

FRENCH

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The French Department offers a program of courses with three broad objectives: (1) to develop high proficiency in the French language; (2) to inculcate a knowledge and appreciation of the history, literature, and cultures of French-speaking countries; and (3) to develop critical thinking and analytical skills. In recent years, graduates who have majored or minored in French have gone on to further studies or employment in a variety of areas, including teaching, international careers, publishing, translation, the travel industry, business, banking, and law. All courses in the department are taught in French, with the exception of FREN 25300 and FREN 31900.

Major in French

Consists of eleven courses:

- FREN 21600
- FREN 21800
- FREN 22000
- FREN 22400
- Four elective French courses at the 200-level or above
- Junior Independent Study: FREN 40100
- Senior Independent Study: FREN 45100
- Senior Independent Study: FREN 45200

Minor in French

Consists of six courses:

- FREN 21600
- FREN 22000
- FREN 22400
- Three elective French courses at the 200-level or above

Special Notes

- **Study Abroad:** To assure linguistic competence and familiarity with Francophone culture, the department strongly encourages study off-campus and will provide guidance on choosing a study abroad program. All majors should plan to spend at least a semester, and preferably a full academic year, in a French-speaking country. A limited number of scholarships to assist with specified expenses of students studying in a French-speaking country are available from the McSweeney Fund; such scholarships are awarded on the basis of both need and merit. Application information may be obtained from the department chairperson.
- **French House:** Students with a strong interest in French are encouraged to apply to live in the French House, located in Luce Hall. The French House organizes weekly cultural and social events, which allow students to improve their French and broaden their knowledge of the Francophone world. A language assistant from a Francophone country lives in the French House and helps organize these activities. Applications can be obtained from the French faculty and are normally due towards the beginning of the spring semester.
- **Double majors:** The department supports double majors and will work closely

with students to design an appropriate program of study. Students in recent years have combined their French major with majors in Art and Art History, Comparative Literature, English, Economics, History, International Relations, Political Science, Religious Studies, Sociology and Anthropology, and Spanish.

- FREN 40100 will normally be taken during the junior year or, if the student plans to spend the junior year off campus, in the spring of the sophomore year. With approval, FREN 40100 can be completed off-campus.
- Since the major program should provide continuity in the study of French, at least one course in French should be taken each semester of the junior year (for students on campus) and the senior year, in addition to Independent Study.
- No more than one French course taught in English may count toward the major.
- Students who minor in French may take up to three of the required six courses off-campus.
- Students who major in French are not permitted to take courses in the department on an S/NC basis.
- Only grades of C- or better are accepted for the major or minor.
- **Teaching Licensure:** Students interested in pursuing a career in elementary or secondary school teaching must complete the requirements for Multiage Licensure in French (grades pre-kindergarten through 12, ages 3-21) as stipulated here and the general education requirements for Multiage Licensure as stipulated by the Department of Education. A minimum of 44 semester hours (11 courses) in French must be completed, beginning with FREN 20100 and including the following: FREN 21600, 21800, 22000, 22400, 31900, 40100, 45100, and 45200. In the case of students who are seeking to be certified in French as their second area of foreign language licensure, FREN 10100 and FREN 10200 will be counted toward licensure in French.
- **Minor in International Business Economics.** Students interested in French as preparation for a career in international business or finance should consider the Interdisciplinary Minor in International Business Economics (see full description under *Business Economics*).
- **Advanced Placement:** Students who receive a score of 4 or 5 on the CEEB Advanced Placement Examination may count this credit toward a major or minor in French. Students who have taken the Advanced Placement Examination are still required, regardless of the score received, to take the departmental placement exam at the College to determine the next appropriate course.
- Students who wish to meet the College's language requirement in French by taking summer school courses or by participating in an off-campus program whose courses are fewer than four semester-hours are required to consult the chairperson of the Department of French prior to such study and will be required to take the departmental placement exam to demonstrate proficiency through the FREN 10100 or 10200 level after the completion of such courses; a successful performance on the placement exam is required for transfer credit to count toward the language requirement.
- If a student registers for and completes a course in French below the level at which the French placement exam placed him or her, that student will not receive credit toward graduation for that course, unless he or she has obtained the permission of the instructor of the course into which the student placed and the permission of the Department Chair.

