AP French Language and Culture is a college-level course intended for students in their fourth year of study of French.  The course is taught almost exclusively in French and student interaction is entirely in French to provide students with the opportunity to demonstrate their proficiency in each of the three modes of communication: Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational.  **[CR1]**

* The course guides the students to explore culture and events in both contemporary and historical settings and to examine products and practices of the target culture and relate them to the underlying perspectives.
* Students use multiple text and workbook resources in addition to other authentic materials and resources (including literary and non-literary texts and audio and video recordings) that support the six course themes. **[CR2a, 2b, and 2c]**
* Reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills are all emphasized throughout the various themes with the overall goal of rendering these skills more natural, accurate, and fluid.  When communicating, students in the AP French Language and Culture course demonstrate an understanding of the culture(s), incorporate interdisciplinary topics (connections), make comparisons between the native language and the target language and between cultures (comparisons), and use the target language in real-life settings (communities). [**CR9] [CR3a] [CR8]**
* Exclusive use of French by teacher and students for active communication is mandatory in the classroom. **[CR1]**
* Students practice the AP exam format through multiple choice reading and listening comprehension questions, speaking prompts, and essay writing.  This exam practice also serves as formal assessment of student progress.
* Students are made familiar with AP Rubrics for evaluation and these are utilized as the standard for all assessments.
* Students are expected to take the AP French Language and Culture exam at the end of this course.
* Students will have “real-life” opportunities to use their French with native speakers in the community when available, French penpals, authentic films, and online discussions posts (Edmodo.com/class website). **[CR9]**

**Course Activities**

Course work provides students with opportunities to demonstrate their proficiency in each of the three modes/four language skills via classroom debates, oral and written reports and oral and written questions.

* Reading skills will be practiced and assessed through literary readings (short stories from Maupassant and excerpts from Hugo, Molière, and Camus for example), current event news articles from new sites including rfi.fr, france24.fr, lemonde.fr, authentic letters, and authentic promotional materials. Students will answer comprehension questions, create oral and written reactions to audio clips and film excerpts, and make cultural comparisons with French/Francophone films. Students will also interpret audio clips, charts/maps/images, and texts to write persuasive essays. **[CR2b and 2c] [CR4b] [CR7, CR8]**
* Listening skills will be practiced and assessed through audio samples found on rfi.fr, france24.fr, songs, and film excerpts. Students will answer comprehension questions, create oral and written reactions to audio clips and film excerpts, and make cultural comparisons with French/Francophone films. Students will also interpret audio clips, charts/maps/images, and texts to write persuasive essays. **[CR2a] [CR4a] [CR8] [CR7]**
  + Students listen to or watch podcasts, French news, and music clips on a weekly basis and are exposed to authentic French via film clips and internet listening assignments.  **[CR2a]**
* Writing skills will be practiced and assessed through grammar exercises, essays, and shorter informal writings. Students will write to each other using online discussion boards used for the class (Edmodo.com/class website). **[CR3b]**
  + Students will prepare formal written essays and reports on their lives, Francophone culture, and technological and ethical issues, among other prompts. Students will also write an essay twice a semester that summarizes a print source, a map/chart/ad, and an audio source. **[CR5b]**
* Speaking skills will be practiced and assessed through discussions and conversations in class, formal graded speaking assignments, and presentations. **[CR3a] [CR8]**
  + Students are offered opportunities to communicate in “real” French-speaking situations through conversations, online discussion boards, and reports with/to other classmates. **[CR9]**

Students develop vocabulary and grammar using a variety of texts:  *Reprise and Discovering French Rouge* for example, and will also access the internet for grammar review.

The following six themes are integrated throughout the year in the selection of news articles, audio samples, and literary selections.

* Global Challenges **[CR6a]**
* Science and Technology **[CR6b]**
* Contemporary Life **[CR6c]**
* Personal and Public Identities **[CR6d]**
* Families and Communities **[CR6e]**
* Beauty and Aesthetics **[CR6f]**

**Course Planner**

Course is taught on a block schedule: students have two or three 90-minute classes per week.

**Course Calendar (First Semester) -La quête de soi, la vie contemporaine, la famille et la communauté**

Grammar:

* Present tense and Past tense (Passé Composé, Imparfait, Passé simple)
* Future simple and Conditional review
* Subjunctive review
* Passive Voice
* Pronouns

Vocabulary:

* 6c - La vie contemporaine: Advertising and Marketing/ Education/ Holidays and Celebrations/ Housing and Shelter/ Leisure and Sports/ Professions/ Rites of Passage/ Travel
* 6e -La famille et la communauté: Age and Class/ Childhood and Adolescence/ Citizenship/ Customs and Ceremonies/ Family Structures/ Friendship and Love.
* 6d - La quête de soi: alienation and assimilation, beliefs and values, language and identity, multiculturalism, nationalism, and patriotism

This course is designed in such a way as to use various literary and cinematic works in French to allow students to develop the four language skills while exploring the six cultural themes.  The academic year is divided into units based on the 6 global themes.  Within each unit, students work to improve their competency through formal and informal reading, writing, and listening activities. The following films and novels will be studied in part or in their entirety, time permitting.

