RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

FREN-225 FRENCH CONVERSATION & COMPOSITION II

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course number and title: **FREN-225 French Conversation & Composition II**

B. Modified Course: **New course number**

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: **Spring** Year: **2008**

D. Sponsoring Department: **Communication and Languages**

E. Semester Credit Hours: **3**

F. Weekly Contact Hours: **3** Lecture: **3** Lab: **0**

G. Pre-requisites: **FREN 202 Intermediate French II or placement test**

H. Lab Fees: **None**

I. Name and Telephone Number or e-mail address of Department Chair: **Ellen McArdle emcardle@raritanval.edu**

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisite or co-requisite: FREN 202 – Intermediate French II or placement test. Students will refine their speaking, listening and writing skills in French for use in practical, everyday situations. Introduces students to such topics as travel, food, current events, financial affairs, health care and literature.

III. Statement of Course Need

This course enables a student with advanced placement to continue their French studies at RVCC.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

A. Serves as:

- Elective
- General Education elective in Humanities
B. Course Transferability

This course transfers as a post-Intermediate French II course in most French programs.

V. Outline of Course Content

A. Grammar

- le passé simple
- adjectives for contrasting and comparing
- transition words for speaking and writing
- review of mal + body parts to indicate illness
- se faire to discuss pain

B. Vocabulary

- expressions of courtesy for business interview
- food and courtesy terms for dining
- illnesses and treatments
- travel-related vocabulary - round trip, pension, etc
- banking terms – checking, savings, withdrawal, deposit, etc
- film terminology – personnages, genre, title, etc
- flora and fauna to discuss Green Peace issues
- codes for proofreading

C. Readings and culture:

- “Le Grand Chemin” by Bohringer & film clip
- “Le Boulevard des Capucines” by Monet and discussion on cities
- “He He! Ka Ki Rivé” by Maguy Rivé, short story
- “L’Impasse” by Colette, excerpt
- SOS Racisme
- Study of advertisements for French cigarettes

D. Pronunciation:

- advanced pronunciation for problem areas

VI. General Education Goals and Learning Outcomes

General Education Goals

- Communicate in French on an intermediate-high to advanced level as defined by the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines (G.E. 2)
• Develop a greater understanding of the culture of French-speaking countries (G.E. 4, 6)
• Develop an in-depth understanding of one aspect of French culture through a research project. (G.E. 1, 3, 4, 6)

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the completion of this course the student will be able to:

(Speaking)

• use vocabulary on an advanced level
• book a ticket for a plane, train or bus
• reserve a hotel room and ask about accommodations
• order a complete meal in a restaurant
• go on a job interview
• discuss world events in the news
• perform basic banking needs- open/close an account; make a withdrawal/deposit
• go to the hospital or doctor and explain illness
• analyze short stories or poems
• present an argument against or for the environment, animal activism, etc

(Listening)

• understand information given in hotel or airport
• discern attitudes from tone and choice of words
• understand complex sentences and phrases dealing with needs and situations, advanced courtesy expressions

(Reading)

• read vocabulary for advanced needs and situations.
• grasp word meaning from context
• understand complex sentences and ideas
• comprehend a bank statement
• read a travel brochure
• understand a doctor’s prescription and dosage instructions
• proofread fellow student’s papers for errors

(Writing)

• keep a journal
• brainstorm on a topic in French
• formulate a thesis statement
• use transition phrases appropriately
• narrate a story
• compare & contrast two presented persons or things
• write a descriptive essay
• compose an argument paper
• compose a job application letter & cv in French
• compose an email to a travel agency and plan a trip
• fill in a bank account application
• fill in a medical application for a hospital

(Culture)

• recognize the meaning of French facial and body gestures
• discuss French work ethics
• be familiar with French health care system
• describe differences in travel between US and France
• understand French dining etiquette
• discuss DOM-TOM
• understand French business hierarchy and the interview process
• compare la Bourse to Wall Street
• analyze a Paris city map and use public transportation
• study racism in France

VII. Modes of Teaching and Learning

• Lecture/discussion
• Small-group work/collaborative learning
• Computer-assisted instruction
• Student oral presentations
• Simulation/role-playing
• Audio/video presentation
• Debates

VIII. Papers, Examination and other Assessment Instruments

• Essays
• Examinations (oral and written)
• Class participation
• Homework
• Quizzes
• Oral presentations

IX. Grade Determinants
• Prepared oral presentations (speaking outcomes) (G.E.2)
• Spontaneous oral work (speaking outcomes) (G.E.2, 4, 6)
• Listening comprehension exercises (listening and culture outcomes) (G.E.2, 4, 6)
• Written exams (written, reading and culture outcomes) (G.E.2, 4, 6)
• Written paper on cultural topic (historical, sociological, etc.) (cultural outcomes) (G.E.1, 2, 3, 4, 6)

X. Texts and Material

• Suggested Textbooks :

  En train d’écritre by Gerrard, Rusterholz, Long (McGraw Hill)
  Excerpts from Passeport by Jarvis, Bonin, Corbin, McKee (Holt, Rhinehart)
  Excerpts from L’Art de Lire by Hope & Hope (Prentice Hall)
  Excerpts from Parlons Affaires by Berg (Heinle & Heinle)

• Web sources
• Film and Video
• Audio tapes
• Le Guide Michelin

(Please note: The course outline is intended as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about the textbooks.)

XI. Resources

  Video capacities in the classroom
  Computer/internet capabilities in the classroom