FR322E – Advanced French II
Fall 2010
(August 25 to December 3, 2009)

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Course information:
Place: BEN 1.106
Unique number: 36410

I. Course Description

This advanced level French course incorporates an intensive grammar review with integrated practice of the "four skills" (listening, speaking, reading, writing) through a series of communicative tasks (compositions, listening comprehension activities, dictations, oral practice, etc.). Emphasis is placed on diversifying vocabulary, mastering a wider range of grammatical structures, increasing fluency, and developing appropriate rhetorical strategies for essay writing in French. In fact, one of the course's aims is the mastery of structured argumentation (both written and oral) and expression of personal opinion. Students will develop the skills necessary to produce convincing arguments and strong statements of position, in a debate-style format, through written and oral assignments called *dissertations dialectiques* (*thèse, antithèse, synthèse*).

Particular attention is paid to American/French-speaking world cultural differences, which students examine via case studies and controversies (*la mondialisation, l'immigration, langue et société, l'éducation*). Students can thus expect to learn about social issues in the French-speaking world.

Prerequisites: FR320E or equivalent

II. Course goals and expectations

Ce cours de langue a pour but principal d'améliorer vos compétences linguistiques en français (i.e., la compréhension auditive, l'expression orale, la lecture, et l'expression écrite) ainsi que votre connaissance de la grammaire et du lexique. Dans ce cours vous aurez l'occasion de discuter des controverses sociales dans le monde francophone et aux Etats-Unis (la mondialisation, l'immigration, la langue et la société, l'éducation). Vous allez apprendre à écrire une rédaction argumentative très structurée comprenant une thèse, une antithèse, et une synthèse.

Une bonne assiduité et une participation active seront absolument essentielles pour réussir dans ce cours. Il y aura des devoirs quotidiens à préparer *avant la classe* et des interrogations fréquentes. De plus, il y aura 4 rédactions écrites de 250 mots environ. Ces travaux seront dactylographiés (à l'ordinateur) et à double interligne. *Aucun travail en retard ne sera accepté.* En cas d'absence prévue, prière de remettre votre devoir à l'avance. En cas d'absence imprévue (maladie, émergence, etc.) prière de remettre votre devoir par courriel au plus vite possible. Nous aurons 4 examens écrits et 3 examens oraux qui porteront sur le matériel contenu dans les textes (le manuel et le cahier) ainsi que sur les points de grammaire et de vocabulaire discutés en classe. Au lieu d'un examen final, il y aura un projet final à remettre la dernière semaine de classe.

FR322E est un cours avancé qui exige un effort acharné (2 à 3 heures de préparation pour chaque séance est tout à fait typique au début). Je vous encourage à venir me voir pendant mes heures de permanence ou sur rendez-vous.

Note : Ce cours sera enseigné en français.

III. Course Materials

Required

- Oukada, Larbi et al. 2006. *Controverses*, Boston: Thomson-Heinle. (le manuel et le cahier)
- **Blackboard**—All course documents are posted on Blackboard (e.g., syllabus, course overview, daily assignments, etc.). The audio files are also available through links on Blackboard.
- Microsoft Word or similar word-processing software.
- Index cards (for oral presentations and exercises).

Recommended

- Hawkins, R. and R. Towell. 1996. *French Grammar and Usage*, London: Arnold.
- *The Oxford-Hachette Concise Dictionary: French-English, English-French,* Oxford/New York: Oxford University Press.
- *Writing tools*: See "Les outils pour la redaction" on Blackboard for tips on how to use writing tools in this course to improve your compositions.

IV. Course Work

Grading Policy

Examens écrits	(4 x 10%)	= 40%
Examens oraux	(3 x 05%)	= 15%
Rédactions	(4 x 05%)	= 20%
Projet final		= 10%
Devoirs/activités (e.g., dictées, quizzes, cahier, etc.)		= 10%
Participation/présence		= 05%
		100%

Notes

• **Devoirs/activités** *(e.g., dictées, quizzes, cahier, etc.)* (10%). You must submit each assignment that is specified **in bold on the individual chapter assignment sheets** to written up and handed in (see *Assignments* section on Blackboard). These must be submitted in hard copy on the day that they are due as specified in the *Assignments* document. *No late assignment will be accepted*. When you know in advance that you will be absent, submit your assignment early. In the case of an unforeseen absence (illness, family emergency), contact me and submit your assignment as soon as possible. Assignments will be graded based on accuracy and a demonstration of thoughtfulness on the part of the student. I will drop the lowest grade for *devoirs/activités* at the end of the semester.

• **Participation/présence** (05%). Discussion and oral practice is an important part of this class. Attendance is mandatory. You should come to class prepared, having read the required readings closely and having completed all the work as specified on the *Assignments* document. Be prepared to pose questions and raise issues relevant to the topic or grammar point under discussion. You are permitted three unexcused absences.

