

Project Team

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Project Title

Medical French and Advanced Medical French

Audience

Students taking the course *Medical & Advanced Medical French*

Pedagogical Issue

Existing audiovisual materials in the areas of Medical and Advanced Medical French consist of books, CDs, and videos which attempt to portray real situations, but which are scripted. The team of instructors believes that there is a better way for students to learn medical French through interaction with unscripted interviews with Francophone specialists in various medical fields.

Solution

This project will create a new French course, *Medical & Advanced Medical French*, designed for medical students and other students interested in scientific French. The course will have an intensive online component along with interviews with native speakers – real-life communication situations that will be used in role-playing activities. Such true-to-life situations will develop learners' linguistic capacities using not only texts, graphics, digital audio and video but also self-testing exercises, multiple choice questions, etc. By giving them the opportunity to interact with true specialists in their field rather than with actors in artificial situations, these tools should help students improve their comprehension and fluency more effectively than more traditional methods. Students will engage in cooperative oral and written activities with their fellow students, and discover specialized documents in real time.

Technologies Used

Animation, Courseware (WebCT development), Digital Audio, Digital Video, Graphic Design, HTML/Web Design, PHP, PowerPoint/Presentation, Adobe PDF, Macromedia Flash

Project Abstract

This proposal seeks to create a new French course, *Medical & Advanced Medical French*, designed for medical students and other students interested in scientific French. The aim of this project is to create interactive audiovisual materials to help students learn the language of medical French. This fulfills a real need, since existing materials in the area consist of books, CDs, and videos which attempt to portray real situations, but which are scripted. The team of instructors led by Dr. Beauvois believes that there is a better way to use technology to teach medical French: through student interaction with unscripted interviews with Francophone specialists in various medical fields. The course will have an intensive online component along with interviews with native speakers – real-life communication situations that will be used in role-playing activities. Such true-to-life situations will develop learners' linguistic capacities using not only texts, graphics, digital audio and video but also self-testing exercises, multiple choice questions, etc. By giving them the opportunity to interact with true specialists in their field rather than with actors in artificial situations, these tools should help students improve their comprehension

and fluency more effectively than more traditional methods. Students will engage in cooperative oral and written activities with their fellow students, and discover specialized documents in real time. The website will be regularly updated to reflect current research. The curriculum will focus on engaging and motivating the students. The final exam will be provided by the Chamber of Commerce of Paris; a satisfactory grade on it will be recognized by an official diploma created in spring 2006, the *Certificat de Français Médical*. As Johns Hopkins is world famous for its medical school, our team of instructors considered it a priority to create this new course for our students.