

Maghrebis: Identity and Integration in France – FRLA 8280 (Intermediate High) Fall 2015

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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays from noon to 1:00 p.m.

Class Schedule: 10:00am-11:50am

Location: Tuesday and Thursday at MG101, and Friday at CFNT CF452

Important Dates:

October 10 - 13 Fall Break

November 25 - 29 Thanksgiving Recess

December 11 Last Day of Classes

Required Materials:

GRÉGOIRE, Maia, THIÉVENAZ Odile. Grammaire progressive du français (niveau intermédiaire). Paris: CLE INTERNATIONAL, 1995.

Additional Class Resources:

- Authentic materials from French satellite TV stations (i.e. TV5, France 24, etc.) - sources provided by the instructor; French films
- Additional suggested resources provided by the Professor for each topic

Class Overview and Structure:

Bonjour! Welcome to FRLA 8280, *Maghrebis: Identity and Integration in France*.

France is home to the largest population of Maghrebin immigrants in Western Europe. In this course we will examine the status of and issues pertaining to first and second-generation Maghrebis living in France. Among the themes covered are:

- Inter-relations between French-born Maghrebis and the broader French society (including other immigrant groups living in France)
- Issues of identity and cultural preservation among Maghrebi immigrants
- Maghrebis in the French job market: issues of opportunity, unemployment and workplace discrimination
- The role of arts and popular culture in preserving and reshaping Maghrebi identity in France
- Maghrebi views and voices on issues of religion and secularism in France

- Educational opportunity for Maghrebis in France
- Changes to Maghrebi immigrant family structure and gender roles
- Maghrebi youth culture
- Political protest among Maghrebi immigrants in France
- Linguistic assimilation

We will apply research, analysis and reflection methods to our study of Maghrebin communities in France. Four overarching frameworks: (1) Political, (2) Social, (3) Economic, and (4) Religious/Cultural, provide a consistent structure for inquiry as we approach each of the course's six units. Guest speakers, video clips, contemporary media and other relevant primary and secondary sources will offer authentic perspectives on the Maghrebin community. Class activities include guest speaker events, discussions, cultural presentations, media analysis and commentary, and additional short exercises and unit quizzes. Projects include biweekly reflection papers, news updates on current events in France that are relevant to FRLA 8280, and a digital portfolio final project. The class will be conducted in French, and student projects will be completed in the target language.

Learning Outcomes:

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- identify and discuss major Maghrebi communities that reside in France
- analyze and reflect upon the complex inter-relations between Maghrebi cultures, ethnicities, religious groups; politics, history, and French society
- demonstrate increased understanding of Maghrebi cultural/ethnic diversity; address issues of stereotyping, discrimination and prejudice within France
- improve target language skills: speaking, reading, writing, listening comprehension
- expand knowledge/correct application of both French vocabulary and grammatical concepts
- synthesize learning; apply critical thinking and creativity to interpret class material in a final presentation

Unit Activities and Projects

Sequence for each *2-week unit: * The course covers 6 units, each 2 weeks in length.

Week 1 – Tuesday:

- Instructor-led **overview** of a specific topic focus. We will utilize sources such as demographic maps, timelines, images and lecture to identify and learn about Maghrebi groups in France. Each unit overview will apply FRLA 8280's theoretical framework, and prepare you for more in-depth research.
- **Vocabulary** and conversation exercises related to the unit topic. The instructor will provide essential vocabulary. **You are expected to bring a 3-ring binder to each class.** The binder is designated for organizing unit vocabulary and maintaining a Personal Dictionary of additional useful words. **Maintenance of the updated binder will be considered as part of regular class participation. Alternately, you may record vocabulary and Personal Dictionary lists on your laptop.**
- **Maghrebis in the News:** in-class listening/viewing and discussion of news clips related to the regions and population groups of the current unit

Homework - due Week 1, Thursday:

- Vocabulary homework assignments
- Preparation of (minimum) **6 questions** for the upcoming guest speaker. Questions should incorporate initial topic study, and apply each of the 4 course frameworks (e.g. 2 questions about Culture and Religion, 2 questions about Politics, and 2 questions about Economic and Social factors).

Week 1 – Thursday:

- **Guest speaker presentation** on unit topic, via Skype or in-person visit. Each student will have an opportunity to ask one or more of his/her prepared questions. Please be prepared to take notes and participate in discussion. * Please note: guest speaker presentations will usually take place at the beginning of class. Your prompt attendance is required.
- Class **re-cap and discussion** of guest speaker's presentation
- **Pre-writing grammar and vocabulary exercises**, in preparation for the written Reflection Paper
- Begin **1st draft of Reflection paper**. Guidelines for the Reflection Papers are found below. Rubrics will be distributed by the instructor.

Homework due Week 2, Tuesday:

Read 1 short newspaper or online article, or watch a news clip (sources in English are permitted) about key areas studied in the current topic. Take notes in French, and prepare a 5-minute news update for oral presentation in class (presentations on Week 2 -Tuesday).

Week 2 – Tuesday:

- **Cultural presentations (instructor-organized)** will introduce music, visual art, dance, cuisine, traditional handicrafts or other aspects of the featured Maghrebi groups. Cultural presentation offerings may include audio recordings, film clips, guest presenters or other sources.
- **"Maghrebin Communities in the News"** – short oral updates (see Homework due Week 2, Tuesday)
- **Reading:** text will focus on the current topic being studied
- **Writing:** approximately 30 minutes in-class writing time for Reflection Paper draft final revisions

Homework: Prepare and practice oral presentation of Reflection Papers (for Week 2 – Thursday)

Week 2- Thursday:

- **Oral presentations of Reflection Papers.** You are encouraged to summarize your written presentation, rather than read it verbatim. Use note cards or whatever best helps you deliver the material. Each oral presentation will be followed by a short Q and A or discussion.

