PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The French program is a cultural resource to CSUS and the Sacramento community in general; it represents the French language, literature and civilization of Europe and North America as well as other areas of the world where French is the common language.

The French program helps prepare its majors and minors for careers not only in teaching but in many other fields as well, such as business, journalism and government service. To that end it offers courses that enable students to grow intellectually and to live and work successfully in areas where the French language is spoken.

The program reaches out to both the local and international communities. Students have the opportunity to study abroad as well as to tutor and teach in local schools. The French faculty pride themselves on being accessible to students and taking a keen interest in the students’ individual achievements.

The Bachelor of Arts in French offers an exploration of the vast contribution that French language and culture have made to the world. The program gives courses in literature, culture and language (there are also courses in translating and interpreting).

Students majoring in business often find a French minor to be an asset to their careers. Students majoring in other fields may minor in French as a large part of their professional literature is in French or because they may work in a location where French is widely spoken; for others a French minor may meet graduate-degree requirements.

Note: Proficiency posting to students’ permanent transcripts is available through the Department of Foreign Languages in French. Proficiency is measured by a two part examination.

FEATURES

An active French Club offers students the opportunity to participate in French-oriented cultural and social events and a chance meet French people on an informal basis.

A chapter of Pi Delta Phi, the French Honor Society, recognizes the outstanding academic achievements of students of French.

Students are encouraged to spend part of their undergraduate careers in study abroad. CSUS sponsors exchanges with various universities in Quebec and a consortium of campuses of the University of Paris. The CSU has a Junior Year Abroad program in France at Aix-en-Provence. In addition, each year a CSUS graduate with a major in French is awarded a teaching assistantship in France with a salary from the French government. CSU students, with any major, may enroll for one year at a Canadian university. French majors, particularly, will find this program gives them a unique opportunity to become acquainted with French-Canadian culture and language. Summer language programs are available in Canada; student who achieve sufficient proficiency in French may attend a French-language university (information available from the CSUS Office of International Programs, LSN-2304.

The Gary McHolland Scholarship (depending on availability of funds) offers financial assistance to undergraduate majors and MA candidates in French; applications are available in the Department office.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

International Business Personnel • Trade and Commerce • Export/Import • Interpreter/Translator • Banking Representative • Buyer/Sales Representative • Foreign/Diplomatic Service • Airlines Personnel • Travel Industry • Media Personnel/Foreign Correspondent • Public Relations • US Immigration/Customs • US Information Agency • Peace Corps • Language Teacher • Bilingual/Foreign Secretary • Foreign Publications/Textbook Editor • Research Assistant
MAJOR REQUIREMENTS • BA

Total units required for BA: 124
Total units required for Major: 36

Courses in parentheses are prerequisites.

A. Required Lower Division Courses

There are no specific lower division course requirements. However, students must demonstrate competency equivalent to successful completion of FREN 1A, 1B, 2A and 2B before beginning upper division work.

B. Required Upper Division Courses (36 units)

1. Language (15 units)
   - (3) FREN 100 Phonetics & Pronunciation (FREN 2B)
   - (3) FREN 101 Advanced Grammar (FREN 2B)
   - (3) FREN 102 Advanced Conversation (FREN 2B)
   - (3) FREN 103 Advanced Composition (FREN 101)
   - (3) LING 130 Introduction to Language & Linguistics

2. Literature (12 units)
   - (3) FREN 109 Introduction to the Study of French Literature (FREN 101 or permission of instructor)
   - (3) FREN 110 Survey of French Literature (FREN 101, 103, 109, or permission of instructor)
   - (3) FREN 111 Topics in Francophone Literature (FREN 110A, 110B; or permission of instructor)
   - (3) FREN 170 Seminar Conducted in French (FREN 110A, 110B; or permission of instructor)

3. Culture (3 units)
   - (3) FREN 120 French Civilization

4. Electives (14 units)
   - (3) FREN 104A French-English Translation
   - (3) FREN 104B English-French Translation (FREN 101)
   - (3) FREN 107 Business French (2nd year college level proficiency or equivalent; or permission of instructor)
   - (3) FREN 125 Quebec & French North America
   - (3) FREN 196 Experimental Offerings

Notes:
- An average GPA of 2.75 is required in courses applied to the major.
- Students majoring in French are encouraged to minor in another field of their choice.

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

Total units required for Minor: 20; 12 of which must be in upper division courses.

Courses in parentheses are prerequisites.