• **Grading system**. Starting in the Fall of 2009, the University will use a plus/minus system for grading. The following table illustrates the correspondences between letter grade, GPA points and percentage grade.

Letter Grade	GPA Points	Percentage Grade
A	4.0	93%-100%
A-	3.67	90%-92%
B+	3.33	87%-89%
B	3.0	83%-86%
B-	2.67	80%-82%
C+	2.33	77%-79%
C	2.0	73%-76%
C-	1.67	70%-72%
D+	1.33	67%-69%
D	1.0	63%-66%
D-	0.67	60%-62%
F	0	Less than 60

2. Course requirements

You will be given an assignment schedule as we begin each new chapter (see *Assignments* section on Blackboard), which details the work due for each day. Course work encompasses a wide variety of assignments, including all of the following:

• **Rédactions** — You will write 4 compositions (*rédactions*) in the style of a French *dissertation*. You are required to proofread your *rédactions* and are encouraged to use Microsoft Word's French spell/grammar checker (in Word, use the "Tools" menu to change "language" to *French*). You will be graded on grammatical accuracy as well as content. *Rédactions* with gender or conjugation mistakes will receive low grades. All compositions must be typed, double-spaced and submitted in hard copy. The word count must be given on all compositions (minimum of 250/ maximum of 500 words for each *rédaction*).
• **Cahier d'activités** — (workbook). Incorporates a variety of writing and grammar exercises. Students are expected to follow the instructions provided in the workbook. Most workbook exercises will be corrected in class.
• **Préparations du vocabulaire** — (audio files). These audio and written exercises require you to practice vocabulary in a very systematic fashion. There are two *préparations du vocabulaire* in every chapter. See the document *La préparation du vocabulaire* in Assignments for each chapter on Blackboard for specific details.
• **Dictées** — (audio files). Dictations are short paragraphs that review much of the vocabulary. You should listen to them carefully several times. I may have you write them out for homework or have you do them in class for a grade (*devoirs/activités*).
• **Résumés des textes** — (audio files). These are oral summaries of the chapter's two opposing readings (*Point, Contre-point*). After you have prepared a reading, be sure you can summarize its contents orally (in approximately 30-45 seconds). These short audio summaries are excellent models to follow. Listen to them and practice saying your own summary without notes! You can prepare summaries by writing down keywords on index cards. See *Fiches*, below!
• **Lectures** — (textbook). There are two readings per chapter that present opposing arguments. The readings are followed by comprehension questions (*Avez-vous compris?*) as well as more

difficult, open-ended questions (*Qu'en pensez-vous?*). I will likely ask you to prepare these questions in written and/or oral form.
• **Interviews** — (audio files). These consist of a recorded conversation between native French speakers and non-native speakers (2-3 minutes each) discussing the themes of the chapters (e.g., immigration, education, etc.). You should listen to each interview very carefully several times and prepare to answer the questions on the accompanying worksheets.
• **Fiches** — For all your oral assignments, use index cards as a handy aide. On your index cards, you should write relevant vocabulary (keywords) but no full sentences. Reading aloud is not the goal of an *exposé oral*!
• **Quizzes** — I may give short (unannounced) quizzes based on previously assigned material (e.g., grammar, vocabulary, readings, etc.).

Course Exams and *Projet final*

• **Written Exams** — Four chapter exams focus on the vocabulary, grammar and themes studied. These exams may include listening comprehensions, dictations, vocabulary and grammar exercises and an essay on the themes of the chapters.
• **Oral Exams** — Three oral exams require you to speak with a classmate about the chapter's theme for 2-5 minutes. The oral exam prompts for each chapter are provided on Blackboard. You will record the orals and upload them on the day they are due (I will listen to your recordings and give you feedback following a grading rubric for oral exams).
• **Projet final** — The *projet final* can take various forms: generally, you will do a podcast (in which you will be asked to express your opinions of one of the various themes of the chapters) but you may discuss other options with me if you wish (a research paper, short film, etc.)

V. Class and University Policies

Religious holidays
By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, I will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Use of Blackboard
In this class, I use Blackboard, a Web-based course management system with password-protected access at http://courses.utexas.edu, to distribute some course materials. You can find support in using Blackboard at the ITS Help Desk at 475-9400, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., so plan accordingly.

Academic Integrity

University of Texas Honor Code
The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community. Each student in this course is expected to abide by the University of Texas Honor Code.

Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty
Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For

further information, visit the Student Judicial Services web site http://www.utexas.edu/depts/dos/sjs/. This site offers excellent resources on how to cite sources and paraphrase. Copying materials from other people or from sources on the Internet, for example, or having your work edited by somebody else, constitutes a fraudulent submission. Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student's own work and will acknowledge others' work as appropriate (e.g., citing sources).

