INFORMATION FOR INCOMING FRESHMEN CHALLENGING FRENCH 1
(for placement in French 2)
2020

Grammar:

- Regular "-er" verbs including "-ger", "-cer" and "-yer" verbs in the present;
- Regular "-ir" verbs in the present, including some common irregular "-ir" verbs: sortir, partir, dormir, servir, sentir, courir;
- Regular "-re" verbs in the present;
- Four irregular verbs: "etre", "avoir", "aller", "faire";
- "C'est" vs "il est/elle est";
- near future: aller + infinitive;
- Idiomatic expressions with "avoir": avoir…ans, avoir faim, avoir soif, avoir chaud, avoir froid, etc…
- adjective agreements (descriptive adjectives) including "beau", "nouveau" and "vieux"; and placement of the adjectives (before or after the noun);
- possessive adjectives;
- demonstrative adjectives;
- asking questions using both "est-ce que" and the inversion; interrogative words ("quand", "comment", "pourquoi", etc…) and interrogative adjective "quel";
- expressing negation ("ne...pas");
- articles: definite, indefinite and partitive;
- contractions with prepositions "a" and "de";
- Common prepositions of location and disjunctive pronouns;

Vocabulary:

- Greetings and introductions including asking name and age;
- numbers up to 1000;
- Family members;
- physical descriptions and personality descriptions;
- school: objects in the classroom and topics studied in school;
- places in the city;
- leisure activities;
- common food;

- colors and common clothing;
- weather;
- telling time;
- telling date: days, months, calendar

Culture:

- Proper greetings: formal vs. informal; vous vs. tu
- Comparing school system in France vs. United States
- Eating customs in France vs. United States
- Introduction to the concept of "Francophonie" and the many facets of Francophone lifestyles.

Students need to be able to write simple sentences in French in a paragraph format in the present. They also need to be able to have a simple conversation in French about themselves (e.g., school, family, extracurricular activities, what they like and don't like).