FRENCH COURSES

FREN 10100. LEVEL I BEGINNING FRENCH

An introduction to understanding, speaking, reading, and writing French. Acquisition of basic structure, conversational practice, short readings, and compositions. Cultural content. Extensive use of authentic video and audio materials. *Annually. Fall.*

FREN 10200. LEVEL II BEGINNING FRENCH

Continuation of FREN 10100 with increased emphasis on conversational, reading, and writing skills. *Prerequisite: FREN 10100 or placement. Annually. Spring.*

FREN 20100. INTERMEDIATE FRENCH FOR SPOKEN COMPREHENSION AND COMMUNICATION

Intensive practice in conversational French. Course includes cultural explorations in the Francophone world and work with grammar, vocabulary, and appropriate texts. *Prerequisite: FREN 10200 or equivalent. Annually. Fall. [C]*

FREN 20300. INTERMEDIATE FRENCH FOR WRITTEN COMPREHENSION AND COMMUNICATION

Intensive practice in writing and reading, with a focus on writing strategies, the writing process, and different kinds of writing. Continued study of French vocabulary and grammar. *Prerequisite: FREN 10200 or equivalent. Annually. Spring. [W†]*

FREN 21600. ADVANCED FRENCH

Practice in listening, speaking, reading, and writing at an advanced level. Review of linguistic structure focusing on questions of usage and style. Extensive use of multi-media resources. Intensive and extensive reading on multiple topics. *Prerequisite: FREN 20300 or equivalent. Annually. Fall. [C, W]*

FREN 21800. FRENCH PHONOLOGY

Introduction to phonetics and phonology of the French language. Analysis of spoken French, including phonetic transcription. Extensive use of audio materials. Oral drill to improve pronunciation and diction. *Prerequisite: FREN 21600 or equivalent. Not offered 2012-2013. [AH]*

FREN 22000. INTRODUCTION TO FRANCOPHONE TEXTS (Comparative Literature)

Introduction to textual analysis through readings in genres representative of seventeenth to twentieth centuries. Intensive study of selected passages to develop a critical approach. Practice in speaking and writing on literature. *Prerequisite: FREN 21600 or permission of the instructor. Annually. Fall. [C, W, AH]*

FREN 22400. STUDIES IN FRANCOPHONE CULTURE

Topic changes from year to year. Recent topics have included: contemporary France; Franco-American cultural encounters, women in France; the French educational system. *May be repeated once for credit. Prerequisite: FREN 21600 or permission of the instructor. Annually. Spring. [C, AH]*

FREN 22600. THEATRE PRODUCTION

A practically-oriented course focusing on the study and presentation of a play. *S/NC course. Prerequisite: FREN 20100 or permission of the instructor. Not offered 2012-2013.*

FREN 23000-23004. TOPICS IN FRANCOPHONE LITERATURE AND SOCIETY (Comparative Literature)

A special topics course. Can be taught, for example, as Francophone poetry, Quebec studies, or as a course on Francophone North Africa. *Prerequisite: FREN 21600 or equivalent. Not offered 2012-2013.*

FREN 23500. LITERATURE AND CULTURE OF FRANCOPHONE AFRICA (Africana Studies, Comparative Literature)

This course explores the fictional works of major Francophone writers such as Mariama Bâ, Mongo Beti, Fatou Diome, Ahmadou Kourouma, and Camara Laye. Considerable attention is given to the historical and cultural contexts in which these novels were produced. Students will also approach the history and culture of Francophone Africa through a selection of films. *Prerequisite: FREN 22000. Not offered 2012-2013. [C]*

FREN 25300-25301. TOPICS IN FRANCOPHONE LITERATURE AND SOCIETY: FRANCOPHONE FILM (Comparative Literature, Film Studies)

Taught in English. A study of Francophone film from its origins in the work of Méliès and the Lumière Brothers through film noir, poetic realism, and the New Wave to the contemporary period. Various cinematic techniques and theories are illustrated by texts from such major French auteurs as Renoir, Cocteau, Tavernier, Buñuel, Resnais, Carné, Truffaut, Godard, Varda, and others. Some attention to selected examples of Quebecois and/or Senegalais film. *Alternate years. Not offered 2012-2013. [C, AH]*

FREN 31600. TRANSLATION AND STYLISTICS

An advanced language course which studies linguistic and cultural differences between France and the United

States through translation. Strongly recommended for majors in preparation for Independent Study. *Prerequisite: FREN 21600 or equivalent. Not offered 2012-2013. [C]*

