



Apr 15th, 10:10 AM - 10:45 AM

## French class Level 2:"Migrants in France" project

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Douglass-Gillespie, Juli A., "French class Level 2:"Migrants in France" project" (2016). *Migration in Global Context Symposium. 2.*

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## Migrants in France

Teaching world languages these days is all about using Authentic Resources with real-life situations for context, and of course incorporating Project-Based Learning techniques into one's lesson plans and curriculum. So as far as I was concerned, this Teacher Institute came along at the right time. As I listened to our speakers at the three-day Teacher Institute last summer on Migration in Global Context, the idea for a project with my French students this year slowly began to form. The presence of immigrants in France from African countries previously colonized by France has fascinated me from the time I was in graduate school, where I was inspired by my professors about this subject through literature, poems, and film, written by African francophones as well as French authors, including about the Algerian War for Independence. In these works the key conflicts often centered on identity and the clash between traditional cultures with Western modernity. Knowing that France draws in a large number of immigrants (about a 10th of its population consists of immigrants, and about a third of those are from African countries; just under half are from other European countries), and having seen immigrants in Paris with the student groups I've accompanied 3 times in the last 6 years, I decided to attempt to get my own students interested in this subject through my teaching. It is well known that immigrants in France are not welcomed by the whole population. As Dr. Goldberg pointed out to us, France's National Front party is one of the strongest anti-immigration groups in the world.

We, too, in this country have very strong anti-immigration groups and elected political leaders who espouse this view. Differences of culture, language, and skin color, coupled with the

jobs said to be stolen from native citizens, too often make immigrants the target of hatred in the country where they have landed. It is my belief that only through education and knowledge is there any hope for peace and harmony amongst different peoples of the world. My real motivation, then, for taking on this project was to expose my students to the challenges immigrants face in France, and encourage them to react. There is little chance for my students to become familiar first hand with people of very different cultural backgrounds since they rarely stray very far from the borders of their rural, homogenous community. But their eagerness and curiosity as teenagers to “see the world” gives impetus to my teaching. Admittedly I have tried to emphasize the points of view where there was acceptance of differences amongst groups of people, but I have also shown them some of the ugly side of prejudice, stereotyping, and discrimination, from the French people and others.

Some startling current events that happened over the school year gave my project undeniable direction. The initial project was to teach second year French language in the context of learning about the immigrant population in Paris. But in the fall when the huge migration of people from the Middle East headed for Europe came to the forefront of the news, I started exposing my students to news clips from French TV, with French journalists covering the horrible voyage of Syrians from Turkey to the Island of Lesbos. We began with basic vocabulary in French for what it means to be an immigrant and why people become immigrants. The students were able to identify vocabulary from the newscasts and visually identify the people, the emotions, and the danger. We listened to a rap song by famous a black african artist called Black M titled “Sur ma route” (meaning “On my journey”), and then I asked the students to write about their own personal journey in life. We listened to a song by a famous young

French Pop singer from the French version of American Idol, named Louane. Her song is called “Je vole” which means “I’m flying away” and talks about her migration as a teenager coming of age and leaving home. They had to memorize the lyrics of a song called “On écrit sur les murs” (We’re writing on the walls), which talks about hope in the form of people mixing and sharing their identities to form a better world.

Then November 13 happened with the bombings in Paris by radical Islamists--Daesh, as the French people say. My students were asked to talk about the ideals of “Liberte, Egalite, and Fraternite” (Freedom, Equality, and Brotherhood) for all, the motto of the French people. I asked them to write in French what those words stood for in their own lives. Again we watched the reaction on French TV to the tragic events. We read from French magazines written for French children to help them deal with their fear, and from magazines for teens which talked about how to accept “the other”, mainly Muslim others, in their world. I asked my students to tell me in English what they thought of these magazine articles that were so frank, and they told me they were surprised that this subject matter was addressed so openly. We viewed many two minute animated video segments written by French educators which respond daily to French children’s questions, whatever they are curious about. Topics for these included-- all in quite sophisticated language but illustrated with stick figures and sound effects in cartoon-like style-- “What is an immigrant?”, “Why are so many Syrians leaving their homes?”, “What is a terrorist?”, and many more.

