

SYLLABUS COURS D'ETE

GROUP B2

Avanced

1. OUTCOMES

Students will understand the main points of both concrete and abstract topics in long and complex documents. Students will construct structured and detailed texts in French.

2. Linguistic themes

- Current events both on a national and international level
- The French social system, vocational training, the professional world, education
- French society
- The media
- Economics and politics

3. Specific Objectives

A. FUNCTIONAL OBJECTIVES

Listening and speaking :

- Understanding long speeches and debates on social, cultural, political and scientific topics
- Reporting one's opinions
- Presenting a detailed argument
- Explaining a point of view on a controversial topic
- Taking an active part in a discussion

Reading and writing :

- Understanding specialized articles
- Understanding long and complicated instructions
- Identifying an author's point of view
- Writing well-structured and detailed documents (reports, summaries, expository pieces...)
- Understanding and writing a well-structured position paper

B. LINGUISTIC OBJECTIVES

Grammar :

- Review of the past tenses
- Conjunctions and the subjunctive

- Compound relative pronouns
- Verbs followed by prepositional phrases
- Expressions of certainty and doubt
- Basic articulators : hypothesis, conditions, opposition, concession ...
- Past conditional
- Expressions of subjectivity

Vocabulary :

- Current events and social phenomena : politics, education, culture, economics ...
- The professional world and specialized language
- Expanding vocabulary : synonyms, antonyms
- Spoken French

C. SOCIO-CULTURAL OBJECTIVES

- Formal expository or supported argument speech
- Cultural norms (taking turns in a conversation, intonation...)
- Specialized jargon
- Forms of debate

D. OBJECTIVES IN CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION

Objectives realized in a specialized course

- La Lorraine : an introduction to the region and its counties
- Major events in French history after 1945 : major developments in the political, colonial, international, economic et social areas.
- France and its territory- cities and population : an overview of France, its population distribution and urbanism
- Political institutions: the structure of the Fifth Republic and the checks and balances of power.
- Political parties in France : pluralism, an introduction to the major parties and recent changes within the parties, today's political challenges.
- Les Vosges et l'Alsace: two regions separated by a mountain range; the economy of the region and a rich area next to Germany.
- Symbols of France and the French Republic..
- La Marseillaise: the historic context, the lyrics and its variations.
- Verdun : background on the First World War and the context of the battle. Verdun today, an historic landmark.
- Famous men in the history of France : quiz on the major figures in French history, their portraits and a synthesis.
- France and the European Union, the main points.

- The Vichy régime and the Revolution nationale : the history of the Vichy régime, what was *révolution nationale* ? Pétain and the Vichy Value system in official propaganda.
- Week-end in Paris : Paris, a French exception. What is a capital ? Different images of Paris.
- The French economy : changes and challenges, agriculture and industry.
- Wine and wine-growing regions: wine in France, the vocabulary of wine, the location of wine-growing regions.
- The French language : an evolving language. An analysis of selected expressions.

4. METHODOLOGY

- Receptive skills :
 - In depth reading of long passages selected from newspapers and magazines
 - Close listening to recorded lectures, investigative reports and documentaries
 - Open-ended questions to debate
- Productive skills :
 - Give detailed reports on current events
 - Take part in a debate
 - Compose a written report or position paper
- In the culture and civilization class :
 - Work on various documentation (maps, historic documents, posters, excerpts from articles and newspapers, video excerpts)
 - Document analysis
 - Debate on selected topics with a comparison to views on the topics in the students' home countries
 - Debate used as a tool to focus on use of newly acquired vocabulary.

5. REALIA

- Newspaper articles
- Excerpts from radio and television programs : news, investigative reports, interviews, documentaries.
- Excerpts from other courses, lectures

6. EVALUATION METHOD

In speaking, students will be evaluated on their ability to :

- Understand a long recording focusing on a specialized theme
- Participate in a 15-minute debate with other students on a topic covered during the session

In writing, students will be evaluated on their ability to :

- Understand a long text based on recent social developments in France
- Restate an author's opinion in the form of a written report

In Culture and Civilization, students will be evaluated in a one-hour written test on their ability to :

- Understand various types of documents dealing with one of the themes studied during the session.
- Synthesize ideas presented in a document in a written summary.
- Give a critical analysis of a given theme.