FREN 31900. APPLIED LINGUISTICS

Taught in English. Linguistic theory and its application in the teaching of foreign languages. Offered jointly by the departments of French, German, and Spanish. Individual practice for the students of each language. Required for certification of prospective teachers of French. *Prerequisite: FREN 20100 or equivalent. Alternate years. Not offered 2012-2013.*

FREN 32000. STUDIES IN THE MIDDLE AGES AND THE RENAISSANCE (Comparative Literature)

An examination of works that reflect the evolution of values and institutions from the twelfth century through the sixteenth. Includes an introduction to Old French. Authors studied include Rabelais, DuBéllay, Ronsard, and Montaigne. *Prerequisite: FREN 22000. Not Offered 2012- 2013.*

FREN 32200. STUDIES IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY (Comparative Literature)

An examination of works that reflect the crisis of values in the Age of Louis XIV. Authors studied include Mme. de Lafayette, Corneille, Racine, and Molière. *Prerequisite: FREN 22000. Spring 2013.*

FREN 32400. STUDIES IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY (Comparative Literature)

An examination of works that reflect the conflict between the individual and the community in the Age of Enlightenment. Often taught with a focus on women in eighteenth-century literature and society. *Prerequisite: FREN 22000. Not offered 2012-2013. [C, AH]*

FREN 32800. STUDIES IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY (Comparative Literature)

An examination of works which portray bourgeois society and its materialistic values and the ways in which these values alienate the developing romantic hero. Narrative and descriptive techniques also studied. Authors studied include Balzac, Flaubert, Sand, Stendhal, and Zola. *Prerequisite: FREN 22000. Not offered 2012-2013.*

FREN 32900. STUDIES IN THE TWENTIETH AND TWENTY-FIRST CENTURIES (Comparative Literature, Film Studies)

An examination of works that reflect the cultural, psychological, and literary dislocation of the twentieth century. Authors studied may include Camus, Colette, Beauvoir, Sartre, Gide, Duras, and Robbe-Grillet. *Prerequisite: FREN 22000. Fall 2012. [C, AH]*

FREN 39000. FRENCH THEATRE

An advanced French literature/culture course that explores the evolution of French theater from the seventeenth century to the present through the study of works by major French playwrights, including Corneille, Moliere, Racine, Marivaus, Beaumarchais, Rostand, Jarry, Sartre, Beckett, Mnouchkine, and Reza. The textual analysis of these works within a critical and theoretical framework will be historical and cultural context in which the plays were produced. Students will write four papers and perform various selections from a play as part of a final project. *Prerequisite: FREN 22000 or the equivalent.*

FREN 40100. JUNIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY

Includes work on skills that are useful when doing research in Francophone language, civilization, and literature. Culminates in the completion of an independent project, often a major paper on a cultural or literary topic.

FREN 45100. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY – SEMESTER ONE

The first semester of the Senior Independent Study project, in which each student engages in creative and independent research guided by a faculty mentor. *Prerequisite: FREN 40100.*

FREN 45200. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY – SEMESTER TWO

The second semester of the Senior Independent Study project, which culminates in the finished thesis or an equivalent project and an oral examination. *Prerequisite: FREN 45100.*

FRENCH STUDY OFF-CAMPUS

Programs endorsed by the department include:

SWEET BRIAR JUNIOR YEAR IN PARIS

Semester or academic year program offering courses in a variety of disciplines both at the Sweet Briar center, and at universities and specialized schools in Paris. A limited number of internships in government or social agencies are available.

INSTITUTE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION OF STUDENTS (IES) IN NANTES OR PARIS

Semester or academic year program offering courses in a variety of disciplines both at the Institute and at universities and specialized schools in Paris. Possibility of teaching assistantships in English. Possibility of internships at the OECD and in businesses.

WOOSTER IN BESANÇON

A one-semester program of intensive language study at the Centre de Linguistique Appliquée of the University of Besançon. A Wooster graduate who teaches at the Centre serves as the College's agent there. *Prerequisite: FREN 10100 or equivalent.*

DICKINSON IN TOULOUSE

Semester or academic year program offering courses in a variety of disciplines both at the Dickinson Study Center and at the universities and specialized schools in Toulouse. Possibility of internships in business, education, the arts, and applied sciences.

Additional endorsed programs allow students to study in Francophone Africa. See the website of the *Office of Off-Campus Studies*.