A. Required Courses (6 units)
   - (3) FREN 101 Advanced Grammar
   - (3) FREN 109 Introduction to the Study of French Literature (FREN 2B or permission of instructor)

B. Electives (14 units)
   - Select electives to total 14 units with at least six units being in upper division French.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Credit by Exam

A maximum of 16 units in foreign language studies may be challenged, only 12 of which may be in French.

Junior Year in France

Students planning to apply for admission to the overseas program should consult the Department for information.

Foreign Language for Advanced Degree Requirements

Many graduate degree programs require competence in one or more foreign languages, and French is often recommended or required. Students planning advanced degree study in areas having foreign language requirements should give careful consideration to completing two or more years of a foreign language as part of their baccalaureate degree.

GRADUATE PROGRAM

The Master of Arts program in French is designed as preparation for students who plan to teach French in secondary schools or in community colleges, or who wish to continue graduate work toward a Ph.D. It is also of special interest to students planning to work in the fields of interpreting or translation.

The CSUS French graduate program has a broad educational function, reaching into the local and international communities. The students benefit from low student/teacher ratio and have the opportunity to study abroad, teach and tutor within the Sacramento community, and prepare for either an academic or professional career.
While graduates of baccalaureate programs find their degree helpful in deciding on a career, graduate study is becoming more desirable for qualified students who expect to practice in the fields of business, international relations, translation, and interpreting.

The MA program in French consists of studies adapted to the needs and interests of the individual student, with the opportunity of working closely with faculty members. The program offers a particularly flexible plan in the choice of culminating experience: either a thesis, a project, or a series of examinations.

**Admission Requirements**

Admission as a classified graduate student in French requires:

- an undergraduate degree in French or completion of the following CSUS courses (or equivalents):
  - FREN 100 Phonetics & Pronunciation
  - FREN 101 Advanced Grammar
  - FREN 102 Advanced Conversation
  - FREN 103 Advanced Composition
  - FREN 110 Survey of French Literature
  - FREN 170 Seminar Conducted in French
  - FREN 120 French Civilization
  - LING 130 Introduction to Language & Linguistics
- a minimum 3.0 GPA in French coursework
- for CSUS students — a report from the major advisor on the student’s potential for graduate study OR for students from other institutions — three letters of recommendation evaluating the student’s potential for graduate study

Students who have deficiencies in Admission Requirements that can be removed by specified additional preparation may be admitted with conditionally classified graduate status. Any such deficiencies will be noted on a written response to the admission application. Units earned to remove deficiencies may not be counted toward the 30 units required for the master’s degree.

**Admission Procedures**

Applications are accepted as long as room for new students exists. However, students are strongly urged to apply by April 1 for the following Fall or October 1 for the following Spring in order to allow time for admission before the Computer Access Student Phone Entry Registration (CASPER). All prospective graduate students, including CSUS graduates, must file the following with the CSUS Graduate Center:

- an application for admission and a supplemental application for graduate admission (Forms A and B in the CSU application booklet)
- two sets of official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, other than CSUS

At the same time, each applicant who graduated from CSUS must forward to the Graduate Coordinator in the French program three letters of recommendation from persons capable of judging the applicant’s potential for successful graduate study.

Approximately six weeks after receipt of all items listed, a decision regarding admission will be mailed.

**Advancement to Candidacy**

Each student must file an application for Advancement to Candidacy, indicating a proposed program of graduate study. This procedure should begin as soon as the classified graduate student has:

- removed any deficiencies in Admission Requirements and
- completed at least 12 units at the 200 level with a minimum 3.0 GPA

Advancement to Candidacy forms are available in the Graduate Center. The student fills out the form after planning a degree program in consultation with the French Graduate Advisor. The completed form is then returned to the Graduate Center for approval.

**Degree Requirements**

The MA in French requires completion of 30 units of coursework with a minimum 3.0 GPA. An outline of degree requirements follows:

**A. Required Courses (15 units)**

- (3) FORL 200 Materials & Methods of Research OR FORL 201 Methods & Theory of Literary Studies
- (3) FORL 210 Studies in French Literature
- (3) FREN 220 Studies in French Civilization
- (3) FREN 230 Studies in French Linguistics
- (3) FORL 240 Technology & the Foreign Language Experience

**B. Other Requirements (11-15 units)**

- (3) FORL 292 Topics in Comparative Literature
- (1-3) FORL 294 Field Experience

Other classes as approved by the French Graduate Advisor.