We continued to cover the story of immigrants from the Middle East, Germany’s acceptance of so many, and a number of them reaching France as well. We followed closely the large camp near the city of Calais, France, called “The Jungle”, which is as big as a small city,

but where the living conditions are horrible and it resembles a large tent city for homeless people. We learned about French officials who wanted to just bulldoze the whole camp-- thousands of people, and others who built a school there to provide some sort of normalcy for the children trapped in that hideous situation. More French news clips showed the British police at one point trying to discourage the immigrants in the Jungle from risking their lives to illegally cross over the English Channel.

All year long I was telling my students that in the springtime their class would be presenting a kind of play for their parents and friends which could communicate what they had learned about immigrants in France, and also show information about the current mass migration of Syrians, Afghans, and Libyans. From the original idea of a play with characters acting out the parts of Syrians and French people, which we started with, and which brought out their feelings towards these people, the play evolved into a presentation by French and American journalists about three events: the first is the bombings in Paris last November, the second is the difficult voyage of the immigrants once they get to Turkey, and the third is about the secular school run by volunteers in the Jungle at Calais, France. There is a French news crew: anchor person, journalists, and field reporters, as well as an American news team with similar personnel. Each newsteam speaks in their own language, giving opportunities for the non-French speaking audience to understand, and also offering differing information and points of view from the different countries. The students have written all the script themselves, with my help, to put their ideas into French, when required.

We are in the process of rehearsals now, as the presentation for parents and friends is scheduled to take place next Friday, April 22 at 7:00 p.m.. We rehearse every day during their

class period, as well as after school rehearsals. The students are doing all the stage management, props, sound, lighting, and technical crew, on our stage in the school auditorium. We have also made invitations since the play will not be open to everyone in the school, and a program as well. [Here are a few photos of our rehearsals.]

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3-10
6-5
10-10
11-10
12-10

Play Script

main and 10-12 down

a

3-10
6-5

up with main

b

1-6
9-5

down and up with

1-8
2-10

blackout

hã

Madame

①

## Reportage

Maria: American: You're looking at us live from.....Northwestern News Studio. My Name is Maria

Mia: and my name is Mia

Maria: Although this world is filled with many great things, we consequently... also have to present the bad news.

On Friday, Nov. 13, 2015, Paris, France experienced several devastating bombings. We now know that a group of radical terrorists---who were Muslim extremists from Syria---were responsible for the killing and destruction. Now France has to figure out how to prevent this from happening again.

Today this news report will be about the bombings in Paris, France on Friday Nov. 13, 2015 and what happened.

How to prevent this from happening again.

Maria: Let's take you back to the beginning. Just like with any other story, it was a normal day, in 2015. France was playing Germany in an international friendly soccer match and a concert was going on by the American band Eagles of Death Metal when three attacks occurred around the area of the Stade de France, almost simultaneously. The blasts of the bombs were heard by people at the concert and the tournament, which caused them all to panic.

Maria: Three of the attackers were suicide bombers, all wearing the same type of suicide belt...

Mia: The first outbreak was at approximately 9:20 pm outside the Stade de France, the second one was about 9:30 pm outside of the stade de France, and the third one was at approximately 9:53 pm, about 400 meters away from the Stade de France.



Later on, there were additional attacks on the people of Central Paris. Shootings happened at multiple places. The first took place at about 9:25 pm in the 10th district, in northern central Paris..

As said by the president of France it was, "an act of war", organized by the well-known terrorist group, ISIS.

The attacks (bombings and shootings) left 130 people dead and hundreds wounded.

Such a tragedy.

blackout/ came back - INTRODUCES FRENCH

Now to the French report...

blackout, b AMERICAN side  
light French side

Zahra Ford

## *Bombing in Paris News Report*

### *Anchor et Journaliste*

Zahra - Bonjour tout le monde, bienvenue à "France: La Frontière Finale." Aujourd'hui on va parler des attentats à Paris du 13 novembre 2015, ce qui a causé beaucoup d'inquiétude pour les citoyens français de Paris et les immigrants à Paris. Les bombes ont détruit la structure des bâtiments, des restaurants, des cafés, et une salle de concert, et parce que beaucoup de personnes sont mortes ou blessés, les Parisiens - Français et immigrants - sont traumatisés.

