

Quoi de neuf chez les francophiles à ISU ?

LE PETIT JOURNAL FRANÇAIS : FRENCH AT ISU



Pi Delta Phi Fall Initiation

(Pictured above)

On November 18th, we initiated four new members:

Rachel Hall
Kara Kirkus
Sarah Lange
Paulina Penkauskaite

Félicitations to our newest initiates et bienvenue à Pi Delta Phi!

There will be another initiation in the spring.
On espère vous y voir!!

Les heures de conversation

Join us in Stevenson 227B on Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30pm and Wednesdays from 2:00-3:00pm. You do not have to stay the whole time- come when you can!

Our last conversation hours of the semester will be December 3rd and December 4th- we will have hot chocolate and cookies!

In the Spring, we will be changing our conversation hour times, so stay tuned!

Ideas for l'heure de conversation themes?

Nervous about coming to conversation hours? Don't be! We'd love to hear what you want to talk about! If you have any ideas for conversation hour topic, themes, or something to do during the hour, send us an email at: isupideltaphi@gmail.com

Follow us on Insta and FB!

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MDI ET L'HEURE DE CONVERSATION:

In October, participants of MDI (Management Development International) came to our conversation hour to talk with us in French. They talked to us about their culture and their language(s), and everything in between! It was a pleasure to host them, and a great experience for everyone!

Qu'est-ce qui se passe dans les cours de français ce semestre?

FRE 325: Francophone Literature and Culture: (Julia Martín)

In French 325 Francophone Literature and Culture, we are focusing on Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia through the lens of crime fiction to gain a better understanding of the history, politics, and culture of North Africa. This is such a lively class in which we learn from Dr. Howell and constantly our peers through in-class interaction as we discuss the films and novels we are studying.

FRE 213: Written Communication in French: (Ashlynn Steinmann)

This class may feel like a lot of work, but you get out of it what you put into it. When I turn in papers and get them back, they are marked with a ton of errors but this does not discourage me because I can't learn from a mistake that I didn't know I made. Dr. Ponnou-Delaffon is always available to answer questions if you are unsure of anything. (I ask a lot of complex questions!) The answer at times may require patience and time to interpret because of the level of difficulty, but all of this contributes to improving your writing, your knowledge, and understanding of the French language and culture.

FRE 236: French for Global Business: (Erin Jessup)

We have been learning a lot of vocabulary and information that would be important if you were to use the French language in your career or work professionally in France. Recently, we created videos to promote ISU's French program and study abroad. The class also prepares you for an optional B1 level professional exam which is useful for demonstrating your skills to future employers!

Events this semester and next...

We have had so many fun activities already, and you can expect many more next semester!

- Pi Delta Phi/French Club held two conversation hours per week every week this semester.
- Oct 22nd @3:30PM and Oct 23rd @2PM French conversation hour engaged in poster painting for Homecoming and we marched in the Homecoming parade on the 28th!
- Fifteen members and junior members attended Pi Delta Phi initiation and dinner at Mme. Edwards' house on Nov 18th.
- We had a blast at Disney Night (outside of normal convo hour times) where we watched *La Belle et la bête*.
- In honor of National French Week, Nov 5th @3:30 and Nov 6th @2 we celebrated with *Goûter et un chef-d'œuvre* / Snack and a Masterpiece and painted some difficult French and Francophone paintings.
- We will celebrate *la fin du semestre* and *les fêtes de décembre* with hot cocoa, gingerbread cookies, and winter-themed coloring conversation hours on Dec. 5 and 6.

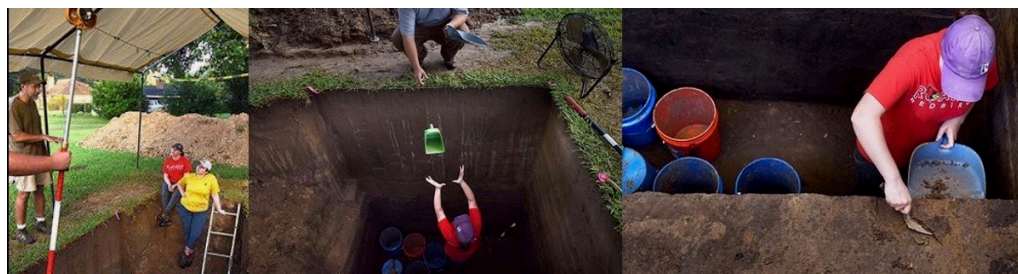


University Galleries (Julia Martín)

