The Department of French has two distinct but complementary missions: to provide instruction in the French language at all levels of competence, and to lead students to a broad appreciation and deep understanding of the literatures and cultures of France and other French-speaking countries.

The major in French is a liberal arts major, designed for those who wish to study one of the world’s richest cultures in depth. The department offers courses devoted to authors, works, and literary and cultural movements that span ten centuries and four continents. The curriculum also includes interdisciplinary courses on relations between literature and other areas of study such as history, law, religion, politics, and the arts. Majors are encouraged to explore all periods and genres of literature in French, as well as a wide variety of critical approaches.

Excellent knowledge of a foreign language and a mature, informed appreciation of a foreign literature open doors to many professions. The French major provides ideal preparation for careers in a wide range of fields from law and diplomacy to journalism, academia, and the arts. Recent graduates have gone on to selective law schools and graduate programs in French and comparative literature. Others work in business, government, primary and secondary education, and a variety of nongovernmental agencies and international organizations.

French can be taken either as a primary major or as one of two majors, in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies (DUS). Appropriate majors to combine with French might include, but are not limited to, African American Studies, African Studies, English, Film and Media Studies, Global Affairs, History, History of Art, Humanities, Literature, Music, Philosophy, Political Science, Theater Studies, and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Regulations concerning the completion of two majors can be found in the Academic Regulations, section K, Special Arrangements.

**COURSE NUMBERING**

**Group A courses** (FREN 110–159) This group consists of language courses that lead directly to courses counting toward the major. Preregistration is required for all Group A courses except FREN 125 and 145. FREN 121 (the stand-alone L2) is only offered during the fall term. For this reason, students placed into L1 or L2 who were not enrolled in a fall-term course will have to wait until the next fall to enroll. For further details, students should consult Ruth Koizim (ruth.koizim@yale.edu), the language program director.

**Group B courses** (FREN 160–449, not including Group C courses) This group contains more advanced courses that are taught in French and count toward the major. FREN 160 and 170 are gateway courses that prepare students for courses numbered FREN 200 and above. Courses in the FREN 180–199 range are advanced language courses. Courses numbered 200–449 are advanced courses in literature and culture. The 200–299 range contains courses devoted to broad, general fields defined by century or genre; the 300–449 range contains courses devoted to specific topics within or across those general fields.

**Group C courses** This group comprises courses taught in English; readings may be in French or English. Two term courses from this group may be counted for credit toward the major.

**PREREQUISITES**

Candidates for the major should take FREN 150 or the equivalent during the first or second year. Prospective majors are strongly encouraged to take at least one literature course numbered 170 or above before the end of the sophomore year.

**PLACEMENT PROCEDURES**

The departmental placement exam in French is accessible online over the summer. Dates and information for the exam will be available on the French department website, in the Calendar for the Opening Days of College, and on the Center for Language Study website.

All students who have not yet studied French at Yale (except those who have had no previous exposure to French whatsoever) are expected to take the departmental placement exam. Students who studied abroad over the summer with non-Yale programs must take the placement exam to be eligible to receive credit for their work.

Students who earned superior scores on standardized tests may be able to enroll in a course designated L5. The department strongly recommends, however, that advanced students of French take the departmental placement exam in order to be directed to the most appropriate courses. Students who earned a score of 5 on the Advanced Placement exam, a score of 6 or 7 on the advanced-level International Baccalaureate (IB) exam, a rating of C1 on the CEFR European test, or an A or B on the GCE A-level exam are normally placed into a course at the 150 level and above.

Students who wish to begin taking French in the spring are advised to take the placement exam over the summer. Placement exam results remain valid for one year.
REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

The major for the Class of 2020

With DUS approval, the following changes, through the addition of a translation track, to the requirements of the major may be fulfilled by students who declared their major under previous requirements.

The major for the Class of 2021 and subsequent classes

Requirements of the major are described below.

The standard major

The standard major consists of ten term courses numbered 160 or above, including a one-term senior essay (see below). One of these ten courses must be FREN 170 or the equivalent, which should be completed early in a candidate's studies; at least four must be Group B courses numbered 200 or above. Students may count no more than two courses in the FREN 180–199 range and no more than two courses conducted in English (Group C) toward the major. With prior approval of the DUS, a maximum of four term courses taught outside the Yale Department of French but bearing directly on the student’s principal interest may be counted toward the major. Up to two of these may be taken in other departments at Yale, and up to four may be taken as part of a Year or Term Abroad or summer study abroad program. However, the combined number of courses from other departments and from study abroad may not exceed four. (The DUS may grant exceptions to this limit for students who spend two academic terms in an approved study abroad program.) Relevant first-year seminars may count toward the major, with permission of the DUS.

Translation track

Students may elect to pursue the translation track within the French major. Translation track majors are expected to take a minimum of two courses in French translation as two of the ten credits required for the standard major, or twelve credits required for the intensive major. Within the department, this requirement can be fulfilled by taking FREN 191 and FREN 192. Students who opt for the translation track may take up to four courses numbered 180-199, rather than the standard two courses.