Clara - Les immigrés en France qui ont voyagé de la Syrie, à cause de la guerre en Syrie, cherchent une nouvelle domicile. Leur maisons et leurs familles sont mises en morceaux, et maintenant ils sont éloignés par les Français, ce qui n'est pas préférables en comparaison avec la situation chez eux, en Syrie.

Zahra - Alors, la question est: Qu'est-ce qu'on va faire? C'est bien que les terroristes abusent les parisiens et les immigrés de la Syrie?

Clara - Retournons au mois de novembre 2015, il y avait beaucoup d'explosions à Paris. Il y avait des bombardements à 21h20 en dehors du Stade de France pendant un match de foot international entre la France et l'Allemagne. Puis, à 21h25 il y avait des tireurs armés de fusils d'assaut qui ont tué des gens aux rues Alibert et Bichat, dans le 10ème arrondissement de Paris.

Zahra - Ensuite, il y avait une deuxième explosion en dehors du stade sur l'avenue Jules Rimet à 21h30. À 21h32, au coin de la rue de la Fontaine au Roi et de la rue du Faubourg du Temple dans le 11ème arrondissement de Paris, cinq personnes sont tuées dans une fusillade à l'extérieur du Café Bonne Bière.

Clara - À 21h36 des tireurs sont arrivés dans un restaurant appelé La Belle Équipe à 92 Rue de Charonne. Ils ont tiré sur les gens assis à l'extérieur du restaurant et dix-neuf personnes sont gravement blessés.

Zahra - À 21h40 un kamikaze se fait exploser dans le restaurant Comptoir Voltaire à 253 Boulevard Voltaire dans le 11ème arrondissement. Aussi à 21h40,

trois attaquants avec des armes d'assaut sont arrivés à la salle de concert Bataclan. A la salle de concert il y avait trois terroristes et trois explosions, à 400 mètres de la Stade de France sur Rue de la Cokerie.

Clara - Après quelques heures il y avait une autre attaque à 12h20 à la salle de concert Bataclan. Un de trois terroristes était tué par la police et des explosifs qu'il portait sur lui. Les deux autres se sont suicidés. Plusieurs sont blessés et 90 sont morts.

Zahra - Toute cette agression violente est terriblement effrayante pour les citoyens français. La majorité des américains n'ont pas expérimenté ce type de violence avec attaques multiples pendant la même journée. Prenez un moment pour imaginer vous-même dans cette situation de danger. Voudriez-vous quitter le pays? Voudriez-vous aider ces gens?

Zahra - Et maintenant, retournons au reportage sur le voyage des migrants de la Syrie.

Maria - Am<sup>↑</sup> - We are going to take a quick Break  
We will be right Back.

certaines choses  
right 10-10

Sound - NBC News Theme

Maria  
Mia  
Zahra  
Clara  
Ahmed  
Sylvie  
Chloe  
Jérôme

IBC Theme  
Blackout-C

(3)

American <sup>u</sup> Oh Crap! ))  
Anchors  
Frenchanchors <sup>d</sup> Zut, alors! ))  
Le voyage

~~Maria:~~

~~You're looking at us live here at Northwestern News Studios.~~

~~Maria:~~

~~I'm Maria...~~

~~Mia:~~

~~... And I'm Mia, and we're here today on April 22 to bring YOU your daily news.~~

Maria: And we're back here at Northwestern News Studios.

For national news today we're hopping over to the Middle East and Europe. Millions of Syrian refugees have been fleeing their homes to find safety for the past couple years now. This has been creating a lot of problems over there that we'll discuss this evening. Joining us here today are Zahra and Clara from France: *La Frontière finale* to talk with us. Hello, good evening to you ladies.

Zahra & Clara:

\*small nod\* *Bonjour.*

Maria:

It's great <sup>to have</sup> for both of you ladies <sup>here</sup> to be with us today, thank you.

