



Message du professeur et syllabus

Bonjour et bienvenue! Hello and welcome! My name is Madame Steinhauer, and I am your French teacher this year. I welcome you to room D743, a small part of the French-speaking world right here at Hopewell Middle School.

Millions of people around the world speak French, and it is the official language of many, many, countries. Did you know, for example, that French is spoken in Cambodia, Algeria, and Senegal, just to name a few countries outside of Europe? French is your gateway to the world!

SPEAKING FRENCH IS FUN! Here are just a few things that you can do if you know how to speak French:

1. Write letters to pen pals around the world!
2. Visit foreign countries and know what everyone is talking about!
3. Interpret at sporting events such as the Olympic Games, and meet world famous athletes!
4. Surf the internet, and communicate directly with French speakers across the globe!
5. Follow *le Tour de France* . . . IN FRENCH!
6. Travel or be an exchange student in a French-speaking country!
7. Be a volunteer or development worker in a French-speaking country!

... and let's not forget ... Impress your family and friends with your sophisticated French accent!

There are five Ps to follow in our classroom:

1. Be punctual
2. Be prepared to learn
3. Be polite
4. Be positive
5. Participate!

For those of you who need me to be more specific, please note:

Be punctual – Be in your seat when the bell rings, unless you have a pass. *I will do you the courtesy of arriving on time as well.*

Be prepared to learn – Come to class with an open mind. Bring all materials, including your homework, every day. Take responsibility for yourself. *I promise that I will always come prepared to teach.*

Be polite – Use kind words with each other and with me; keep your hands and feet to yourselves; do not create unnecessary distractions. Teasing, name-calling, and bullying have no place in our classroom – or anywhere else, for that matter. *I will always speak to you in a respectful manner, and I expect the same in return.* No chewing gum, please.

Be positive – Show respect for yourself and others by maintaining a positive attitude about school and class. *I will always believe in you and your ability to learn.*

And then . . . There's the most important rule of all: Be enthusiastic, speak French and **PARTICIPATE** as much as possible, and have fun! Speak French to me, to your friends, to your parents, and to your brothers and sisters (even if they don't understand a word you are saying, it sure is fun to watch their expressions)! Speak in French to your dog, your cat, your goldfish, or your lizard. Speak French to anyone or anything that will listen (you get the idea). You can even speak French to yourself. No one will think you are crazy – they will be convinced that you are incredibly brilliant! The more you speak, the better you will speak – it's as easy as that!

Alors . . . So . . .

Now that I've told you a bit about why French is so fantastic and how you can be happy in our classroom, allow me to introduce myself.

My given name is Shelby Ann Steinhauer, and I am reasonably sure I was the only Shelby in the state of New York until I left in June of 2000. As of this year, I have only taught TWO students with the same name! I was born on Long Island in the 70s, but I was a true child of the 80s (think Madonna, big hair, baggy sweaters . . . *like, totally, dude...* fer sure...). I attended Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. for my undergraduate degree and SUNY Stony Brook for my Masters program. I earned an Educational Specialist degree in School Administration at Lincoln Memorial University.

The important people in my life (other than you all) are my parents and friends, and my nephews and niece, Jason, Alex, and Lindsay. You will hear much about them this year – *en français*, of course! I have traveled widely, and I know people all over the world, but my good friends are rare gems indeed. I am passionate about life, our planet, civil rights, serving others, justice, and equality. I LOVE my students!

