Eastern Illinois University
Course Proposal
FLE 3050G, Culture & Language in the French-Speaking World

1. Catalog Description
   a) Course Number:  FLE 3050G
   b) Course Title:  Culture & Language in the French-Speaking World
   c) Meeting Times & Credit:   3-0-3
   d) Terms to be Offered: F, S
   e) Short Title: French Culture
   f) Course Description:  Students will be introduced to French-speaking communities throughout the world. This course will examine the diverse factors throughout history that have created these communities and some of the contemporary threats to their cohesion and growth.
   g) Prerequisites:  ENG 1001G and ENG 1002G
   h) Writing-intensive

2. Student Learning Objectives
   a) To provide students with a global view of Francophone history, language, literature, and culture.
   b) To heighten student awareness of cultural and linguistic similarities and differences throughout the world using English and French-speaking communities as examples
   c) To promote an understanding of contemporary political or social attitudes or conventions by looking at the history or the socializing institutions of some of the language communities.
   d) To incorporate writing-intensive experiences.

3. Course Outline
   Course will be for 50 minutes, 3 times a week, for 15 weeks.
   Week 1:  French Language & Francophone Cultures in the World: Imperialism to Diversity
   Week 2:  French & American Stereotypes: Where Truth Ends & Fiction Begins
   Week 3:  French on Five Continents: Geography, Demography & Culture
   Week 4:  French Close to Home: French Heritage in Illinois & the Midwest
   Week 5:  Francophone Culture in the U. S., Canada, the Caribbean, & South America
           Quiz & Project 1: France & French Throughout the World
   Week 6:  Language at the Root of Culture: Linguistic Pluralism Divides or Invigorates Francophone Cultures
   Week 7:  Dialects, Regionalisms, Para-language and Gestures
   Week 8:  Culture with a Capital C Still Reigns Supreme in France
   Week 9:  U. S. influence: American language especially in film viewed as a Trojan horse Euro-Disney as a _cultural Chernobyl
           Quiz & Project 2: Language at the Root of Culture
   Week 10:  Francophone Family Structures, Demography, and the State
   Week 11:  Traditional & Contemporary French Institutions: Centralization, Socialism, Communism
   Week 12:  Nationalism as seen in Francophone & American Symbols
4. **Evaluation of Student Learning**  
   a. Achievement of student learning will be evaluated, based on the following:

   - Three quizzes (weeks 1-5, 6-9, 10-12) ................................................................. 20%
   - Final exam (weeks 13-15 & some comprehensive material) ........................................ 20%
   - Three short projects/reports ...................................................................................... 40%
   - Presentation of fourth major project ........................................................................... 10%
   - Class Participation ..................................................................................................... 10%

   Students= speaking ability will be evaluated on class discussion and formal oral presentations. Writing ability will be based on the four projects and the written elements in all quizzes and exams. Reading comprehension and class discussions will be evaluated periodically by 3 quizzes and 1 final exam.

   b. This course is writing intensive in that over 50% of the final grade will be based on written elements. All papers will be revised.

5. **Rationale**  
   a) Purpose and Need: This course will be placed in the Humanities and Fine Arts Segment of the General Education Curriculum. Students will compare Francophone cultures to one another and on occasion to Anglophone communities which will provide a breadth of view. The linguistic and political history and cultural unity among the different Francophone groups provide depth to the this multicultural course. Through class discussion, research papers, group and individual presentations students will be encouraged to relate their own experiences and knowledge of American culture to the varied cultures of the Francophone world.

   b) Justification of the Level of the Course: The scope of the course plus the amount of reading and writing required justifies the 3000 level. This course may not be counted towards the Foreign Languages major by students who have chosen a concentration in French.

   c) Similarity to Existing Courses: The university offers no similar course in comparative Francophone cultures.

   d) Requirement or Elective: Course may be taken by students concentrating in Spanish or German to complete the English-language core of the Foreign Languages major.

6. **Implementation**  
   a) Faculty Members to Whom the Course May be Assigned: This course will initially be taught by Don Sundheim


   c) Additional Cost to Students: No additional cost

   d) Term to be First Offered: Spring 2001
7. **Community College Transfer**
   A community college course will not be judged as equivalent to this course.

8. **Date approved by the department**  
   April 18, 2000

9. **Date approved by the college curriculum committee**  
   April 19, 2000

10. **Date approved by the CAA**

    **Department contact person:** Don Sundheim  
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