Zahra & Clara:

*Merci aussi.*

Maria:

So, is there anything you can tell us about what's going on in Syria, Turkey, and Greece right now?

Zahra:

*Oui, bien sûr. Tout le monde est vigilant du fait qu'il y avait beaucoup de problèmes au Moyen Orient depuis longtemps, et ce qui se passe maintenant là-bas est le résultat de plusieurs ans de difficultés. En Turquie et en Grèce, ce n'est pas facile de s'enfuir de la destruction. Plus que deux million et demi réfugiés ont traversé la mer Égée pour aller en Europe au point de l'île de Lesbos, en Grèce, qui est le plus près du bord de Turquie.*

Maria:

But why are some of these refugees fleeing their country?

Clara:

*Beaucoup d'entre eux quittent la Syrie a cause des conditions extremement dures et dangereuses. Une horrible guerre civile est présent dans ce pays du Moyen Orient depuis 2011, avec le nombre de morts a plus que trois cent milles, dont douze milles sont les enfants, et une million et demi sont blessés. Il y a des bombardements et des fusillades constamment entre le les armées du gouvernement et les anti-gouvernement qui menacent les vies de tous les citoyens, et puis les attaques aeriennes russes récents qui sont orientés vers le Daesh en Syrie ont causés plus de danger pour les syriens. L'instabilité incertaine en Iraq aussi a encouragé le flux de personnes qui quittent leur maison en cherchant une situation plus en sécurité.*

Mia:

Yes, the war in Syria has been a great issue, but the massive flood of refugees moving out of the Middle East--from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, and so on--have created even bigger, more controversial topics in countries around the world. This is especially in Europe, where most of the refugees are going. Mercy Corps, an organization dedicated to helping suffering, poor, and oppressed people worldwide, has called this "the worst humanitarian crisis of our time," and the UN has come out to say that helping the most vulnerable Syrians now will cost nearly seven point seven billion dollars.

Maria:

And that's not just for the refugees in Europe, but that's the other two million or so spread out in Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, and Iraq, right?

Mia:

Yes, and the displaced citizens still in Syria. As you said earlier, *Clara*, an overwhelming two point five million Syrians have gone to Turkey with the intentions of crossing over to

Lesbos. From there they either buy tickets to get to the European mainland or stay in the refugee camps in the mountainous Greek island.

Zahra:

*Beaucoup d'entre eux n'y arrive jamais. Le voyage est très dangereux. On utilise souvent les ruisseaux où on n'a pas besoin de papiers légaux, et cela encourage le trafic d'êtres humains. Les réfugiés sont très vulnérables. Les bateaux sont surchargés de personnes et ils chavirent souvent quand ils traversent la mer. Avant et après le voyage sur mer, beaucoup de personnes sont mortes des causes évitables, comme la malnutrition, la déshydratation, les coups de soleil, l'accident de voiture, et plus. Les enfants font 50 (cinquante) pourcent de toutes les personnes qui voyagent, et ils risquent de tomber malade à cause de pas assez de nourriture et d'eau. Même pire, il y a des enfants qui sont forcés de travailler pour aider leur famille, et il y a la possibilité de l'abus sexuel et de l'exploitation.*

Clara:

*Et en plus, en Turquie récemment les bords sont maintenant bloqués aux réfugiés aux points d'entrée. Il y a de nouvelles barrières et plus de militaires aux bords du pays pour arrêter l'entrée des réfugiés. Les réfugiés souffrent de la violence des gardes, de la détention, et l'expédition de retour à leur pays.*

~~Mia:~~  
Mia:

Malnutrition, dehydration, sickness and even death, forced child labor, sexual exploitation of women and children, violence from the <sup>government</sup> police, and the threat of deportation, Those are terrible conditions for these refugees. And these problems must be huge considering how many people use Turkey as a bridge to get to Europe.

~~Mia:~~  
Mia:

Well, what's going on to help these people?