I have been teaching world language since 1993 – mostly French, some Italian, plus a little yearbook, reading, and English along the way. I have taught in New York, Washington, D.C., Georgia, Nepal, and India. I have lived in Europe, Asia, and North America. I have served in the United States Peace Corps. I have dined atop the Eiffel tower and sipped tea in huts made of cow dung. I have marveled at the snowcapped peaks of the Alps only to see them dwarfed by the unfathomable majesty of the Himalayas. I have taught classes of 10 and classes of 85. I have known children who vacation in Europe and children who do not own shoes, children who attend Ivy League universities and children who toil in rice paddies, children who take school for granted and children who have not been taught to write their own names. I have seen children suffer from illness, poverty, hunger, neglect, or a plain old case of a really bad attitude. I have also seen children triumph, excel, beat the odds, and turn their lives around with nothing but faith and a strong work ethic to fall back on. I have seen much in my short time on this earth. One thing, though, has remained the same throughout all my years and all my travels: teaching is and always has been a calling for me. I have been blessed with so much, materially, emotionally, and spiritually, and I can't imagine not wanting to share what I have been given. Teaching means the world to me, and when I say that learning French can change your life – it did mine – please know that I am wishing for you all the joy of discovering a new language, new cultures, and a new perspective on just about everything – from greeting your friends with a kiss on both cheeks to eating goat cheese for dessert. I am so pleased to be at Hopewell this year, doubly pleased to be your teacher, and triply pleased that you have chosen to be a part of the wonderful, magical, diverse and delightful French-speaking world.

Sincerely,

Shelby Steinhauer



Yes, this is 14 year-old *moi* sitting in a café in Paris. I am crying because I don't want to leave.

Apprendre une langue / Learning a language

The goal in a French class is to learn to speak the language fluently and beautifully, and at the same time, to develop a love for *le monde francophone* – the French-speaking world. Achieving fluency in a second language requires time, patience and hard work. It may be the most difficult task that you have ever undertaken, or it may come quite naturally to you. Either way, the results are rewarding in ways that you have yet to imagine – meeting new people, traveling, opening up a whole new world.

As you progress in French, you will be assessed in four areas: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Please consult the syllabus for more detailed course and grading information.

Frequently Asked Questions about French

Is this class difficult? Yes and no. Learning a foreign language requires motivation, time commitment, and hard work. But keep in mind – if you spend a reasonable amount of time studying, French will come much more easily to you than if you never crack open a book.

What if I make a lot of mistakes in French? Not a problem. I expect my students to make mistakes, especially in the beginning. *If you knew everything, you wouldn't be here.*

Is it really possible to learn French in school? Absolutely! *You will be amazed at how much French you can learn if you really try! I didn't begin French until 9th grade! You are already ahead of me!*

Must I speak French in class all the time? You will receive a list of common questions and classroom terms. You should speak French as much as possible in class.

Will I get a French name? Yes – any French name you want!

Will we get to taste French food? Of course! *Oui, Oui!* We will taste chocolate, cheese, croissants, etc...

Is there much homework? Is there homework on weekends? Of course there is homework – and sometimes on weekends! When you do not have written homework, you are expected to study vocabulary for 15-25 minutes as needed.

How often will there be quizzes, tests, or other assessments? There will usually be one or two quizzes per week, and two-four major tests per semester. You will sometimes have “open-book” or “take-home” quizzes as well. Other assessments include written, oral, and aural (listening) activities.

Oh my, that's a lot of quizzes. Why so many, Madame? If I divide the material into small blocks, then you are much more likely to be successful. Imagine if we had no quizzes, but instead, took one BIG test on everything! It would be impossible to study that much all at once!

How will I learn to pronounce French? The website has flashcards with audio for every word we learn! It's like having your own private French tutor at home!



Can I hand in homework late? Your materials, including your homework, should be in class, on time, with you. Online assignments should be done the day they are given out. A big part of what you learn in middle school is responsibility. You must come prepared and ready to work. I will give 70% credit for well-done homework that is late.

What if I left my homework in my locker? I do not send students to their lockers for homework that they “forgot” because this practice is disruptive to the general routine of the class and also to students in other classes. You may hand in your homework late for 70% credit the next day (see above).

Does neatness count on homework and projects? Yes. If an assignment is messy, carelessly crumpled, or torn, I may to require a student to redo it.

Is homework graded? Absolutely. Since you took the time to do the homework, it will often be my pleasure to look it over and make sure you did a good job! Sometimes we will go over it first.

