# 2014 Ad Astra AP French Language and Culture Summer Institute July 21 – 24, 2014

#### **Institute Overview**

In this workshop, we will examine the objectives of the new AP French Exam and how to reach them within the context of a curriculum focused on the ACTFL standards, specifically the new AP French Language and Culture Curriculum Framework. All participants and the instructor will devise and share practical tips that work for our students. As we study very concrete aspects of the test, we will reflect on the curricular implications of the preparation to this national exam on the French AP class itself, and on the whole French language program within our schools.

## **Consultant Background**

Margaret Schmidt is an experienced AP French teacher and consultant. She taught AP French at Shorewood High School, in Wisconsin for eighteen years. In addition, she has served as a reader and table leader for the AP French exam reading held annually in June, since 2004. Margaret is a consultant for the College Board, and facilitates both one-day workshops and summer institutes for AP French Language and Culture. Margaret holds a BA and MA in French, and an MS in Curriculum & Instruction.

#### **Institute Preparation**

We will look at some activities based on cultural or linguistic artifacts (short stories, films, etc.) that can be used in an upper level course to generate enthusiasm as well as to stimulate accuracy and fluency from our students.

You will have the opportunity to teach an activity to the class during our workshop, so come prepared to share activities, hands-outs, whole successful units, or any resources you have tried in class, so that all of us can leave with a bigger bag of tricks at the end of our seminar. Please use material you already have even if it is for a level one: all levels do contribute to the AP class. If you are able, please bring these documents to share on a flash-drive.

# **During the Institute**

We will introduce the new format of the test, and structure our workshop around the three modes of communication that are central to it: Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational. We will integrate the analysis of the learning objectives for each mode, with the description of their achievement levels, and the tasks we can ask our students to perform to prepare themselves to reach a given achievement level.

We will work on the six themes which give the AP Language and Culture course its structure: Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Beauty and Aesthetics, Contemporary Life, Personal and Public Identities and Families and Communities.

We will look at several new textbooks that have been published in response to the changes in the AP French Language and Culture exam, as well as re-examine our favorites in order to adapt them to the new objectives.

# Monday

Introduction of the new AP French Language and Culture framework and test Computer lab session introducing resources and Moodle page Interpretive Communication: test, framework, thematic units, authentic material.

# Tuesday

Interpersonal communication Global challenges, science and technology Computer lab session: using authentic resources Best practices

# Wednesday

Presentational communication Families and Communities, Personal and Public Identities Best practices

## **Thursday**

Beauty and Aesthetics and Contemporary Life
The AP class within the French program; vertical teams; whole school curriculum
Syllabus audit
Best practices

## **Graduate Credit Option**

Participants may also earn three graduate education hours for any of the AP Summer Institutes from Washburn University for a reduced tuition rate and the successful completion of an academic assignment.

# **Additional Information**

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