Reflection Paper Guidelines:

The Reflection Paper is a record of your learning and interaction with the material from each topic. This includes introductory overviews, guest speaker presentations, news media reports, cultural information class presentations, and any other material introduced. Rather than just a restatement of facts, you are asked to respond to and synthesize topic information, while making personal connections and

incorporating FRLA 8280 frameworks. You will add your thoughts and analysis to shape an original statement about your learning in each unit.

Examples of personal writing prompts:

What I was most curious about....

What I still don't understand....

How did what I learned change my existing views, or confirm what I already thought?

Reflection Paper Specifications:

- Paper length/word count will be discussed in class
- double-spaced, size 12 font, .8 inch margin
- Incorporate **at least 15 words** of the current **unit vocabulary**
- Incorporate any grammatical concepts introduced in class
- Include words or phrases from your Personal Dictionary that apply to the topic

Homework Guidelines:

Written assignments will be due **every class at the beginning of class**. Students are expected to turn these assignments in **on time**. **Please include your name and the due date of the assignment on all submitted work.**

Homework assignments will be graded on numerical points. The grading criteria is provided below.

Quizzes:

Short bi-weekly quizzes will cover thematic vocabulary and/or grammatical concepts introduced in class.

Final Project: Digital Portfolio and Scheduled Oral Presentation:

The Digital Portfolio offers you an opportunity to expand upon what you have learned about the Maghrebin community from among our previous topics. You will incorporate the four FRLA 8280 frameworks and a variety of project work into an electronic portfolio, using PowerPoint presentation format.

Materials for the digital portfolio may include:

- Expanded Reflection Paper
- Images with original captions
- Video clips with written commentary
- Analysis of an issue related to the Maghrebin community; proposal of a resolution
- Historical timeline with commentary
- Map with brief description
- Spotlight on an issue
- Photo montage
- Other relevant material

Further criteria and grading rubrics will be provided by the instructor.

Important General Notes:

- All assignments must be handed in at the beginning of class session
- You are allowed two excused absences (i.e. sickness or other emergency circumstances). Two points will be taken from the total grade points for each absence without the instructor's permission. Please inform your professor of absence as soon as possible before--not after--the class you will miss.
- Use of electronic devices is not permitted in class unless it is related to class activities and tasks (i.e. presentation). This requires the instructor's permission.
- Please switch off your cell phone during class time.

Active participation

- **Use of French:** The language of instruction and interaction in class is French. English is not used in class or with the teacher outside class.
- Attend regularly as absence affects both absence and participation grades
- Show evidence of preparation of materials prior to class session
- Initiate talking and lead discussions on the assigned class materials and topics
- Respond to the instructors' questions on the content of the materials
- Participate fully and actively in all class activities and tasks (i.e. pair and group work)
- Engage in discussion with classmates and guest speakers

Grading Guidelines

Class participation (see absence policy below)	20 %
Homework assignments	20 %
Short quizzes	20 %
Maghrebin communities in the news	5%
Reflection paper	15 %
Final project	20 %

Grade distribution

A = 4.0 = 96 – 100	C+ = 2.33 = 73 – 77
A- = 3.67 = 92 – 95	C = 2.0 = 69 – 72
B+ = 3.33 = 88 – 91	C- = 1.67 = 64 – 68
B = 3.0 = 83 – 87	D = 1.00 = 60 – 63
B- = 2.67 = 78 – 82	

PLEASE SEE PAGE BELOW

Maghrebis: Identity and Integration in France

FRLA 8280

Course Frameworks for Research, Analysis and Reflection

Unit 1: The Maghrebi Immigrant Experience in France

- French government policies toward Maghrebis
- Full citizenship or half-French citizens?
- Historical background of Maghrebin communities, treatment within society, discrimination
- Affinities and divisions between Maghrebin communities and French society including other immigrant groups living in France: coexistence, conflicts, conflict resolution
- Changes to Maghrebi immigrant family structure including youth, women, elders

Unit 2: Secularism, Cultural Values and Religious Beliefs

- Maghrebin identity and cultural preservation within French society (customs and traditions)
- The role of arts and popular culture in preserving and reshaping Maghrebi identity in France
- Maghrebi views and voices on issues of religion and secularism in France
- Inter-marriage and cultural differences

Unit 3: Activism and Political Sphere

Political protest among Maghrebi immigrants in France

- French government policies toward Maghrebis
- Full citizenship or half-French citizens?
- Right wing and anti-immigration policies
- Political ideologies associated with Maghrebin communities; Islamist influence
- History of colonization in inter-religious tensions, conflicts and misperceptions

Unit 4: Economic Challenges and Opportunities

- Maghrebis in the French job market: issues of opportunity, unemployment and workplace discrimination
- Educational opportunity for Maghrebis in France
- Migration to other European countries

Unit 5: Linguistic Assimilation and Educational Opportunities

Linguistic assimilation

Unit 6: Arts and Popular Culture

The role of arts and popular culture in preserving and reshaping Maghrebi identity in France