Article I – Name and Purpose

§1 Name. This Organization shall be known as French Club.

§2 Purpose. The Purpose of French Club is to provide a forum for French conversation among French-speaking students and to organize events, focusing on exposure to elements of French and Francophone culture.

Article II – Membership

§1 Requirements. Membership is open to all WMU students who are interested in French language and culture. No individual will be denied membership because of race, sex, religion, color, height, weight, age, handicap, national origin, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

§2 Joining. To attain membership, one must attend two consecutive meetings and provide at least one form of identification to the Secretary. It will be at the sole discretion of the Secretary whether or not to establish for his or her term a normative form of contact information conducive to mass communication (email, electronic bulletin board, asynchronous-capable instant messaging systems...).

§3 Voting privileges. Members obtain voting rights on the third consecutive meeting they attend provided that they have helped plan or run a program or event. Members will lose voting rights after having missed two consecutive meetings, after which commitment to the organization must be re-demonstrated, in the manner above or as otherwise specified.

§4 Termination. Only a member of the Executive Board may motion – and only at a meeting of the Executive Board – for the removal of a member. Membership may be terminated by a two-thirds majority of general voting members and a majority of the Executive Board in a secret ballot in which the President cannot vote. The President will read whether or not the motion passed. This will be verified by the Vice President. No other members are to know the breakdown of the voting result; this is to prevent the embarrassment of the member in question.

Article III – Officers

§1 Executive Board. There shall be an Executive Board made up of a President, a Vice President, a Treasurer, a Secretary, and a Fundraising & Publicity Chair.

§1.1 The President presides at general meetings and fulfills the miscellaneous duties required to ensure the success of projects. The President has the power to delegate responsibility.

§1.2 The Vice President validates the action of the President to ensure fairness and good faith in the actions thereof. The Vice President is expected to aid the President in otherwise non-delegated tasks.

§1.3 The Treasurer is responsible for keeping track of University and non-University funds for the club.

§1.4 The Secretary is responsible for taking minutes for general meetings and keeping track of contact information for prospective and current members.

§1.5 The Fundraising & Publicity Chair is responsible for coordinating fundraising events and publicizing activities and other events sponsored by French Club.
§2 Nominations and Elections. At the beginning of each year, there will be a general meeting to nominate students to candidacy for these positions. The Advisor or an attendee may nominate any eligible attendee. Attendees are eligible for office if they are WMU students not under any type of disciplinary sanction from WMU and have completed at least one year of French. The attendees will then vote from among the students who have accepted their nominations. Each candidate will be allowed up to two minutes to explain his or her platform before the voting for that position commences. The Advisor shall tally the votes and announce the positions.

§3 Recall of Officers. Any member may motion for a Vote of No Confidence in an Officer. If the vote passes with a 2/3 majority, the Officer will be summarily removed and a replacement will be nominated and elected as soon as the agenda allows; the Advisor will appoint an interim replacement if necessary.

Article IV – Finances

§1 On-Campus Accounts. French Club will follow and be subject to all University policies, procedures, and practices regarding student organization accounts and finances.

§2 Off-Campus Accounts. The handling of off-campus accounts will be decided by the Executive Board advised by the Treasurer.

§3 Dues and fees. There are no dues or fees for French Club at the time of its establishment. This may be changed at a later date.

§4 Financial Policy. The financial records of French Club will be audited at least once a year. The Treasurer will attend University financial workshops as required.

§5 Dissolution Clause. In the event of the dissolution of French Club, all money in any and all off-campus accounts will be given to the French Section of the Department of Foreign Languages for the sole purpose of an award to a student or to students studying abroad.

Article V – Compliance

§1 Policies and laws. French Club will comply with all SA&LP and University policies, procedures, and practices and all local, state, and federal laws.

§2 Registration and Reactivation. The President of French Club, in conjunction with the Advisor, is directly responsible for the completion and follow-through of the registration and reactivation processes as set forth by SA&LP.

Article VI – Meetings

§1 General Meetings. The time and frequency of general meetings will be set at the first meeting of the Executive Board, but may not be regularly less than two general meetings per month that school is in session, not including breaks between semesters but including months in which intra-semester breaks occur.

§2 Special Meetings. A Special Meeting may be called by the President or Vice President. Members will be notified immediately upon decision to hold the Special Meeting, via the most efficient means available to the caller of the Special Meeting. Special Meetings do not count toward the loss or gain of voting rights.

§3 Quorums. Quorums to conduct business require 2/3 of the voting membership.
Article VII – The Advisor

§1 Duties.
§1.1 Elections. The Advisor shall aid French Club in the election of officers, by nominations if the Advisor wishes, and by tallying the votes.
§1.2 Appointments. The Advisor is responsible for appointing an interim replacement for an officer if one is needed.
§1.3 Registration and Reactivation. The Advisor is shall aid the President in the registration and reactivation process.
§1.4 Advocacy. The Advisor shall advocate French Club from within the department, serving as a spokesperson for the group.
§1.5 Self-replacement. The Advisor shall help to find a replacement Advisor upon his or her decision to step down.

§2 Term of Office and Selection. There is no finite term for the Advisor. Upon the decision of the Advisor no longer to be the Advisor, nominations from the general membership for a new Advisor from among the faculty and staff of the French Section of the Department of Foreign Languages will be communicated to the parting Advisor. An election will be held within one week of the nomination deadline (to be set by the parting Advisor, at least one week after the general meeting at which the decision and method of nomination are announced). If no general meetings occur within one week of the deadline, there will be a Special Meeting of which members will be informed no later than one week before the scheduled date and time thereof. The entirety of the general membership may vote in this election.

Article VIII – Amendments

§1 Proposal. An amendment may be proposed by any voting member with an amendment drafted and two voting cosponsors.

§2 Procedure. A voting member having met the proposal requirements may propose an amendment at a general meeting. Time will be allotted on the agenda for the next meeting for the discussion of amendment and on the agenda of the subsequent meeting for the voting thereon. The amendment will pass with approval of 3/4 of the voting membership present. Absent voting members will be considered to have abstained.

Article IX – Bylaws

§1 Initiation Procedure. There are no hazing rituals or initiation procedures for French Club.

§2 Motions. All motions not specifically treated in the Constitution require a second.

§3 Voting. All issues put to vote require a simple majority to pass unless explicitly stated otherwise in this Constitution.

Article X – Events

Each member is to bear in mind that the spirit of French Club is to facilitate experience of French culture and social bonding among members, and as such, should participate continually in the planning and execution of programs and events.