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| MENNONITE BRETHREN COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE |

Grade 11 and 12 French: Communication and Culture

COURSE OUTLINE 2016/2017

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**Teacher:**  Madame Daly

**Purpose:** The purpose of this course is to give students the opportunity to acquire the necessary language skills to communicate in French, to value the learning of French as a tool for personal, intellectual and social growth and to appreciate francophone cultures.

**Outline:** This course uses in a balanced literacy approach. This means that students will focus on oral communication, writing and reading. Embedded in this approach is culture. Students will discover, explore and experience aspects of francophone cultures.

**Themes**

The following is a list of themes for the year. This may change depending on the interests and the needs of the students.

Mes vacances d’été/My Summer Vacation

Moi et ma famille/Me and My Family

Les droits des animaux/Animal Rights

La musique/Music

Explorer le Canada/Exploring Canada

Manger mieux, vivre mieux/Eat Well, Live Well

La Cuisine française/French Cuisine

Les Ados d’aujourd`hui/Today`s Teens

**Creating Meaningful Conversation:** A goal of this course is to have students engaged in speaking activities 50% of the time. This will be done first through modelling by the teacher and students responding. Students will then engage with each other through simple prompts and questions. Talking will also be inspired in the classroom by a number of different techniques such as passing a talking stick, finding partners based on clues and using *friendly banter* questions. Most themes will finish with students presenting a project to the class or to small groups of students. They will explain their project to their peers in French.

**Communicating through Writing:** With each theme, the teacher will model writing sentences and paragraphs. Students will write their own thoughts and ideas patterned from the teacher’s model. Students will keep all of their writing in a journal.

**Meaningful Reading:** With each theme, there will be readings that reflect what the students are talking and writing about. Students will respond to readings with group and peer conversations and with written reflections.

**Grammar:** Students will learn grammar concepts as they naturally arise through their speaking and writing activities. Grammar concepts that will be focussed on this year will be: *le passé composé avec l’imparfait, le futur, le conditionnel, le subjonctif, les phrases avec si, les marqueurs de relations, les pronoms relatifs et les objets pronoms.*

**Zoo School Program**

This year, students will talk about animal rights with a focus on the impact of changing climate on polar bears. All the activities for this theme will build toward students creating a school program for the Assiniboine Park Zoo. Currently, the Zoo does not offer programs in French. Students will prepare a program that they will deliver in French to each other. The program will be designed for the specific needs of French students in English schools. It will be designed for students to learn and talk! Students will receive some input from Zoo staff and they will present a written copy of their program to Zoo Education Programs. More information about this will be posted later. We hope to do the program at the Zoo in late November.

**Celebration of Learning**

At this year`s Celebration of Learning, we will be hosting a Café Bistro with French food, French music and great coffee. You will also have a chance to chat it up in French with your child or to learn a little French from your child. More information about this will be given in spring.

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**Les Festival du voyageur**

Each year, the Grade 12 French and Advanced French students go to Festival du voyageur together. Please watch for a parent letter in February.

**Talking in French in Class**

Students are expected to speak in French with the teacher as much as possible. 5% of the final speaking mark will be for speaking in French with the teacher. Students are encouraged to talk in French with each other at all times. Students must speak in French with their peers during all activities of oral communication.

**EVALUATION**

**Formative Evaluations**

For regular classwork such as a group conversation or a writing task, students will receive formative evaluations that include both number evaluations such as 8/10 as well as written and verbal feedback. The purpose of the formative evaluations is to help students identify skill areas that need improvement and be able to accomplish real growth in the skill area targeted.

**Summative Evaluations**

1. SPEAKING

At the end of each theme, students will have an individual or small group discussion with the teacher. The teacher will ask summative questions about the things learned throughout the theme.

1. READING

At the end of each theme, a reading that is representative of the theme will be given to students. The students will read and response with both speaking and writing.

1. WRITING

Students will be assigned a significant writing task to show what they have learned about the theme as well as to demonstrate their ability to successfully incorporate the grammar concepts that were taught.

1. GRAMMAR

Students will have a test at the end of each grammar unit. The test mark will be included in the writing category.

**SKILL CATEGORIES AND WEIGHTS**

**Categories and Weights:** Coursework will be weighted as follows:

SPEAKING – 50% WRITING – 25% READING – 25%

**Year-End Evaluation:** There is no final exam in this course. At the end of May and early June, students will engage in a summative evaluation in the three learning categories: Speaking, Reading and Writing. The Speaking Evaluation will involve an interview with the teacher. This evaluation will count for 20% of the final mark for this course. Coursework done throughout the year will count for 80%.