Readings may include:

* La dernière classe – Alphonse Daudet [**6d, 6a**] (Allons au-delà)
* En pleine lucarne – Philippe Delerm [**6d, 6e**]
* La légende baoulé – Bernard Dadié [**6d**]
* Une si longue lettre – Mariama Bâ [**6d**]
* Le Petit Prince – Antoine de Saint-Exupéry [**6d, 6e]**
* Les Misérables – Victor Hugo [**6a, 6d, 6e]**

*Joyeux Noël* (Film) – First semester

* Global Challenges – tolerance, human rights, peace and war [**CR6a**]
* Personal and Public Identity – beliefs and values, alienation and assimilation, language and identity, nationalism and patriotism [**CR6d**]
* Families and Community – age and class, friendship and love [**CR6e**]

**Course Calendar (Second Semester) – la science et la technologie, les défis mondiaux, l’esthétique**

Grammar review:

* Miscellaneous grammar points as needed

Vocabulary:

* 6d - La quête de soi: alienation and assimilation, beliefs and values, language and identity, multiculturalism, nationalism, and patriotism
* 6b - La science et la technologie: Current Research Topics/ Discoveries and Inventions/ Ethical Questions/ Future Technologies/ Intellectual Property/ The New Media/ Social Impact of Technology
* 6a - Les défis mondiaux: the economy, the environment, health, human rights, nutrition and food safety, peace, and war.
* 6f - L’esthétique: Ideals of Beauty/ Literature/ Music/ Visual Arts

This course is designed in such a way as to use various literary and cinematic works in French to allow students to develop the four language skills while exploring the six cultural themes.  The academic year is divided into units based on the 6 global themes.  Within each unit, students work to improve their competency through formal and informal reading, writing, and listening activities. The following films and novels will be studied in part or in their entirety, time permitting.

Readings and films may include:

* La réclusion solitaire – Tahar Ben Jelloun [**6a, 6d**]
* Le racisme expliqué à ma fille, Tahar Ben Jelloun [**6a**] (Allons au-delà)
* La fin des livres Albert Robida et Octave Uzanne (Allons au-delà)  [**CR6b**]
* La mauvaise surprise Kindle (Allons au-delà)  [**CR6b**]
* Le recyclage en France : on croule sous les déchets, Allons au-delà **[6a]**
* Current articles related to science and technology  [**CR6b**]
* La Réunion, perle de l’humanité – Le Figaro (Allons au-delà) [**CR6f**]
* Mémorables Misérables – L’Express (Allons au-delà) [**CR6f**]
* Du contrat social – Rousseau [**6a, 6d, 6e**] (Allons au-delà)
* La déclaration des droits de l’homme et du citoyen [**6a, 6d 6e]** (Allons au-delà)
* La lettre de Guy Môquet – Guy Môquet [**6a**] (Allons au-delà)

*Cyrano de Bergerac* (Film) **[CR2a] -** Second semester

* Personal and Public Identity – alienation and assimilation, gender and sexuality, language and identity **[CR6d]**
* Contemporary Life – education, rites of passage, professions **[CR6c]**
* Families and Community – age and class, friendship and love, family structure **[CR6e]**
* Beauty and Aesthetics – literature, ideals of beauty **[CR6f]**

Vocabulary and Grammatical Resource Book:

* Discovering French Rouge
* University of Texas Interactive French Grammar <https://www.laits.utexas.edu/fi/>

Online Resources:

1. Rfi.fr
2. Radio Canada
3. Radio d’outre mer
4. [www.africa1.com](http://www.africa1.com)
5. TV5.fr
6. France2.fr
7. Youtube.fr
8. Insee.fr
9. Le Figaro.fr
10. Lemonde.fr
11. Libération.fr
12. Le soleil
13. [www.mnba.qc.ca/Home.aspx](http://www.mnba.qc.ca/Home.aspx)
14. [www.qctonline.com](http://www.qctonline.com)
15. Canadian Reader’s Digest
16. <http://europa.eu/index-fr.htm>
17. Santé.gc.ca
18. African Union
19. L’express.fr
20. 1jour1actu.com
21. Le magazine Littéraire
22. Le monde: Livres
23. booksshouldbefree.com
24. [www.louvre.fr](http://www.louvre.fr)
25. [www.musee-picasso.fr](http://www.musee-picasso.fr)
26. [www.musee-orsay.fr/en/home.html](http://www.musee-orsay.fr/en/home.html)
27. [www.centrepompidou.fr](http://www.centrepompidou.fr)
28. [www.qc.ca/Home.aspx](http://www.qc.ca/Home.aspx)
29. Wikipedia.fr
30. Rtl.fr
31. Gallica.bnf.fr
32. Gutenberg.org
33. About.com
34. Iaudioguide.com
35. <http://ambafrance-us.org>
36. <http://www.futurenergia.org/ww/fr/pub/futurenergia/chats/carbon_imprint.htm>