In September, French Conversation Hour hosted by Pi Delta Phi went to University Galleries to learn more about the exhibit by Aram Han Sifuentes, whose artwork inspires conversations around the politics of immigration. At the exhibit, we saw protest banners that Aram Han Sifuentes created with the goal in mind of expressing ideas of liberty and equity for everyone. She also presented samplers with citizenship test questions sewn on them and sold for \$725- the price of the test to provide funds to those who need to take the test. French Club participated by creating our own protest banner (which we designed, cut out, and assembled all together in solidarity) now on display in the language commons, which states “my native language is beautiful” in both French and Spanish.

Archaeology Internship (Erin Jessup)

It can often be surprising which situations you may find yourself using your French language skills. This summer, I had an archaeology internship in Mississippi. I worked on many Native American sites, and one of them was at the Grand Village of the Natchez Indians in Natchez, MS. This is a mound site where there were three visible mounds. The Natchez had contact with the French, and in the mid-18th century, fought against them. The French had even taken over the Grand Village at some point to use as their base as they attempted to shoot at another fort that the Natchez had taken over. What was amusing was that there are reports of the French shooting cannonballs at the Natchez, but they were too far away. The cannonballs would roll up to the Natchez fort and they would shoot them back. As far as most people had known, there were only three mounds at the site. However, an archaeologist found a French map with five mounds on it. After some more research and surveying, they found a potential site for the missing mounds, and we found one of the “missing mounds” over the summer! I was able to use my French skills to read the map (and I even noticed some translation and transcription errors). I was not anticipating using my French skills at all in Mississippi, but it was a reminder that language learning is such a versatile skill and you never know when it will come in handy and serve a critical purpose.



Mes expériences d'étudier à l'étranger: Grenoble

Où se trouve Grenoble?

(Rachel Mackey)

Over the summer, I studied abroad in Grenoble, which is in the southeast of France. I was placed with a host family who were incredible. I took two courses during my month long stay, which were B1.2 Grammar and Language and then a French art class. I had an amazing time there, both in school and out. In the classes, I was placed with other American students from all over the US and from other countries as well! Outside of classes, I had a great time exploring Grenoble with my friends and my host family. My friends and I would go to the *centre-ville* each day after school together for lunch and window shopping or sightseeing. With my host family, they took me on many hikes up the mountains, which was so awesome. Each hike would be around six to seven hours long, and it would be an all-day event. I took a bunch of pictures of the mountains and the views from my hikes! I also made a 1 Second-A-Day video if you want to check it out, and another girl (Arina Martin) who went to Grenoble with me made a longer video of her experience as well!



Café de chats

(Rachel Mackey)



While studying abroad in Grenoble, one of the many things to do on my bucket list was to visit a Cat cafe / Café de chats! Cat cafes are rare in the United States due to numerous FDA regulations. They are by no means illegal, so long as the coffee shop can provide documentation and numerous veterinarian check-ups for all of the cats, which is extremely expensive. In France however, so long as the cats are initially checked to make sure they are healthy, they don't need to go to a veterinarian every six months. Not only are cat cafes adorable, but they also open a great window to practice your french! According to a barista I talked to, most cats get a check-up every two years. But if there is any sign that the cat is sick and/or pregnant, they are immediately removed from the public. I was super excited to go to one of these cafes, and as it turns out, they are *everywhere* in Grenoble. I found at least three on my own. Each of the cafes were super clean, and it was apparent that they took very good care of the cats. The cats themselves are typically very social! Due to immense exposure to people, they are very well behaved and they love to play! I always carried a blue bag with me in Grenoble, and they loved to climb inside it. I noticed one day when I was pulling a cat out of my bag that some of the cats have tattoos in their ears. I asked another barista about it in French, and he explained to me that instead of tracking chips, some owners and/or stores tattoo their cats instead with a string of numbers and letters (*see picture*), which I thought was a really cool concept. Overall, I absolutely adored the cat cafes, and I would recommend that if you visit Grenoble, go check them out!