Does everyone have to participate in class? Of course! I want to hear beautiful French from everyone, every day!

If I forget my pen, pencil, or whiteboard marker, may I borrow these items? You may borrow these things from another student, but I will not provide them for you.

May I use the bathroom or go to the water fountain during class time? You should do these things in between classes if possible. Exceptions will be made for emergencies.

What do I do if I am absent? If you are absent, please look in the “pick-up” drawer by the door for the work you missed. Place your completed assignments in the drawer for your class period marked “Hand in.” It is your responsibility to make up assignments and reschedule quizzes/tests.

May I chew gum in class? You should NEVER chew gum in class.

Anything else I should know? Yes. I expect a great deal from you because I believe you are worth my time and effort. I hope you believe this about yourself as well.

Syllabus – French 6



Teachers: Ms. Shelby Steinhauer

E-mail: steinhauers@fultonschools.org

Website: <http://bonjourmadame.weebly.com>



Text: There is no textbook for this class.

We will employ a variety of materials in class to help your child acquire a basic knowledge of French.

Course Objectives and Content:

French 6 is designed for students with no prior knowledge of the language. In this course, students will begin to develop their comprehension of French through the essential skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Over the course of the year, students will increase their comfort level with communicating in French. In addition, students will study cultural elements of various francophone countries in order to expand their knowledge of the world around them. See the “NCSSFL-ACTFL Global Can-Do Benchmarks” for Novice Learners here: https://www.actfl.org/global_statements.

For Modern Languages, these standards consist of “The 5 Cs”:

Communication – students will engage in conversations, understand and interpret spoken and written language, and present information on a variety of topics.

Culture – Students will learn about target culture products, practices and perspectives.

Connections – Students will 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 will demonstrate an understanding of the nature of language and culture, making comparisons between those of the target language and their own.

Communities – Students will find and engage in the target language outside of the school environment and show evidence of building a life-long skill for their own personal enjoyment and enrichment.



Supplies:

1. A separate three-ring binder with loose leaf paper and five tabs **FOR FRENCH CLASS ONLY**
2. Pen and pencil
3. Dry erase markers/sock or eraser
4. A box of Clorox wipes/tissues (optional)
5. Crayons and markers for home use
6. A fantastic attitude and plenty of enthusiasm!

The goal of Fulton County Schools World Languages is to guide students in their mastery of the FCS World Languages Prioritized Standards (adopted from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) national performance standards) by providing proficiency based instruction that is personalized to student needs. Specific proficiency targets for middle school fall in the Novice and Intermediate-Low levels of the ACTFL Proficiency Scale.

Grading Policy:

90-100	A	70-79	C
80-89	B	Below 70	F

Homework	- 5%
Formative Assessments	- 25%
Summative Assessments (quizzes/tests/speaking)	- 55%
Fall Final/Fulton Common Assessment	- 15%

Tests will always be announced. Quizzes may be announced or unannounced.

If no written homework assignment is given, students should review vocabulary nightly.

Extra Help: Fall Semester: Tues.: 4:05 pm – 4:45 pm

Make-up Policy: Students will be allowed the same number of days absent to make up missed classwork, homework, and quizzes (Ex: two days absent, two days to make up work). Tests and alternative assessments that involve speaking or listening should be scheduled for make-up within one week of the last date of absence. Makeup sessions are by appointment.

The teacher reserves the right to extend the number of makeup days allowed for any makeup work depending on the circumstances of the absence.

Please pick up and drop off makeup work in the drawers at the front of the room. Students who are absent should check their teacher’s Homework Blog for information about what has been done in class. All work and notes will be available there daily. Students can print the work they missed while absent.

Late Work Policy: Full credit will only be given for work that is brought to class at the start of the period.

Students may earn 70% credit for well-done homework that is late.

Individual writing assignments and projects will have 10% deducted per number of days that they are late down to 70%. For example, a project that is three or more days late will receive a score of 70%, unless the work is not passing-quality.