**Note:** 4 units of FREN 500 are allowed in this category for students choosing the comprehensive examination as a culminating requirement.

* Either FORL 200 or 201 (whichever is not used for the required courses) may be used as an elective.

**C. Culminating Requirement (1-4 units)**

- (1-4) FREN 500 Culminating Experiences

**Other Foreign Languages**

Another foreign language is not required for the master’s degree. However, students who plan further graduate study in French should take courses in other languages as two other languages are usually required in doctoral programs.
LOWER DIVISION COURSES

1A. Elementary French. Course focuses on the development of elementary linguistic skills, with emphasis on the spoken language. The relationship of the language to French civilization and culture is given special attention. 4 units. (CAN FREN 2)

1B. Elementary French. Continuation of 1A, with emphasis on reading, writing, listening and speaking. French culture and its relationship to language is given continued attention. Prerequisites: FREN 1A and a suitable score on placement exam; or permission of instructor. 4 units. (CAN FREN 4)

2A. Intermediate French. An intermediate course in the French language with emphasis on speaking, reading and writing ability. Dialogues, discussions and compositions in French. Note: meets the Foreign Language Graduation Proficiency Requirement. Prerequisites: one year of college French, suitable score on placement exam; or permission of instructor. 4 units. (CAN FREN 8)

2B. Intermediate French. A continuation of FREN 2A. Note: meets the Foreign Language Graduation Proficiency Requirement. Prerequisites: FREN 2A, suitable score on the placement exam; or permission of instructor. 4 units. (CAN FREN 10)

5. Intermediate Oral Proficiency. At the intermediate-mid level in listening comprehension and speaking, student will be able to handle general questions requiring concrete information, such as personal background, interests and needs, family, work travel and limited social conventions; can describe in simple terms visual settings; also able to participate in short face-to-face and telephone conversations; understand simple media announcements and reports. Note: meets the Foreign Language Graduation Proficiency Requirement. Prerequisite: one year college level French or equivalent. 3 units.

9. Grammatical Terms for Students of French. A comprehensive survey of grammatical terms used in learning French and a contrastive analysis of common grammatical concepts in French and English. Explanations are in English. Many examples are in English followed by a step by step application to French language structure. This course is recommended for students at all levels of French who have difficulty in understanding grammar rules and terminology. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1 unit.

45. French Reading Proficiency. High intermediate to advanced level competency in reading French. Understand main ideas and facts in description and narration of new items, personal correspondence, technical material written for general readers, simple short stories; follow essential points in ideas of special interest or knowledge. Attain recognition vocabulary of 2400-4500 words. Demonstrate general comprehension of a text; answer content questions in English. Note: meets Foreign Language Graduation Proficiency Requirements. Prerequisite: one year college level French or permission of instructor. 3 units.

96. Experimental Offerings in French. Special lower division experimental courses will be scheduled as needed. 2 units.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

100. Phonetics and Pronunciation. Review and practice all the main phonetic features of the spoken French language. Complete familiarization with the international phonetic alphabet. Practice in written transcription and oral pronunciation of all vowel and consonant sounds in French. Review and practice characteristics of diction, articulation, intonation, the musical movement of the sentence and rhythm. Orthographic problems and the phenomena of spelling and pronunciation are integrated with all written and oral exercises. Elimination of specific pronunciation problems for English speakers (r/l, mute, e, nasals, final consonants, etc.). Prerequisite: four semesters of French or equivalent. 3 units.

101. Advanced Grammar. Review of general principles of French grammar and its application in oral and written exercises. Presentation and application of complex structures. Course conducted in French. Prerequisite: FREN 2B or equivalent. 3 units.

102. Advanced Conversation. Mastery of spoken French language through discussion of personal readings to develop vocabulary and syntactical skills. Course conducted in French. May be taken for credit twice. Prerequisite: four semesters of French or equivalent. 3 units.

103. Advanced Composition. Special attention to help students learn the dynamics of good writing, become sensitive to style and develop ability to express their thoughts coherently, in essentially correct and well structured French prose. Course conducted in French. Prerequisite: FREN 101 or permission of instructor. 3 units.

104A. French Translation (French-English). Development of translating techniques applicable to texts in areas such as literature, sciences, journalism, history, art. Review and comparative study of French and English grammars and styles. Course taught in French. Prerequisite: upper division standing in French. 3 units.

