

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please **print** your email address(es) if you would like to receive electronic grade updates.

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## AP French Mme Bitgood

**Essentials:** Phone extension 1110  
Email: [barbarabitgood@comcast.net](mailto:barbarabitgood@comcast.net) Class website: <http://www.hampfrench.org/>  
Help days: Tuesday and Thursday 2-3 p.m. and by appointment  
Pet peeves: People who arrive late and those who often ask to go to the restroom  
Hobbies: Singing, computer games, collecting Harry Potter Legos

**Goals:** This semester you will continue to develop your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in French with the ultimate aim of scoring a fantastic 5 on the AP French Language exam. To do so, you will need to

- understand the speech of native speakers of French in a variety of contexts.
- understand authentic written texts, including newspaper and magazine articles, short stories, novels, plays, and poems.
- express yourself orally with ease to native speakers on a wide variety of topics.
- express yourself in writing in a variety of registers and modes, including formal and informal registers, and persuasive, descriptive, narrative, and expository texts.

**Dictionaries:** At this stage of your French studies, you probably already have a good-quality French-English dictionary to use at home. If not, then please get one! An Internet-based dictionary will not suffice. See the class website for links to dictionaries that I recommend. If you are having difficulty getting a dictionary, please come see me. You **must** have access to a dictionary outside of class.

**The Week:** Every week will follow roughly the same sequence. Your homework calendar for the month will have specifics. In general you can expect...

- Every day: Grammar work. Vocabulary lists and one irregular verb to memorize. These are all words that often appear on the AP exam and/or will help you be successful during the test.
- Mondays: Quiz summarizing previous week's work; Essay or rewrite due
- Tuesdays & Thursdays: Fill-in activities due
- Wednesdays & Fridays: Reading activities due
- Thursdays: Computer-lab time for practicing listening and speaking activities

**Internet:** A vital component of this course is the Moodle website. Many resources will be available for you online and some of your homework assignments require that you have Internet access. If you do not have Internet service at home, you should set aside time each week to go to the school library, city library, my classroom, a friend's house, etc. You will always know your homework at least a week in advance and can plan accordingly.

**Rules:** There is one big rule in my class:

**Everyone deserves to be treated with RESPECT at all times.**

What is respect? There are a lot of ways to answer that, but it begins with treating others the same way you want to be treated. Do you want to be teased, interrupted, laughed at, bullied, yelled at, or made to feel dumb? No. So don't do those things to other people.

Violations of school rules will be dealt with as outlined in the student and parent handbooks. This includes enforcement of the absence and tardy policies. Within the classroom, consequences of rule-breaking will include: change of seating, loss of privileges, student-teacher discussion, call to parents, grade penalties, detention, referral to administration, and other appropriate consequences as merited by the situation.

- Procedures:**
1. Upon crossing the threshold into the classroom, you must speak French. No English-language discussion will be tolerated at any time. Grade penalties as outlined below will result from use of a language other than French.
  2. Every day you must have the necessary supplies with you when you get to class. Please bring your notebook, homework, a blue or black pen, pencil, blank paper, and your covered textbook.
  3. Homework and graded assignments are due when you walk into class. No late assignments will be graded, although I am always happy to correct work for you. Projects and essays receiving letter grades will be accepted late with a reduction of one letter grade for each school day after the due date.
  4. Please use the restroom, chat with teachers, and go to your locker between classes. You are responsible for any information and/or materials you miss while you are out of the room. No passes will be issued in the first 15 minutes of class.
  5. You may not use any portable music, game, telephone or video devices in class.
  6. Remember that many of life's problems can be prevented or solved with a little communication. If you are having difficulty in class, please come talk to me. We can usually find a solution. I stay after school for extra help on Tuesdays and Thursdays, plus you may be able to see me other days and times by appointment.

**Grading:** Your semester grade is comprised of your first marking period final grade (45%) + second marking period final grade (45%) + final exam grade (10%).

As the AP French Language exam is divided into four sections of equal weight, your marking period grades will be calculated in the same way.

25%	Listening Listening comprehension quizzes, Dictées
25%	Speaking Presentations, Use of French in class, Speaking quizzes
25%	Reading At-home readings, Comprehension questions, Reading comprehension quizzes
25%	Writing Weekly compositions, Essay exams, Grammar and vocabulary quizzes

Just as in a college course, I will not regularly collect or grade homework assignments. That being said, it is ***essential*** that you carefully and thoroughly complete your homework every night. You can expect to have between 1 and 1 ½ hours of homework daily. Use your homework calendar to plan ahead if you have a night that is busy with extra-curriculars. ***If you do not do your homework, you will not do well on the AP exam!!!***

Numeric equivalents for letter grades on projects and papers:

AA	100	C+	78	F	50
A	95	C	75	0/No credit	0
A-	92	C-	72		
B+	88	D+	68		
B	85	D	65		
B-	82	D-	62		

Because I keep track of grades on the computer, I can easily email progress updates. Email grade reports contain the current average, grades for all assignments, and a list of missing work. Please indicate at the top of the first page if you would like to receive progress updates by mail.