

# FRENCH 4-1 COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Speak about a wide variety of countries, cities, and other places throughout the world. (Correct use of prepositions with geographical names)
- Understand the extent of the francophone world; be able to name at least ten francophone countries; understand the story of French colonialism in some of these countries (see below).
- Be familiar with the culture, history and literature of Haiti.
- Read and discuss in French poetry and a short novel, *Haiti Cherie*, written by francophone authors from the French Antilles. Write thoughtful responses a few paragraphs in length to a variety of discussion questions.
- Be able to read literature that uses the passé simple, an exclusively literary tense, of both regular and irregular verbs.
- Describe (in writing or speaking) feelings, opinions, or situations using complex sentences involving subordination. (Subjunctive with conjunctions and other less common uses)
- Be familiar with the history, culture, and religion, and literature of Guinea.
- Read and contribute to class discussion of selected chapters from the novel *L'Enfant Noir* by Camara Laye, a Guinean author. Specifically, discuss cultural differences between their lives and the protagonist's.
- Write a coherent, (mostly) grammatically accurate 1-2 page essay on topics relating to the cultural differences between Guinea and the United States.
- Be familiar with the history and culture of Belgium, including the music of Jacques Brel.
- Read, discuss, and understand the humor in the cartoon *Astérix chez les Belges*; understand its importance to many French-speaking people.

- Give several 5-10 minute oral presentations throughout the year using only minimal notes, on a variety of cultural/historical topics related to the unit currently being studied.
- Participate in skits, some created “off the cuff” and others written, rehearsed, and memorized, using a French accent that a native speaker could understand with ease.
- Engage in one-on-one dialogues of about 5 minutes with the teacher based around topics/questions discussed in class. In so doing, use a variety of verb tenses and complex sentences; express and support opinions.
- Express orally and in writing desires, obligations, and abilities that exist, existed, would have existed, had existed, or will exist. (Special uses of devoir, vouloir, pouvoir)
- Be familiar with the history and culture of Morocco and Algeria.
- (Some students) be able to correspond by E-mail with native speakers.
- Be able to understand and communicate with native guest speakers.
- Speak with an accent that is not so marked by students’ native language that it interferes with comprehension