VI. Other University Notices and Policies

Use of E-mail for Official Correspondence to Students
It is the student's responsibility to keep the University informed as to changes in his or her e-mail address. Students are expected to check e-mail on a frequent and regular basis in order to stay current with University-related communications, recognizing that certain communications may be time-critical. It is recommended that e-mail be checked daily, but at a minimum, twice per week. The complete text of this policy and instructions for updating your e-mail address are available at http://www.utexas.edu/its/policies/emailnotify.html.

Documented Disability Statement
The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you require special accommodations, you must obtain a letter that documents your disability from the Services for Students with Disabilities area of the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement (471-6259 voice or 471-4641 TTY for users who are deaf or hard of hearing). Present the letter to me at the beginning of the semester so we can discuss the accommodations you need. No later than five business days before an exam, you should remind me of any testing accommodations you will need. For more information, visit http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/.

Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL)
If you are worried about someone who is acting differently, you may use the Behavior Concerns Advice Line to discuss by phone your concerns about another individual's behavior. This service is provided through a partnership among the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal.

Emergency Evacuation Policy
Occupants of buildings on the UT Austin campus are required to evacuate and assemble outside when a fire alarm is activated or an announcement is made. Please be aware of the following policies regarding evacuation:

—Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of the classroom and the building.
—Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when you entered the building.
—If you require assistance to evacuate, inform me in writing during the first week of class.
—In the event of an evacuation, follow my instructions or those of class instructors.
—Do not re-enter a building unless you are given instructions by the Austin Fire Department, the UT-Austin Police Department, or the Fire Prevention Services office.

VII. Course Schedule

This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. The topic dates are approximate. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.

	Lundi	**Mercredi**	**Vendredi**
Semaine 1		25 août Présentation et survol du cours	27 août Chapitre 5 : *La mondialisation*
Semaine 2	30 août Chapitre 5 : *La mondialisation*	1 septembre Chapitre 5 : *La mondialisation*	3 septembre Chapitre 5 : *La mondialisation*
Semaine 3	6 septembre **Labor Day Holiday** **No class**	8 septembre Chapitre 5 : *La mondialisation*	10 septembre Chapitre 5 : *La mondialisation*
Semaine 4	13 septembre Chapitre 5 : *La mondialisation*	15 septembre Chapitre 5 : *La mondialisation* **Rédaction : chapitre 5**	17 septembre **Examen oral : chapitre 5**
Semaine 5	20 septembre **Examen écrit : chapitre 5**	22 septembre Chapitre 6 : *L'immigration*	24 septembre Chapitre 6 : *L'immigration*
Semaine 6	27 septembre Chapitre 6 : *L'immigration*	29 septembre Chapitre 6 : *L'immigration*	1 octobre Chapitre 6 : *L'immigration*
Semaine 7	4 octobre Chapitre 6 : *L'immigration*	6 octobre Chapitre 6 : *L'immigration*	8 octobre Chapitre 6 : *L'immigration* **Rédaction : chapitre 6**
Semaine 8	11 octobre **Examen oral : chapitre 6**	13 octobre **Examen écrit : chapitre 6**	15 octobre Chapitre 7 : *Langue et société*
Semaine 9	18 octobre Chapitre 7 : *Langue et société*	20 octobre Chapitre 7 : *Langue et société*	22 octobre Chapitre 7 : *Langue et société*
Semaine 10	25 octobre Chapitre 7 : *Langue et société*	27 octobre Chapitre 7 : *Langue et société*	29 octobre Chapitre 7 : *Langue et société*

Semaine 11	1 novembre Chapitre 7 : *Langue et société* **Rédaction : chapitre 7**	3 novembre **Examen oral : chapitre 7**	5 novembre **Examen écrit : chapitre 7**
Semaine 12	8 novembre Chapitre 8 : *L'éducation*	10 novembre Chapitre 8 : *L'éducation*	12 novembre Chapitre 8 : *L'éducation*
Semaine 13	15 novembre Chapitre 8 : *L'éducation*	17 novembre Chapitre 8 : *L'éducation*	19 novembre Chapitre 8 : *L'éducation*
Semaine 14	22 novembre Chapitre 8 : *L'éducation* **Rédaction : chapitre 8**	24 novembre Chapitre 8 : *L'éducation*	26 novembre **Thanksgiving Holiday** **No class**
Semaine 15	29 novembre **Projet final**	1 décembre Révision	3 décembre **Examen écrit : chapitre 8**

Critical Dates

Please note the following critical dates for class administration:

- September 6: Labor Day, no class
- September 10: Last day to add a class or drop a class for possible refund; payment for added classes due
- September 22: Last day to drop a class without academic penalty
- October 20: Last day to withdraw or drop a class with approval
- November 25-27: Thanksgiving recess