Recovery: According to Fulton County Policy, the Recovery Procedure is as follows: "Students who have low (75 or below) or failing cumulative grades may ask the teacher for opportunities to improve their grade *when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance.*"

Home Access Center: As you may already know, Hopewell Middle School has a program called Home Access Center that allows you to view your child's academic progress and attendance on-line. You may contact the school for information on how to obtain a log-on password to your account.

The Language Lab: We will sometimes use the Hopewell Language Labs. This is fantastic news! All students must agree to follow the lab rules provided to them prior to using the lab. Failure to do so will result in the loss of lab privileges.

Discipline Procedures: Students must follow all rules as outlined in the student handbook and agenda as well as all Fulton County policies. The Hopewell dress code must be observed at all times.

In addition, students must follow classroom rules: be prepared, punctual, polite, positive and participatory.

Hopewell has implemented a school-wide policy wherein students will receive an in-school detention after three warnings.

Serious infractions will be referred immediately to an administrator.

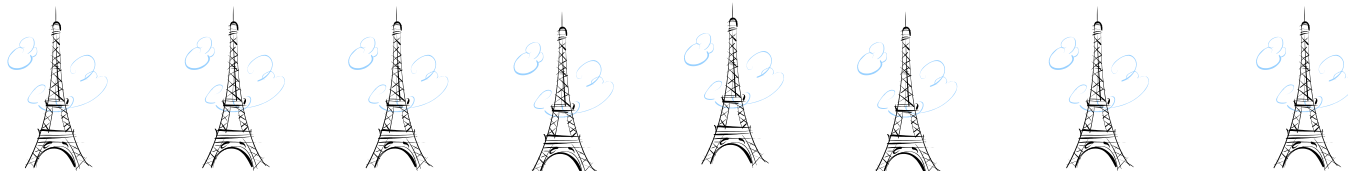
Respecting Others: Our French classroom is a "safe zone." All students should feel confident that they will be free from verbal or physical harassment and that their ideas will be respected when they are in our room. As such, I expect students to respect each other and refrain from making disparaging comments. We will not tolerate bullying or slurs of any kind in our classroom.
POSITIVE COMMENTS ONLY!

Electronics: All electronic items should be AWAY AND OFF in my class unless I give you permission to use them. This includes, but is not limited to: cell phones, surfaces, calculators, video games, musical devices, etc...

Honor Code and Plagiarism: Student assignments turned in for grading should be the sole work of that individual student. To prevent cheating and plagiarism, students may not collaborate with other students or adults on their assignments unless the teacher has given specific permission to do so. This includes the giving or receiving of information in any manner, including electronically. In situations where collaboration is allowed, the teacher will clearly define what level of collaboration is appropriate. Under no circumstances is it acceptable for two students to submit identical work, unless the assignment included a group component that makes it permissible. Students are encouraged to consult with their teacher regarding what level of collaboration is acceptable prior to completing and submitting their work.

HMS Plagiarism Statement: A particular kind of honor code violation occurs with plagiarism. Plagiarism is defined as the use of another's words or ideas and the presentation of them as though they are entirely one's own. Acts of plagiarism include but are not limited to using words or ideas from a published source without proper documentation; using the work of another student (e.g., copying another student's homework, composition or project); using excessive editing suggestions of another student, teacher, parent, or paid editor. Unless directly stipulated by the teacher, collaboration on written work is not acceptable. Students who willingly provide other students with access to their work are in violation of the Honor Code.

Internet use: Students are encouraged to use the internet or French / English dictionaries to look up specific words or phrases. My preferred online dictionary website is www.WordReference.com. Students should not, however, use online translating services or native speakers to translate complete sentences or paragraphs into the target language. Large translations using either method will not be accepted and an honor code violation will be issued.



Let's have a fabulous year!



World Language Department – French 6
Hopewell Middle School

Madame Steinhauer

steinhauers@fultonschools.org

<http://bonjourmadame.weebly.com>

August 2017

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

Welcome to the wonderful world of French 6 at Hopewell Middle School! I am thrilled that your child will be in the French program this year; the journey from August to May will be exciting indeed!

