

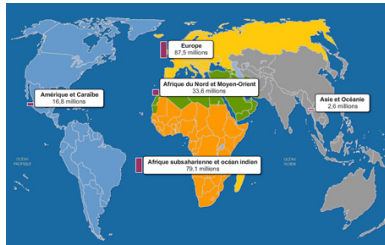


MYP Exploring French

Highland Park Middle School
Madame Propson,
Rachel.propson@spps.org

Bonjour et bienvenue à la classe de Exploring French. This is my fourth-year teaching and I am looking forward to working with you. I am a graduate from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. I have also studied in France and in Canada at French immersion universities. I am currently working on my Master's Degree in Instructional Design. I'm glad that you have chosen to study French and cannot wait to have an exciting year!

The information below will explain the expectations and goals of the year. It will also give you an idea of the fun that we will have as we learn French together. Alors, allons-y!



Course Description

French is more than a just a “foreign language”. Learning French also gives you access to a rich historical and cultural heritage as diverse as the people in Europe, Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and North America that speak the language.

Course Content and Goals

Sample units of our new textbooks *T'es Branché* that we will cover this year.

- *Bonjour, tout le monde* – Getting acquainted
Guiding Question: In what ways is learning another language beneficial?
- *Les passe-temps* – Pass times and activities
Guiding Question: What do activities and pastimes reveal about a culture?
- *À l'école* – At schoole
Guiding Question: How does education shape individuals and societies?
- *Les gens que je connais*: People and relationships
Guiding Question: What is the nature of relationships in other cultures?



(Astérix et Obélix)

Class procedures and expectations

Class participation is the **most important aspect** of this course.

Students need to...

- arrive on time and with a positive attitude and open mind
- speak FRENCH IN CLASS - take risks; don't be afraid to make mistakes (we all do it!)
- practice ACTIVE LISTENING; listen and ask questions; learn from your classmates
- be a thinker, communicator, and show caring

Les devoirs / Practice:

In general, you can expect to spend **5-10 minutes each day** on French homework practice.

Homework **assignments** may be dialogues, projects, online activities on Schoology, etc.

All **work** that is turned in should be **labeled with your French name and date**.

Absences and late work

If you miss class, please check with someone at your table and if there is a handout check Schoology and with Mme Propson. It is your responsibility to ask to get the notes and any handouts.

If you have difficulty completing an assignment on time, for any reason, (responsibilities at home, sports games, field trips, extra-curricular activities, etc.), please speak with me ahead of time. I am happy to accommodate you.

I am here to help you, if you feel at any point during the quarter that you are not understanding a concept or are having difficulties with homework, please talk to me in class and we can set up a meeting to reassess and make a plan so that you can be successful!

Assessments (see IB page on Highland web page):

You will have many opportunities to show what you are learning in this class.

You will have formative assessments, which will help you develop skills and knowledge and indicate progress toward the summative assessments given. Formative assessment can include: notes, homework, in-class assignments, listening comprehension activities, and online exploration. Formative assessments will make up your grade until a summative assessment is given and recorded.

You will also engage in summative assessments, which can include quizzes, projects, tests, and oral presentations. The summative criteria are below and each criterion is weighted 25%; collectively, these assessments account for 100% of your grade.

Criterion A	Comprehending Spoken & Visual Text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listen for specific purposes and respond to show understanding • interpret visual text that is presented with spoken text • engage with the text by supporting opinion and personal response with evidence and examples from the text.
Criterion B	Comprehending Written & Visual Text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read for specific purposes and respond to show understanding • interpret visual text that is presented with written text • engage with the text by supporting opinion and personal response with evidence and examples from the text.
Criterion C	Communicating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interact and communicate in various situations • express thoughts, feelings, ideas, opinions and information in spoken and written form • speak and write for specific purposes.
Criterion D	Using Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • organize thoughts, feelings, ideas, opinions and information in spoken and written form • develop accuracy when speaking and writing in the target language.

IB MYP rubrics use an 8-point international scale, with 8 representing “excellent achievement” and 0-1 representing “limited achievement.” These assessments will be converted to a standard A, B, C, D, N scale and the achievement level will appear on the rubric. Parents & guardians, please ask your student to share their rubrics with you. Please refer to the HPMS Assessment Policy at <http://highlandms.spps.org/>

Materials to bring to class daily:

- Folder for French handouts only
- Notebook paper (3-hole punched) for notes
- Writing utensil (3-4 pencils, 1-2 pens)
- iPad that is charged and has all of the necessary apps (once they are handed out)

Field Trips

I am considering a field trip to French day at MN Zoo to learn about different animals, which will be presented in French by students from surrounding schools.

Materials wish list

If you would like to donate any French materials (posters, comic books, DVDs appropriate for middle school students, old souvenirs) or contribute to French class with a monetary donation, please contact me or send your contribution with your student. Mille mercis!!

Wish list (see www.teachersdiscovery.com ; click on French for ideas)

- Flags, posters, set of plastic food, etc.
- Set of 30 dry-erase verb cubes
- Short stories in French to build a classroom library
- Markers, colored pencils, glue sticks
- 30 head phones (over ear, not ear buds)

MYP Exploring French, Highland Park Middle School
Allons-y! Amusons-nous! Parlons français!

Parents & Guardians:

Please read over this information with your student and sign it and have your student return it to class.

We have **read and understand the expectations and rules** for MYP French I class.

Student Name (print)

Student Name (signature)

Parent/Guardian Name (print)

Parent/Guardian Name (signature)

Parent's e-mail address _____

Student has access to internet: At home _____ At library or school _____

Does the student have access to French help at home? Yes ____ No ____

Does the student have a sibling who studied French at HPMS? ____
Name? _____

Date: _____

DONATION:

Cooking and other enriching activities are an integral part of French class. In order to offer these opportunities, **I am requesting a \$10.00 donation (or any amount) for the purchase of food and other materials for activities in French class.** Of course this is **completely optional**, but if you can help out, it would be greatly appreciated! **MERCI BEAUCOUP!!!!**

