PRO-SEMINAR SYLLABUS

DESCRIPTION

This mandatory seminar aims to facilitate your immersion in France and more particularly in Paris (academic, social, political and cultural life) and to give you the necessary tools to analyze French society and its challenges. We will address current issues (political, cultural and societal) that will allow you to deepen your knowledge and understanding of contemporary French society and reflect on your experience through a personal project.

As part of this seminar:
You will follow an intensive mandatory orientation program: see Orientation on Canvas calendar.
You will participate in the sessions scheduled during the semester as part of the pro-seminar (see calendar on Canvas)
You will participate in a number of activities organised by the programme throughout the semester.
You will choose a theme or an aspect of contemporary French society that you wish to explore (personal project).

I will meet with you at the beginning of the semester to set up a personal project on a theme of your choice. Together we will establish a bibliography and a series of activities, as well as a calendar.

MANDATORY ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED BY THE PROGRAM

1. The orientation program: communicating in everyday life, note taking and oral presentation training (Christine Puech), intercultural communication (Sylvie Toux)

2. Participation in 4 cultural outings proposed by the program (cooking class and wine and cheese testing + two others activities amongs : theater, dance, circus and stand-up, museum, film).

INDIVIDUAL MANDATORY ACTIVITIES

3. Participation in 4 cultural activities other than those proposed by the programme (museum, films, theater, concerts, readings, etc.).

An activity that will enable you to get involved in French society, such as:
- volunteer work
- be a member of a sports team, a political party, an orchestra, a choir, a student association, a club, etc
- a solo weekend in the provinces
- babysitting or helping an elderly person
- attend talks or workshops (in art history, at the Collège de France, at the Ecole des Hautes études en Sciences Sociales...)
- explore your neighborhood (activities proposed by the town hall, interviews with residents and shopkeepers, history of the neighborhood...),
- discover the contemporary cultural scene (for example, art, film, literature or theatre) by participating in a literary circle, festivals, readings, exhibitions, etc
COURSE SCHEDULE (see calendar on Canvas)

Orientation - Mandatory attendance at all meetings
The pro-seminar will meet on Monday from 4:30-6:30pm
3 individual appointments to schedule during the semester:
   - Discussion about your personal project
   - Discussion about your activity in the community and 2 cultural outings other than the one proposed by the program
   - Discussion about your personal experience in France

MANDATORY ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED BY THE PROGRAM

- A cooking class
- Wine and Cheese Tasting
- September: Regional Seminar (Arles and Camargue)

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Cirque Plume
- Dance: Robbins, Opéra Garnier
- Theater: Justice, Théâtre de l'œuvre
- Stand-up A New Yorker in Paris, Sebastian Marx followed by a group dinner
- Guided tour of the Immigration Museum (date to be announced)
- Film (choice and date to be announced later)

EVALUATION

- Orientation Ch. Puech (one report and one oral presentation + activities). 20%
- Participation in the seminar. (10%)
- 6 articles (a minimum of 800 words + photos) including a presentation and an analysis of:
   - your neighborhood
   - 2 cultural outings of your choice proposed by the program
   - outings other than the one proposed by the program
   - A community activity (volunteering, solo weekend, choir, etc)
   - Regional Seminar

These articles are to be submitted 3 times during the semester. (30%)

- Personal draft: first version to be submitted by November 26 and final draft to be submitted by December 22 at the latest. (40%)

All these elements will constitute a file which will be evaluated at the end of the semester. On the basis of this evaluation, 6 ECTS will be granted for the "pro-seminar".

Unexcused absence from one of the mandatory activities will result in a reduction of your final grade.

The content of the syllabus and dates are subject to change
BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Augé Marc, Qui donc est l'autre, Paris, Odile Jacob, 2017
- Baudry Pascal, French & Americans, the other bank,
- Le Bras Hervé, Todd Emmanuel, Le mystère français, Paris, Seuil et la république des Idées, 2013
- Le Bras Hervé, Todd Emmanuel, Le mystère français, Paris, Seuil et la république des Idées, 2013
- Koskiak Géraldine, Chez nous, Paris, Grasset, 2018
- Mizubayashi Akira, A language from elsewhere, Paris, Gallimard, 2011
- Morin Edgar, Time to change civilization, Paris, dawn, 2017

- The French press


- French Film News

Book chosen by CH Puech (orientation) : Cabérac Yvan, Venice is not in Italy, Paris, Livre de Poche, 2