



PIEDMONT

PIEDMONT HIGH SCHOOL

800 Magnolia Avenue • Piedmont, California 94611-4087
510.594.2626 phone • 510.450.0425 fax

Course of Study

Basic Course Information

Course Title: French IV Honors

Transcript Title(s)/Abbreviation(s):

Course Code(s):

Length of Course:

- Semester
- Full Year

Subject Area: French

Discipline: World Languages

Honors Designation:

- Not Applicable
- Honors (pending)
- Advanced Placement

Grade Levels:

- 9th
- 10th
- 11th
- 12th

Course Learning Environment:

- Classroom
- Online

Is this an integrated Career Technical Education course?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please name the Industry Sector and Career Pathway:

Course Description

Students will explore 6 themes which will result in students learning the essential vocabulary and advanced grammar needed to express themselves accurately and intelligently in writing and in conversation. Students will be required to participate actively in debates; analyze literature; read, listen to, and understand online sources; write in-class essays, stories, blog posts; and engage in other interpersonal communication with their peers. Spanish will be spoken at all times.

The class will view a number of French movies linked to the main themes of the textbook. Using the themes and discussions students will prepare students to participate in a speaking competition organized by a non-profit called Les Amis de la Culture Française. At the end of this rigorous competition, winners are recognized and awarded prizes by the Attaché cultural of the French consulate in San Francisco.

Students will create a digital portfolio with blog posts on cultural comparisons, movies and current events. In addition students will post audio recordings in which they express their point of view on a number of topics.

In order to prepare students more thoroughly for level AP, students will prepare formal compositions and essays on the 6 themes.

Prerequisite(s):

Successful completion of French III (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher.

- Required
- Recommended

Co-requisite(s):

- Required
- Recommended

Course Content:

For **each** unit of the course, provide:

- A brief description of topics to be addressed that demonstrates the **critical thinking, depth and progression of content covered including alignment to standards.**
- A brief summary of at least one assignment that explains what a student produces, how the student completes the assignment and what the student learns.

Units 1-6 correspond to the units in the college level textbook *Quant à moi...*

Unit Title: 1. Passons à Table

Description: Students will learn and review broad precise vocabulary terms needed in order to discuss foods meal time practices in the Francophone world. The textbook provides advanced information about the structures needed to write about and discuss these ideas, i.e. the present tense of regular and irregular verbs, interrogation and negation.

Sample Assignment(s):

Students will create a true to life menu for a restaurant in Québec, Sénégal or the French Caribbean. Students research the traditional foods that would be offered on menus from these countries. A poster is presented to accompany the menu with pictures of the dishes and their recipes. Students then work together to create a dialogue between uninformed tourists and the

waiter from the restaurant. This could be filmed and placed on the digital portfolio to represent the students' understanding of cultural diversity of the Francophone world.

Unit Title: 2. Housing and living arrangements

Description: Students will learn and review broad precise vocabulary terms needed in order to discuss and write about where and how people live in the Francophone world. The textbook provides advanced information about the structures needed to write about and discuss these ideas, i.e. agreement, comparatives and superlatives, and relative pronouns.

Sample Assignment(s): Students will research rentals and other properties in France using the internet. In front of the class, they present the merits of these lodging opportunities in a specific city/region. The students will discuss and compare the cost, location, condition and accessibility of each option and provide the class with choices of where to stay for different kinds of budgets.

Alternate assignment: Students will research housing problems in their region/community and housing issues in France. They write a comparative essay using the textbook's information and online sources: online French newspapers (Le Monde, Le Nouvel Obs) and/or TV news (TV5 Monde, France 2)

Unit Title: 3. Entertainment and pastimes

Description: Students will learn and review broad precise vocabulary terms needed in order to discuss cultural differences regarding free time. The textbook provides advanced information about the structures needed to write about and discuss these ideas, i.e. the past tenses (passé composé, imparfait and plus-que-parfait) and time expressions.

