



SYLLABUS

Short Winter session

INSTITUTIONS IN FRENCH SOCIETY

Professor: VIRGINIE AMPHONESINH

Class Contact Hrs: 16

Tutorials: 4

Community service: 8 hrs/wk

**Language of Instruction: French &/or English
(depending on language skills)**

3 semester credits

MONTPELLIER, France

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course deals with the major issues at stake in French society and the way they are met by institutions, associations and NGOs. It highlights the role and functioning of French institutions

It complements the service contributed by students in a number of partner institutions: shelter-homes, food banks, hospitals, retirement homes and local schools and includes a number of service activities such as: tutoring, aid to handicapped people, recreation activities, distribution of food & clothes, conversation workshops ...

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course aims at developing

- a better understanding of the political, economic and social structures that shape French society
- French language competencies
- analysis and synthesis skills
- personal growth

The promoters of the program wish to give young adults an opportunity to get a holistic view of the community linking traditional learning and experimentation. Thus the student will not be enclosed in an academic institution on a university campus but will be part of a richer relationship with the city as a whole

COURSE CONTENTS

An image of France	Stereotypes Geography, traditions and way of living
French Institutions	Governing bodies Political parties Administrative regions
Health	Medical coverage The welfare state
The French at work	Unemployment Working hours Unions Retirement
French education system	Public & private sectors Secularism
Europe	European Institutions The Euro The future of the European Union
Immigration	Immigration flows French citizenship Social problems
Women in French society	Families Women at work
Justice	The judicial system Violence
Ethics	Ecology Discrimination
Ecology	Sustainable development Nuclear Energy
The media	Press, radio and television Internet Social networks

TEACHING METHODS

- Surveys
- Press articles
- Class discussions
- Oral presentations of personal research based on students' work in the agencies
- Weekly entries on journals concerning critical incidents encountered when volunteering or in daily life
- Final paper reflecting the learning experience

Assessment

- Class attendance: 10%
- Continuous assessment (oral presentations on service activities, quiz etc...): 20%
- Journal based on critical incidents during the week: 20%
- Final paper: 40%
- Evaluation by on-site supervisors: 10%

Suggested readings

- **Knowing and Doing (edited by Linda Chisholm)**
- How to Serve and Learn Abroad Effectively (Howard A. Berry & Linda A. Chisholm)
- Charting a Hero's Journey (Linda A. Chisholm)
- Visions of Service (Linda A. Chisholm)
- Qu'est-ce qu'un français (Patrick Weil, ed Grasset)
- National press (www.lemonde.fr, www.lesechos.fr, www.liberation.fr, www.lefigaro.fr)
- Local press (www.lagazette.fr, www.midilibre.fr)

IMLS TRANSCRIPT SAMPLE

STUDENT'S NAME :					
PROGRAM Director :					
SESSION : WINTER					
Date :					
COURSES	Evaluation & Credits				
	LEVEL & GROUP	HOURS	GRADES		CREDITS
INSTITUTIONS IN FRENCH SOCIETY COURSE JOURNALS, TUTORIALS FINAL PAPER	IMLS	16 hrs 4 hrs	/ 20	Letter Grade	
COMMUNITY SERVICE		8 hrs / wk	Letter Grade		
TOTAL INSTITUTIONS IN FRENCH SOCIETY		Minimum 45h	Letter Grade		3
FRENCH & COOKING CLASSE		Minimum 45h			3
TOTAL			Letter Grade		6

GRADING SYSTEM	LEVELS
A : Excellent	A : 15 – 20
B : Good	B : 12 – 14,99
C : Fair	C : 9 – 11,99
D : Poor	D : 6 – 8,99
F : Fail	F : 0 – 5,99
I : Incomplete	

Community Service placement

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COMMENTS ON SERVICE LEARNING ACTIVITIES	Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unknown
MOTIVATION					
RESPONSIBILITY					
ABILITY TO ADJUST					