COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: FREN 1101: Beginning French I

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION
1. Credits: 4
2. Hours/Week: 4
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): None
4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): Basic English skills
5. MnTC Goals (if any): Goal 2/Critical Thinking, Goal 8/Global Perspectives

This course is an introduction to French language and culture within the context of daily life in French-speaking regions worldwide. Communication skills include: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Sensitivity to cultural differences is emphasized. Designed for the student with NO previous foreign language study. This course uses audio, video, integrated websites, and news media.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): November, 2012

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
This course is designed to build students’ speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills enabling them to express their own ideas and interact with others meaningfully. Cultural knowledge and sensitivity are an integral part of both language learning and communication. Students are introduced to the everyday lives of French speakers living in francophone regions worldwide.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL):
The student will be able to:
1. Listen and understand simple dialogues in French. Students will listen and participate in small group discussions and large group presentations.
2. Communicate in social situations (small and large group conversations) with comprehensible pronunciation. Students should be able to discuss their own lives and daily life in the French speaking community worldwide.
3. Use these topics and grammatical tools in communication:
   a) Expressions of courtesy, greetings, introductions, classroom, Francophonie
   b) Likes/dislikes, university system and vocab, present tense -er verbs, time
   c) Family, professions, describing people, numbers 1-1000, Paris
   d) Café, food, pastimes, expressions of quantity, verbs in the immediate future
   e) Sports/activities, idioms with faire and il faut, weather, dates, -ir verbs, past tense
4. Write short dialogues or paragraphs on the above topics with sufficient control for comprehension.
5. Read with general comprehension materials related to the above topics. Students should be able to use critical reading skills of context, cognates, and prediction in order to discuss the content.
6. Acquire cultural information for understanding the diversity of French-speaking communities around the world. Students will appreciate the perspectives of these regions within the context of the topics listed above. Students should be able to demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, and linguistic differences from student’s own culture.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC):
Goal 2/Critical Thinking: The student will be able to:
1. Gather factual information and apply it to a given problem in a manner that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected.
2. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives, which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.
3. Recognize and articulate the value assumptions, which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.

Goal 8/Global Perspectives: The student will be able to:
1. Describe and analyze political, economic, and cultural elements, which influence relations of states and societies in their historical and contemporary dimensions.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.
3. Analyze specific international problems, illustrating the cultural, economic, and political differences that affect their solution.
F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
1. Oral-dialogues, interviews, presentations, small groups, skits
2. Written-quizzes, tests (objective exams)
3. Homework (includes online or hardcopy workbook and audio-visual materials)
4. Culture Lab (includes audio and video lab online, films, francophone events, etc.)
5. Optional projects and activities

G. RCTC CORE OUTCOME(S) ADDRESSED:
☐ Communication ☑ Critical Thinking ☐ Civic Responsibility
☐ Global Awareness/Diversity ☐ Personal/Professional Accountability
☐ Aesthetic Response

H. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any):
Additional fees may be necessary for field trips or support materials such as a French-English dictionary.