Sample Assignment(s): Students will make a Powerpoint presentation in order to encourage their classmates to visit a region of the Francophone world. These regions will include the French Caribbean (Martinique and Guadeloupe), Haïti, French Guiana, Québec, St Pierre et Miquelon, French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna, Luxembourg, Belgium, Monaco, Switzerland, The Reunion, Maurice Island, Mayotte, and any of the French speaking African countries (about 20 countries altogether). The students will focus their research on the French heritage of these regions/countries and will explain how past and current events led to either independence/autonomy, or whether France is still ruling these parts of the world. They may explore how this history would affect their choice of vacation. The second part of the presentation will focus on where to go, what to see and how to spend a wonderful vacation. Students will be engaged in each other's work in the sense that the class as a whole will vote to choose one destination amongst all as the most desirable place to spend some leisure time.

Unit Title: 4. Identity

Description: Students will learn and review broad precise vocabulary terms needed in order to discuss personal characteristics and relations. The textbook provides advanced information about the structures needed to write about and discuss these ideas, i.e. expressions of certainty, doubt, necessity and will including a review of the indicative, infinitive and subjunctive moods.

Sample Assignment(s): Students will conduct an interview of a French speaking person and film the interview. The interview will present the personality and the life of the person and the role the French language has played/is playing in his/her life. The students will also look for cultural differences and reflect on the opportunities that speaking another language such as French may open up for them in the world. This project will be included on the students' digital portfolio.

Unit Title: 5. Story telling

Description: Students will learn and review broad precise vocabulary terms needed in order to explore how stories are told in the Francophone world. The textbook provides advanced information about the structures needed to write about and discuss these ideas, i.e. a comprehensive review of all types of pronouns.

Sample Assignment(s): Students will research, present and stage, in front of the class, an African tale or a fable from Jean de la Fontaine. Students will practice and demonstrate acting and storytelling in front of the class.

Unit Title: 6. Cultural heritage and world challenges

Description: Students will learn and review broad precise vocabulary terms needed in order to discuss world heritage sites and environmental problems. The textbook provides advanced information about the structures needed to write about and discuss these ideas, i.e. future tense, conditional mood, active and passive voices.

Sample Assignment(s): Students will research and write a report on a technological achievement or science breakthrough that originated from France or the French speaking world from the 1700's to modern times. Students will explore the obstacles and the outcomes of scientific research, who the protagonists were and how they managed to make our world a better place. The report could be placed on the digital portfolio and a follow up oral presentation is also possible.

Unit Title: Advanced grammar wrap-up

Students will review the interrogative and demonstrative pronouns and past subjunctive.

Sample activity assignment: Art in the French speaking world. Students will choose art from different parts of the Francophone world and research the artist, his/her life and one of his/her masterpieces. They will prepare an analysis of how their creativity and drive molded their life, their experiences, their challenges and their fate. How does the artist's work affect our world? What would our world be like without art?

Unit Title: Introduction to modern French literature - on-going throughout the year

Description: Students will actively engage in reading 2 or more of the following French novels:

Les Aventures du Petit Nicolas

Le Petit Prince

Art

Students also listen to portions of these works on audio recordings and youtube movies.

Sample Assignment(s): Students may rewrite one of the chapters of the book, changing the point of view.

Unit Title: Digital portfolio - ongoing throughout the year

Description: Students gather examples of their written and spoken work. They may showcase movies that they have made and projects that they have completed in this online collection. A section of this portfolio is dedicated to each year of their high school French studies.

Course Materials

Textbooks:

Title: Quant à moi

Author: Jeannette D. Bragger & Donald B. Rice

Publisher: Heinle Cengage Learning

Edition: Fifth

Website:

Primary Text:

Yes

No

Other Materials

Instructors typically develop ancillary materials based on current events and student interest. Since these change frequently, it is not possible to present an exhaustive list of all of the other resources used by level IV instructors; however, some of these include online news agencies, blogs, short stories, youtube videos, and movies.

Type: Novel

Title: Les Aventures du Petit Nicolas

Author: Sempé/Goscinnny

Publisher: The Macmillan Company

Edition: 1966

Type: Novel

Title: Le Petit Prince

Author: Saint-Exupéry

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Company

Edition: Copyright 1970

Type: Play

Title: Art

Author: Yasmina Réza

Publisher: Actes-Sud - Papiers

Edition: Copyright 1994