Columbia Summer School in Paris—Paris in Context: Intermediate I, 4pts

Paris: Space and movement – Paris: espace et mouvement
Monday-Thursday, 10-12
Theatre workshop (2x5hrs)

Course Description

This 8-week summer course is designed for non-native speakers who have completed 1 year (2 semesters) of French at the beginner’s level. The objective of this class is to continue students’ study of French, giving them the grammatical bases to take full advantage of their immersion experience in Paris. The course will meet eight hours per week, in addition to two five-hour theatre workshops. This course will be organized around the concepts of space and movement: from the very intimate spaces that students will be inhabiting, to the most public ones through which they will be moving, the course will give them the grammatical and cultural tools to describe, analyze, and even shape the spatial relationship to the city that will be their home for 8 weeks.

In addition to the grammatical material, students will be asked to read a variety of French and Francophone primary texts – be they written, cinematic, theatrical, or plastic – however the most important primary text with which students will be engaging on a daily basis is Paris and its diverse inhabitants. Students will have to do short presentations in class based on their various interactions in the city. The course is capped at 16 participants and an additional interview may be required for admission.

Student learning outcomes

At the conclusion of this course, students will

1. be able to communicate with French native speakers and navigate living in Paris with ease
2. be able to confidently express basic ideas, and some abstract concepts in oral French
3. be able to describe, narrate, and analyze their cultural experiences orally
4. have a better mastery of French pronunciation, and colloquial French
5. have a solid base of knowledge about French and Francophone culture

Required texts

Grammar: Grammaire Progressive du Français – Niveau Intermédiaire, 3e édition
Additional text will be distributed in class.

Policy on Absences

Beyond the first unexplained absence you will need to ask the professor for permission to have an “excused absence.” Excused absences are granted on the grounds of illness, illness or death of a family member, and for major religious holidays. Except in emergency circumstances, excused absences must be requested in advance of the course that you will miss.
Assignments & Grading:

All assignments will be done in French.

Grammar:
Participation/attendance/homework 20%
Oral proficiency and short presentations 20%
Compositions (3 total) 20%
Quizzes (3 total) 20%
Final 20%

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Any work submitted or presented by you and that bears your name is presumed to be your own original work that has not previously been submitted for credit in another course unless you obtain prior written approval to do so from your instructor.

In all of your assignments, including your homework or drafts of papers, you may use words or ideas written by other individuals in publications, web sites, or other sources, but only with proper attribution. “Proper attribution” means that you have fully identified the original source and extent of your use of the words or ideas of others that you reproduce in your work for this course, usually in the form of a footnote or parenthesis.

Furthermore, any test, paper or post submitted by you and that bears your name must have been written by you without the help of an online translator (such as Google Translate, Bing, or Babblefish, to name the most popular) or French editor.

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who will be taking this course and may need disability-related accommodations are encouraged to make an appointment to see me as soon as possible. Disabled students who need test or classroom accommodations must be registered in advance with the Office of Disability Services.

Weekly planning

Week 1 (June 8-9): Introduction

Grammaire :
- Le présent
- “C’est” / “Il est”
- Les adjectifs qualificatifs/Les adverbes
- Les articles (intro)
- Le futur proche
- La négation (intro)
I. Private spaces

Week 2 (June 12-15): *Mon intérieur* –

Grammaire:
- Les adjectifs possessifs
- Les articles définis/indéfinis/partitifs
- Le comparatif et superlatif
- Les adjectifs et les pronoms démonstratifs

Composition #1 à rendre

Topics include: French living spaces; meals in French kitchens; relationship to spaciousness, technology, cleanliness, and privacy.

Week 3 (June 19-22): *Personal space*

Grammaire:
- Les verbes pronominaux
- Le passé composé et l’imparfait
- Le plus-que-parfait
- Les prépositions géographiques

Topics include: Etiquette and the body; Conversations and debates; Compliments and Criticisms; Personal space with strangers; Public spaces with friends (transition to following unit)

Quiz #1

II. Public spaces

Week 4 (June 26 – June 29): *Transactional spaces*

Grammaire:
- Pronoms complément COI/COD
- Pronoms y et en
- Pronoms toniques
- La phrase interrogative
- Les pronoms interrogatifs
- L’impératif
- Les nombres

Composition #2 à rendre
Topics include: Fashion in Paris; Urban spaces and their trends; Supermarkets vs. Street markets and artisanal spaces; When do you cease being a tourist?

**Quiz #2**

| Jeudi 29 juin : Atelier de théâtre |
| Vendredi 30 juin : Atelier théâtre |

**Week 5 (July 3 – July 6): Movement in the city and beyond**

Grammaire:
- Les pronoms relatifs
- Le futur simple
- Le conditionnel (présent et passé)
- Les phrases hypothétiques

Topics include: Organization of Paris and « arrondissements »; Evolution of Paris’ urban infrastructure; Parks and free art spaces; Public transportation; Walking (the *Flâneur*); Traveling in France

**III. Converted spaces, new spaces**

**Week 6 (July 10-July 13): Street art, unconventional art**

Grammaire:
- Le subjonctif
- L’infinitif (présent et passé)
- Le négatif (avancé)

Composition #3 à rendre

Topics include: The history of conservation in France; Aesthetics of graffiti; Architecture, and the repurposing of public spaces

**Quiz #3**

**Week 7 (July 17-July 20) : Paris et ses banlieues**

Grammaire:
- Les indéfinis
- “tout”
- Le passif
Topics include: Urban space and marginalization; Evolution of neighborhoods; Immigration and diversity


Week 8 (July 24-July 25) : Review and final exam