Zahra:

*Il y a beaucoup de benevolents qui aident a transporter ces personnes a un meilleur endroit. En fait, allons a Ahmed maintenant pour voir ce qui se passe a l'île de Lesbos, en Grece.*

Ahmed: *Stage Ontrance bening*

*Bonjour, je suis Ahmed ici à l'île de Lesbos, en Grèce, dans un camp de réfugiés où se trouvent de nombreux femmes, hommes, et enfants après avoir traversé la mer pendant un voyage de deux heures. C'est difficile de donner une description de ce qui se passe dans cet endroit. Les bateaux arrivent vite l'un après l'autre. Les migrants s'embrassent, sourient, pleurent, remercient les volontaires pour les aider. J'ai vu des personnes qui se demandaient "Où suis-je?" On voit des hommes qui sont soulagés en embrassant leurs enfants. Les femmes qui serrent leurs bébés dans les bras. Il y a toutes sortes de situations différentes, donc c'est difficile de les distinguer et concentrer sur une activité individuelle, Clara et Zahra.*

Maria:

*What happens once the refugees get there?*

Zahra:

*Qu'est-ce que se passe une fois que les réfugiés y arrivent?*

Ahmed:

*Merci, Zahra.*

*Quand les bateaux de sauvetage retournent après avoir sauvé une chaloupe renversé, les (victimes) migrants sont ensuite donnés à manger quelque chose de chaud, les mères peuvent changer des couches des bébés, et tout le monde essaient de se reposer un peu avant de continuer le voyage. Ils doivent marcher 48 kilometres pour arriver dans un camp de réfugiés. Ça, alors, ce n'est pas facile, car l'île to Lesbos est très montagneuse, qui veut dire que cette randonné est pénible.*

~~Maria:~~

What are the refugees like there? How are they?

Clara:

*Les réfugiés là-bas, comment sont-ils?*

Ahmed

*Merci.*

*Ils sont reconnaissants du fait d'être vivants, en espérant de trouver un meilleur monde où ils vont. Les migrants sont des personnes ordinaires- comme vous et moi. Il y a des médecins, des ingénieurs, des bourgeois, des familles avec des petits enfants. Ils semblent d'avoir de l'argent quand ils arrivent. J'ai vu des personnes qui ont des iPhones, qui téléphonent à leur familles pour dire qu'ils sont sains et saufs. "Ils disent que tout va bien" et ils espèrent voir bientôt les autres personnes dans la famille. J'ai fait la connaissance de beaucoup de personnes intelligentes qui courent du danger dans leur pays natal. Plusieurs m'ont dit qu'ils espèrent atteindre l'Allemagne ou la Suède où on accepte un nombre énorme de réfugiés, ou la grande. Il y en a qui veut continuer vers la France, L'Italie, ou L'Autriche. D'autres veulent rester en Grèce.*

*Mais tout le monde partage une chose: un endroit qu'on peut appeler chez moi. C'est Ahmed à Lesbos en Grèce, et maintenant retournons au studio, merci et bonne journée.*

Zahra:

*Alors, merci, Ahmed. C'est une situation fascinante. Effectivement ça fait peur.*

Clara:

*Oui, c'est intéressante. Parce que ces migrants ont tellement de difficulté ils nous inspirent. Ils souffrent beaucoup, mais ils ont de l'espoir pour avoir un meilleur avenir.*



~~Mia~~  
Maria:

I agree, they are a very inspirational group of people, despite their situation. These people are human beings just like us--they're just searching for a place in the world. The issue is simply where do they go? A lot of world leaders aren't keen on these people flooding in at the rates they're coming, but Germany has been welcoming many with open arms. Their chancellor, Angela Merkel has defended the idea of allowing them in and helping the refugees.

~~Mia~~  
Mia: \*looks over at partner\*

Yes, but you can't help but feel terrible for these people and their families. Imagine how much school these kids are missing, how much of their education they aren't receiving, how many friends they've lost along this journey. And what about the pregnant women and their husbands, the sick, and the elderly?

Clara:

*Oui. Malheureusement, il n'y a pas assez de ressources disponibles.*

*Pardon, mais il n'y a presque plus de temps.*

~~Mia~~  
Maria

Oh! Yes, our time is almost out!

~~Mia~~  
Mia

And it's becoming increasingly difficult to get across the border.

