tardies:** A student who is late for class **more that 15 minutes will be counted absent.**

**Cell phones:**  **All cell phones must be turned off during class time and no texting during class time is permitted. We have important work to do without such distractions!**

**Participation: An important part of your grade is determined by your willingness to speak French in the classroom. Your active participation in all activities is crucial to your success in the language.**

**Homework/Lab:** The Department at Valencia requires that you do your on-line chapter exercises. The grade that you receive will be based on the percentage that you earn for the total exercises of each chapter.

**Your exercises must be completed in a timely manner before the due date expires. Once an exercise expires, you cannot receive credit for that assignment.**

**Withdrawal Policy:** The withdrawal deadline for the fall term is **\_\_\_\_\_2018. It is your responsibility to withdraw from classes.** Before you decide to withdraw from any course, it is wise to first consult with both your professor and your academic/financial advisor, especially if you are receiving financial aid. After the Drop/Refund deadline of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2018, any student who either withdraws, or is withdrawn from the course through ATLAS, on or before the Withdrawal Deadline, will receive a grade of “W.” **It is the student’s responsibility to withdraw via ATLAS from any course that they do not intend to finish. A student is not permitted to withdraw after the withdrawal deadline. *Note: it is my policy that any student who stops attending my class, and who does not take the Final Exam, will receive a grade of “F” for the course.***

**Journal:** Each student is required to keep a French journal in which we will write sentences in French during each class period. At times I will collect your journals, and other times I will circulate among you to check your writings. Practice! Practice! Practice!

**Chapter Tests:** Written chapter tests will be given after each chapter. A student who needs to make up a test will do so in the Testing Center within one week of the absence. **Since there is usually a listening section on each test, the student will need to arrange a time outside of class to make up this portion with the instructor.**

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**Assessment: Your grade for the semester will be based on the total points you have earned as follows:**

Attendance 100 points

Participation 100 points

Homework/Lab 200 points (5 chapters @ 40 points each)

Oral presentation 50 points

Journal 100 points

Chapter tests 200 points (5 exams @ 50 points each; lowest score dropped)

Final exam 250 points (50 points is the oral portion of the exam)

**1000 Total points**

**Grading scale: 90 – 100% A**

**80 - 89% B**

**70 - 79% C**

**60 - 69% D**

**0 - 59% F**

**Conversion from percentage score to points:** To convert an assessment percentage score to points, take the percentage earned and multiply by the number of points possible.

EXAMPLE: You score a 90% on a chapter test which is worth 50 points. 50 X .90 = 45 points earned

**Oral presentation:** One oral presentation will be required this semester. It will usually involve you and another student in a paired dialogue, with the topics to be announced in advance.

**Oral part of Final Exam:** The Department requires that the Final Exam contain an oral component.

Again, you will be paired with another student as you present a dialogue on material you have learned this semester, or the professor will interview you on topics you have learned.

**FRENCH 1120 COURSE COMPETENCIES**

* **Introduce yourself and others**
* **Describe people**
* **Ask/answer questions**
* **Describe daily routines**
* **Negotiate elements of time**
* **Compare people and things**
* **Use command forms**
* **Gain a mature understanding of cultural differences**
* **Express likes and dislikes**
* **Talk about the environment**
* **Express duration of time**

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**VALENCIA COLLEGE STUDENT COMPETENCIES**

* Think clearly, critically, and creatively by acquiring, analyzing, synthesizing, integrating and evaluating in many domains of human inquiry.
* Communicate with different audiences using varied means: read, listen, write, and speak verbally, non-verbally, and visually.
* Make reasoned value judgments and responsible commitments.
* Act purposefully, reflectively, and responsibly.

***Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus if necessary. Changes will be announced in class.***