As you will soon find out, I am passionate about all things French, and I can't wait to share that passion with my students. I will keep in touch with you throughout the year about French in general and about your child in particular by phone, by e-mail, and on the class website. I look forward to working together to make this a fabulous academic year for your child. If you would like to reach me with any questions or concerns, you may find my e-mail contact information at the top of this letter and on the Hopewell website.

I hope to meet all of you on parent night (August 14 – 6th grade). For now, though, I would like to help you get acquainted with your child's French program. Learning a foreign language is much like playing a sport or an instrument: there is some innate ability involved, but everyone – even the most gifted among us – can benefit from practice, practice, and more practice! Anything worth doing is worth doing well! Therefore, you should know that if your child wants to be a fluent French speaker, he/she should work on French for about 15-25 minutes a night. If there is no written homework, a review of past material is always helpful. Extra help is available on Tuesdays after school. See the syllabus for details. Please keep in mind that my ultimate wish for your child is not to “get a good grade,” but to *LEARN A LANGUAGE* and to *APPRECIATE FRANCOPHONE CULTURE!* Good grades will come as a natural result of hard work, dedication, and studying. You do not need to buy a French dictionary for your child at this time. Instead, you can download an app called “WordReference” on any smartphone or tablet. There is also a website called WordReference.com that can be accessed from a computer.

I have so many wonderful things planned for your child this year. Be on the lookout for information about French Club activities that will take place both before school and out in the community. To you, the parents and guardians, I say, “Get involved, stay involved, and enjoy this incredible time in your child's life!” You can help me out by requiring your child to complete homework on time, to study nightly, and to come to class promptly, well-prepared, and with a positive attitude and respect for learning. Be sure to read over the online syllabus and all course requirements to give your child the very best chance at success. Then, please read, sign and return the contact information sheet provided. If you would like to help out further – with food days, cultural experiences, etc... please let me know. Let's make this the best year ever!

Sincerely,

Shelby Steinhauer

Please Note: The syllabus is available on our class website, bonjourmadame.weebly.com. It will also be uploaded to the HMS website.

Hopewell World Languages Department - French

Madame Steinhauer French 2017-2018

Syllabus Posted on Bonjourmadame.weebly.com

Please read, sign, and return **THIS PAGE ONLY** to your French teacher.

Student Name _____ Grade _____ Period _____

Students, please read and sign the following: I have read the course syllabus and classroom expectations. I understand what is expected of each student in this class. I also understand that there are consequences if I do not follow the guidelines and school rules outlined in the attached packet. I understand that I must follow all rules pertaining to the use of the language lab or I will lose my lab privileges.

Student Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent or Guardian, please read and sign the following: I have read the online course syllabus and classroom expectations. I have reviewed the policies and expectations with my child, and I understand that my child must follow all school rules and guidelines outlined in the attached packet. I know that my child will be using a language lab in class and that he/she must follow the rules pertaining to the use of the lab. I understand that my child will be subject to the consequences outlined in the packet if he/she does not follow classroom procedures. **Parent/Guardian Signature** _____ **Date** _____

Please fill out the information below for the parent or guardian to be contacted first if I need to discuss student behavior/progress.

Name _____ Relationship _____

Home Phone _____ Cell _____

Place of Business: _____ Work Phone _____

e-mail (Please print VERY CLEARLY) _____

Have you ever studied French? If so, for how long? _____

Check here if you are you interested in being a "French Club Parent Helper" on some Friday mornings:

If there is a second parent/guardian to be contacted separately, please provide the following:

Name _____ Relationship _____

Home Phone _____ Cell _____

Place of Business: _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail (Please print VERY CLEARLY) _____

Have you ever studied French? If so, for how long? _____

Check here if you are you interested in being a "French Club Parent Helper" on some Friday mornings:

Other information you would like me to have about your child (food allergies, custodial information, for example): _____