Alright, well, we're gonna take a break and return to the program soon. Quick break, we'll be right back here at Northwestern News Studios. ~~END~~

Curtain close

"Schultz!"

Check out

a

Spotlight on Fidel reporters.

l'Ecole a Calais

~~(insert name here)~~ <sup>MM</sup>: Today we find ourselves on what used to be the peaceful sunny shores in Calais, France. however the peace and tranquility has been disheveled as large numbers of fleeing refugees gather here at the closest geographical point between France and England. however even as large numbers of people amass upon the shores some social etiquette has been maintained. As an example of this sustention of societal hierarchy a sort of makeshift town has grown on the landscape of Calais, known to the residents as "The Jungle". Today we will be examining the school that Nigerian Zimarco Jones built last month. We were able to get a translator to help out our English speakers in the audience today. Let's listen now to the interview between our journalist Sylvie and our translator Chloe with Zimarco Jones, who are at the school.

Sylvie: *Bonjour Zimarco Jones, Je m'appelle Sylvie. A votre opinion, pourquoi avez-vous commencé cette école?*

Translator: In your opinion, what influenced you to start the school?

Jones: *Ce qui m'a influencé pour l'école, c'est que je suis immigré de la Nigérie. Moi, j'ai voulu aider ces immigrants syriens de différents manières.*

Translator: What influenced me to build the school was that as a past Nigerian-refugee myself, I wanted to help these people in any way I could.

Sylvie: *Comment avez-vous découvert le camp à Calais?*

Translator: How did you know the refugee camp was in Calais, France?

Jones: *J'ai entendu parler de la crise, et je me sentais forcé de venir à Calais ou il y a des grands groupes d'immigrants.*

Translator: I heard about the crisis and found myself compelled to go to Calais where I had heard large groups had amassed.

Chloe: *Qu'est-ce que vous y pensez de tout cela?*

Translator: How do you feel about the crisis in Calais?



Jones: *C'est une grande crise humanitaire. Le gouvernement français devrait aider beaucoup plus.*

Translator: It's a huge humanitarian crisis that needs much more support from the French government.

Sylvie: *Que disent ces affiches, Monsieur Jones?*

Translator: What do these signs mean, Mr. Jones?

Jones: *Cette école ne favorise aucune religion. C'est pour tout le monde.*

Translator: That this is a school for everyone and does not discriminate against anyone for their religion.

Sylvie: *Et celui-là?*

Translator: And this one?

Jones: *Quand vous donnez des cours aux enfants, ils ne vont pas devenir des criminels.*

Translator: When you give kids a chance to go to school, it is not likely they will become criminals.

Sylvie: *Merci, Monsieur Jones.*

*Comme vous pouvez voir, la crise humanitaire est montée aux proportions énormes qui se rappellent de la Deuxième Guerre mondiale. Cependant, il y a quelques rayons d'espoir qui illuminent ce depot triste d'hommes, de femmes, et d'enfants---dans la forme d'une petite école.*

Translator: As you can see, the humanitarian crisis here has grown to very large proportions which have not been so grave since the situation in World War II. However, there are still some rays of hope for these migrant men, women, and children, as here, in the form of a school, where the children can learn and enjoy friendship.

Sylvie: *C'est Sylvie, ici au Jungle a Calais, France. Et maintenant, on retourne à vous, Mia.*

Mia: Thank you, Sylvie, in the Jungle near Calais, France.

That's it for our report on what's been happening in France over the past year with the migration of many thousands of Syrians and other people fleeing the chaos in the Middle East. Many migrants seek applications for asylum in France. A PEW Research poll shows that approximately 76% of the French population is in favor of accepting Muslims into their society. The French government has reacted to recent terrorist attacks in Europe by the extremist group Daesh, by hugely tightening its security. Some progress has been made to take better care of the migrants in the Jungle. The "School in the Dunes" is still running .

Clara and Zahra: *Merci pour avoir écouté. Nous sommes CLARA et ZAHRA, a Paris, France.*

Maria et Mia: Thank you for listening. This is MIA and MARIA for Northwestern News.  
Good night!

*Both*

*Curtains close*

*all come out on stage*