

## **FRENCH: ECHANGES ANIMES**

### **Course Description**

Each week, the class discusses the pros and cons of a topic of interest, based on materials intended for native speakers. The selected readings or videos supply both authentic language models as well as insight into how native speakers view the subject at hand. Each reading or video includes explanations of key words and cultural references, and is provided to class members one week prior to each class session. Since the goal of the course is to promote a lively exchange, improve speaking skills and expand students' knowledge, a relaxed and accepting atmosphere is crucial. Topics may be chosen from the following broad themes:

THE ARTS

HISTORY

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

SOCIETY

CURRENT EVENTS AND TRENDS

TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE

MODERN DILEMMAS

TOPIC EXAMPLES (Fall 2024):

\*Olympic and Paralympic Games - Paris 2024

\*Is it possible to lose one's native language?

\*The National Institute for Blind Youth - history of providing education to children with disabilities; pros and cons of special education

\*Alcohol-fueled violence in France - an outgrowth of French culture?

\*The Lion and the Ant - a modern fable; the remarkable way animals can adapt to disruptions in their environment

**Weekly Layout:**