104B. French Translation (English-French). Development of translating techniques from English to French with emphasis on business, technical, and literary materials. Continued comparative study of French and English grammars and styles. Course taught in French. Prerequisite: upper division standing in French. 3 units.

107. Business French. Course is designed to create awareness of linguistic and crosscultural differences affecting effective communication between American and Francophone speakers in the world of business, and to provide added confidence in transactions and negotiations. Explores how to do business in France, how different business structures work and interact, and how to participate in everyday business activities. Course is particularly helpful to International Business students to enhance understanding of Francophone and European markets and to develop business oriented French language skills. Course prepares student to obtain two different Business French Certificates offered by the Chamber of Commerce and Industries of Paris and the French Ministry of Education. Course taught in French. Prerequisite: 2nd year college level proficiency or equivalent; or permission of instructor. 3 units.

109. Introduction to the Study of French Literature. Initiation to literary and critical review skills, and development of reading strategies to prepare French majors and minors for upper division French literature and cultural classes. Prerequisite: FREN 101 or permission of instructor. 3 units.
110. Survey of French Literature. A survey of significant francophone literary works of the post Renaissance with emphasis on works of the 19th and 20th centuries. Prerequisites: FREN 101, 103, 109 or permission of instructor. 3 units.

111. Topics in Francophone Literature. A study of major works, authors and themes in Francophone literature with an emphasis placed on the relationship of texts to their socio-cultural environment. Topics include: education in French literature, the fantastic imagination in Francophone literature, the process of creation in Victor Hugo’s works, Sartre et Camus, from Rabelais to Montaigne, comedy in the 17th and 18th centuries and social trends in the contemporary novel. Prerequisite: FREN 110, or permission of instructor. 3 units.

120. French Civilization. Presentation of formative cultural achievements of the French world from its origins to the present, i.e., the origin of the French language. Contributions to European Renaissance, Baroque and Classicism, the Revolutionary and Romantic eras, and modern western culture. Note: open to non-majors. Course taught in English. 3 units.

125. Quebec and French North America. The development and significance of francophone culture in North America, notably Quebec, French Canada and Louisiana, are explored through historical events, social changes and artistic achievements. The course introduces major cultural trends and traditions from the 17th century to the present through non-fiction, literary works and audio-visual presentations in art and music. French majors and minors are required to do all reading, research and papers in French. Note: upper division standing required. 3 units.

170. Seminar Conducted in French. A seminar in French will be offered as needed. Prerequisites: FREN 110. 3 units.

194. Field Experience/Internship. Directed fieldwork in a project which uses language skills developed through previous study of French. Projects may include interpreting and translating for public and/or private agencies in Sacramento or other projects approved by the faculty supervisor. All work will be monitored by CSUS faculty. The student must submit written reports to his/her supervisor. May be taken more than once for credit. Does not apply to major. Prerequisites: intermediate competency in French and permission of instructor. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1-3 units.

195. Fieldwork — Tutoring. Tutoring of lower division French students under supervision of an instructor. Three hours of tutoring per week for each unit. Does not apply to major. Prerequisites: native or near-native fluency in French, upper division standing; or permission of instructor. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1-3 units.

196. Experimental Offerings in French. Special courses will be scheduled as needed. 3 units.

199. Special Problems. Individual projects or directed reading. Note: open only to students who appear competent to carry on individual work. Admission requires the approval of the faculty member under whom the work is to be conducted. 1-3 units.

**GRADUATE COURSES**

The following graduate courses are conducted in French and are compulsory for MA candidates unless waived by the Department. Seniors may enroll in graduate courses upon special permission by the graduate coordinator.

For other graduate courses see the section on Foreign Languages.

210. Studies in French Literature. Studies of authors, periods, movements, genres, criticism or literary history. May be repeated for credit if subject matter is not repeated. 3 units.

220. Studies in French Civilization. Studies of particular historical phases or current aspects of the culture of the French speaking world. May be repeated for credit if subject matter is not repeated. 3 units.

230. Studies in the French Language. Studies in French language and linguistics problems, e.g., history of the language, semiotics, stylistics, translating, interpreting and oral expression. May be repeated for credit if subject matter is not repeated. 3 units.

299. Special Problems. Individual projects or directed reading. Note: open only to students who appear competent to carry on individual work; admission requires approval of graduate advisor. 1-3 units.

500. Culminating Experience. Completion of a thesis, project or comprehensive examination. Open only to students who have been advanced to candidacy and have secured the permission of the graduate advisor. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1-4 units.