

## WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

## FRENCH I

### **Contact Information**

Robin Crown  
Building Department Leader, World Languages  
R. J. Grey Junior High  
16 Charter Road  
Acton, MA 01720  
Telephone: (978)264-4700, x3387  
E-mail: [rcrown@mail.ab.mec.edu](mailto:rcrown@mail.ab.mec.edu)

### **The Department's Educational Philosophy**

The study of a language that is not our own provides new opportunities to communicate with speakers of other languages, understand how others think and express their thoughts, perceive the world around us differently, and enhance our appreciation and understanding of ourselves and of others.

Because of the unique rewards of this discipline, we believe that all students should become proficient in at least one language other than English. We believe that language learning is a lifelong undertaking that ideally should begin in elementary school and continue beyond high school. We believe that the study of language cannot be separated from the study of its culture, including daily living, history, literature, and the arts. We believe that there are natural connections between the study of language and other disciplines. We believe that language learners should interact with other speakers of the language locally and globally.

Our philosophy parallels that of the Massachusetts Foreign Languages Curriculum Framework and the national Standards for Foreign Language Learning.

### **Guiding Principles**

*All students of modern languages should:*

- Develop proficiency in the target language through listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing, and presenting in the target language.
- Develop an understanding of the target culture – its daily life, history, literature, arts, mathematics, and science.
- Develop insight into languages and cultures through comparison and contrast.
- Acquire information in and make connections with other disciplines such as the arts, English, history, and social studies.
- Communicate with local and international speakers of the language.
- Develop critical and creative thinking, organizational, cooperative, and study skills.
- Use technology as a tool for communicating, developing language skills, and accessing authentic cultural material from around the world.

## FRENCH I

**Course Frequency:** Two-year course, five times per week

**Credits Offered:** None

**Prerequisites:** None

### **Background to the Curriculum**

The 7-12 McDougal Littell Discovering French Nouveau program was adopted and will be phased in beginning in September 2007. The program was selected by a committee of grade 7 – 12 French teachers. The French I curriculum is aligned to national and state standards.

### **Core Topics/Questions/Concepts/Skills**

**Vocabulary for Communication:** greeting family and friends, telling time, using numbers, talking about the days of the week and months of the year, discussing food, describing the weather, using vocabulary related to school, sports and other leisure activities, getting around a city, living in a house, shopping, taking a vacation

**Structure for Communication:** numbers; time expressions; days, months, dates and seasons; weather expressions; the present tense of *avoir, être, aller, venir, mettre, faire, voir*; the present tense of regular *-er, -ir, -re* verbs; expressions with *avoir* and *faire*; asking and answering yes/no questions; interrogative expressions; conjugated verbs followed by an infinitive; use of definite and indefinite articles; descriptive adjectives; adjectives of nationality; colors; possessive adjectives; demonstrative adjectives; use of the constructions *il est* and *c'est*; stress pronouns; use of the imperative; the immediate future; the passé composé with *avoir* and *être*

**Culture for Communication:** select topics and vocabulary related to Paris and its environs, French cuisine, fashion, holidays and leisure activities

**Skills for Communication:** reading, writing, listening, and speaking

## Course-End Learning Objectives

<u>Learning objectives</u>	<u>Corresponding state standards, where applicable</u>
<i>By the end of the course, successful French I students will:</i>	
1] Communicate through reading, writing, listening, and speaking at an appropriate level of proficiency.	1, 2, 3
2] Incorporate the afore-mentioned vocabulary and structures in their communication.	1, 2, 3
3] Compare and contrast this vocabulary and these structures with those of the English language.	5 4
4] Demonstrate an understanding of and appreciation for French culture, and, in particular, Paris.	6 7
5] Be able to compare and contrast French culture with their own.	
6] Be able to make connections to other disciplines, specifically science, health, English, social studies, history, art, and music.	8
7] Have had opportunities to communicate with speakers of French.	

## Assessment

Assessment is an integral part of World Language instruction and learning. Students are assessed in a variety of ways: written tests and quizzes, oral proficiency tests, compositions, journal writing, projects, and oral presentations. When appropriate, students are encouraged to incorporate technology in their written assignments, projects, and presentations. Due to the building block nature of language learning, homework is assigned nightly to reinforce class work. Students are encouraged to participate in the classroom by using the modern language individually, in pairs, and in groups. The final examination evaluates the four major modern language skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

## **Technology and Health Learning Objectives Addressed in This Course**

**(This section is for faculty and administrative reference; students and parents may disregard.)**

<b><u>Course activity: skills and/or topics taught</u></b>	<b><u>Standard(s) addressed through this activity</u></b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Students will access the Internet to do French projects or activities.</li><li>2) Students will use online sources to access information from or about Paris to do projects or papers.</li><li>3) Students may create multimedia projects about Paris.</li></ol>	

## **Materials and Resources**

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Print**

Valette, J.P. and R.M. Valette. Discovering French Nouveau 1A. Evanston, Illinois: McDougal Littell, 2007.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Print**

Valette, J.P. and R.M. Valette. Discovering French Bleu. Evanston, Illinois: McDougal Littell, 1997.

Valette, J.P. and R.M. Valette. Discovering French Bleu, Activity Book. Evanston, Illinois: McDougal Littell, 1997.

Valette, J.P. and R.M. Valette. Discovering French Bleu, Audio Program. Evanston, Illinois: McDougal Littell, 1997.

Valette, J.P. and R.M. Valette. Discovering French Bleu, Video Program. Evanston, Illinois: McDougal Littell, 1997.

selected literary readings; e.g. Un été pas comme les Autres

### **Video**

Discovering French Nouveau  
Families of France