

French and Francophone Studies

College of Arts & Sciences

The Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures and Cultures offers a graduate program leading to the M.A. degree in French according to Plan B (non-thesis) only.

Admission Requirements

Applicants for admission must first be approved by the Graduate School. They are then reviewed by the Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures and Cultures, who consults with the French graduate faculty before returning recommendations to the Graduate School.

An applicant may be provisionally admitted without meeting all of the minimum standards if other factors, including letters of recommendation, the writing sample, and the digital-format recording indicate an ability to perform satisfactorily in graduate-level work. Presentation of a minimum Graduate Record Examination score (GRE) or a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) does not, however, automatically guarantee admission to the program, as the final decision depends on an evaluation of all materials submitted and the faculty's assessment of the applicant's potential for successful graduate study.

In addition to ensuring that the applicant has met the admission requirements of the Graduate School, the Department carefully evaluates the following materials:

1. Evidence of completion of the equivalent of the University of Kentucky's undergraduate major in French. Applicants who fail to meet this standard may be admitted provisionally to the Master's program, but may be required to take additional undergraduate work in French. Graduate credit will not be awarded for undergraduate courses, but graduate courses taken simultaneously count in the degree program.
2. A minimum 3.25 undergraduate GPA in French on a four-point scale.
3. A statement of purpose in seeking the M.A. in French.
4. A combined score of 1700-1800 or better on the three sections of the GRE. In special cases, a student without the GRE may be accepted provisionally for the first semester, during which the examination must be taken.
5. Three letters of recommendation addressing the applicant's qualifications for graduate work in French.
6. A writing sample in French by the applicant (analytical prose, typically a graded term paper; not a creative work).
7. Non-native speakers of French must submit a digital-format recording (3-4 minutes) of themselves reading a contemporary prose passage in French (a newspaper or magazine article, not a literary work).
8. Non-native speakers of English must submit a digital-format recording of themselves reading a similar passage in English. In addition, they must fulfill the Graduate School's Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) requirement.
9. Students in post-baccalaureate programs in French or other areas at the University of Kentucky who wish to transfer to the French Master's program will be evaluated also on their post-baccalaureate course work and on recommendations from their instructors, even though admission may be delayed until the end of the semester in which they are enrolled. A maximum of six hours in post-baccalaureate course work may be transferred to the Master's program.

All application materials should be uploaded directly to the UK Graduate School's Apply Yourself program

on the application website (https://app.applyyourself.com/AYApplicantLogin/fl_ApplicantConnectLogin.asp?id=ukgrad).

For admission in the fall semester with a Teaching Assistantship award, all materials should be received by the Department no later than February 1.

Degree Requirements

Students select a program from a variety of courses listed below in French literature, language, culture, and literature and the arts. Students need to take a total of ten 3-credit hour classes to complete the course requirements for the MA degree. The master's examination for each candidate is prepared and evaluated by a committee of three members of the French graduate faculty which will consider the candidate's course program in preparing the examination.

Candidates must also demonstrate a reading knowledge of another foreign language. The M.A. examination is administered in November and April. Applications for the examination should be made to the Director of Graduate Studies no later than four months prior to the date of examination. For further information concerning the M.A. program in French, consult the Director of Graduate Studies. All courses listed below are offered on a rotating basis and not less frequently than every eighth semester

Course Descriptions

FR 502 INTRODUCTION TO CRITICAL AND CULTURAL THEORY: THE FRENCH CONNECTION. (3)
Introduces upper-level undergraduate and beginning graduate students to the principles of critical and cultural theory. Explores topics of language, textuality, writing, subjectivity, culture, gender, everyday life, and power through the work of primarily, but not exclusively, French thinkers such as Saussure, Barthes, Fanon, Foucault, Derrida, Lyotard, Kristeva, Baudrillard, de Certeau. Taught in English with no knowledge of French necessary.

FR 504 TOPICS IN FRENCH LITERATURE AND CULTURE (Subtitle required). (3)
Intensive study of an author, genre, period or movement of French literature or an aspect of French culture. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits under a different subtitle.

FR 510 LINGUISTIC STRUCTURE OF MODERN FRENCH. (3)
An introduction to the basic phonological, syntactic and semantic categories and processes of contemporary French as studied in the light of current linguistic theory and practice. Prereq: FR 306 or equivalent.

FR 550 FRANCE TODAY. (3)
A contrast between contemporary France in today's Europe and the historical image of France. The impact of the "New Quiet French Revolution" and of the new institutions on French Society. Conducted in French. Prereq: FR 306 and consent of instructor.

FR 553 TEACHING OF FRENCH. (3)
The course is designed for teachers and prospective teachers of modern foreign languages, with emphasis on French. Modern methodology, theory and practice of language pedagogy. Prereq: Permission of instructor required.

FR 570 SEMINAR IN FRENCH LANGUAGE PEDAGOGY. (1)
A general seminar in a broad range of subjects in the area of French language pedagogy. May be repeated to a maximum of two credits. Prereq: Graduate student standing in French or consent of instructor.

FR 606 LITERATURE OF THE MIDDLE AGES (Subtitle required). (3)

Special topics in French literature from the period 1050-1500. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits.

Prereq: Consent of instructor.

FR 607 STUDIES IN RENAISSANCE LITERATURE (Subtitle required). (3)

Comprehensive study of selected writers. May be repeated under a different subtitle to a maximum of six credits. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

FR 609 SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY STUDIES (Subtitle required). (3)

Study of selected French writers, literary, intellectual and cultural practices of the time. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits under different subtitle. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

FR 612 STRUCTURE AND STYLISTICS OF FRENCH. (3)

A study of the history and structure of French with an emphasis on contemporary features. (Same as ENG/LIN 612.)

FR 617 EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY STUDIES (Subtitle required). (3)

Literary, intellectual and social practices and theories of the French Enlightenment. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits under different subtitle. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

FR 619 NINETEENTH-CENTURY STUDIES (Subtitle required). (3)

Study of the intellectual, literary and social practices and theories of the major movements of the century, including Romanticism, Realism, and Symbolism. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits under different subtitle. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

FR 621 TWENTIETH-CENTURY STUDIES (Subtitle required). (3)

Study of the practices and theories of the major intellectual, literary and social movements of the century, such as modernism, existentialism, the new novel, post structural and postmodern writing. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits under different subtitle. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

FR 630 FRENCH LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURE OUTSIDE FRANCE (Subtitle required). (3)

Study of Francophone writing, currents of thought, and cross-cultural movements in Africa, the Caribbean, Quebec and elsewhere. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits under different subtitle. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

FR 768 RESIDENCE CREDIT FOR MASTER'S DEGREE. (1-6)

May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours.

FR 780 SPECIAL STUDIES IN FRENCH. (3)

Selected studies and investigations in the French language and literature, permitting the student to work in areas of special interest, and providing opportunity for original endeavor. May be repeated to a maximum of six hours. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