The intensive major

The intensive major is designed for students who wish to undertake a more concentrated study of literature in French. It is recommended for students considering graduate study in French or in comparative literature. The intensive major consists of twelve term courses numbered 160 or above, including a one-term or two-term senior essay (see below). At least five courses must be from Group B and numbered 200 or above. The requirement of FREN 170 and the stipulations for courses in the 180–199 range, courses conducted in English, and courses taken outside the department are identical to those for the standard major.

Credit/D/Fail

Courses taken Credit/D/Fail may not be counted toward the requirements of the major.

SENIOR REQUIREMENT

All majors must write a senior essay showing evidence of careful reading and research and substantial independent thought. Essays may be written in either French or English and must be prepared under the direction of a ladder faculty member in the Department of French. Students planning to pursue advanced work in French after graduation are encouraged to write their senior essay in French.

Students writing a one-term essay enroll in FREN 491 in the senior year. A one-term essay may be written in either the fall or the spring term and should be approximately thirty pages in length. A preliminary statement indicating the general area to be addressed and the name of the adviser must be submitted to the DUS by April 19, 2019 (fall-term essay), or November 8, 2019 (spring-term essay). A one-page prospectus and bibliography are due September 20, 2019 (fall term), or January 24, 2020 (spring term). A rough draft must be submitted to the adviser by November 1, 2019 (fall term), or March 27, 2020 (spring term). Two copies of the final essay are due in the department by December 2, 2019 (fall term), or April 20, 2020 (spring term).

Students electing a two-term essay for the intensive major must select their subject and adviser by the end of the junior year and enroll in FREN 493 and 494 during the senior year. The essay should be approximately sixty pages in length. A preliminary statement indicating the general area to be addressed and the name of the adviser must be submitted to the DUS by April 19, 2019. A one-page prospectus and bibliography are due September 20. Students must submit an initial rough draft to their adviser by January 24 and a complete draft by March 27. Two copies of the final essay are due in the department by April 20.

In place of the thirty-page senior essay for the standard major or the sixty-page senior essay for the intensive major, translation track majors undertake a literary translation of similar length to the senior essay, working with a member of the French Department ladder faculty. The senior translation essay, FREN 492, 495, or 496, should include a critical introduction, of a length to be determined by the student, in consultation with the directing faculty member. The same submission dates as the one-term essay and the two-term essay apply to the translation track essay.

ADVISING

Students in the major are encouraged to take as many advanced courses as possible in all historical periods from the Middle Ages to the present. Candidates for the major should consult the DUS as early as the beginning of the sophomore year and no later than the fall term of the junior year. Schedules must be approved and signed by the DUS. Students planning to study abroad or to petition for completion of two majors should contact the DUS during the sophomore year.

Special Divisional Major

The department will support the application of qualified students who wish to pursue an interdisciplinary course in French studies. Under the provisions of the Special Divisional Major, students may combine courses offered by the French department with subjects elected from other departments. Close consultation with departmental advisers is required; candidates for a Special Divisional Major should consult the DUS in French by the fall term of the junior year. For further information, see Special Divisional Majors.
Study Abroad

Students are encouraged to spend a term or a year abroad, for which appropriate course credit is granted. Summer study abroad may also, in some cases, receive course credit. Further information may be obtained from the Center for International and Professional Experience and from Ruth Koizim (ruth.koizim@yale.edu), the study abroad adviser for the Department of French.

Requirements of the Major

Prerequisite: FREN 150 or equivalent

Number of courses

- Standard major and translation track – 10 term courses numbered 160 or above (incl senior req)
- Intensive major – 12 term courses numbered 160 or above (incl senior req)

Specific course required: FREN 170 or equivalent

Distribution of courses

- Standard major – at least 4 courses in Group B numbered 200 or above; no more than 2 courses numbered FREN 180–199; no more than 2 courses conducted in English; Translation track – same as standard, except min of 2 translation courses and no more than 4 courses numbered FREN 180–199; Intensive major – same as standard, plus 1 addtl Group B course numbered 200 or above

Substitution permitted: With prior approval of DUS, up to 4 term courses outside French dept, as specified

Senior requirement

- Standard major – one-term senior essay in French or English (FREN 491)
- Translation track – one-term literary translation essay (FREN 492)
- Intensive major – two-term senior essay in French or English (FREN 493, 494)
- Translation track, Intensive major – two-term literary translation essay (FREN 495, 496)

Certificate of Advanced Language Study

The French Department offers a Certificate of Advanced Language Study. A certificate adviser, typically the director of undergraduate studies (DUS), advises students on the certification process and certifies to the University Registrar’s Office that students have completed the stated requirements before the end of eight terms of study. The Certificate of Advanced Language Study, once certified, is listed on student transcripts. Once you have fulfilled the requirements indicated below, email Morgane Cadieu (morgane.cadieu@yale.edu) (DUS) and Erin Townsend (erin.townsend@yale.edu) (registrar) and include a copy of your academic record.

Requirements

Students seeking to earn the certificate are required to take four courses beyond the L4 level in their chosen language, at least two of which must be Yale courses designated as L5. Additionally, the French department requires that a minimum of one of the four required courses be a French department course listed at the 200 level or above. All courses must be taken for a letter grade, and students must achieve a grade of B or above. With the approval of the adviser, one advanced non-L5 course, conducted in the target language, such as an independent study course or a graduate seminar may count toward certification requirements.

The certificate adviser may also approve the substitution of up to two credits earned during study abroad and taught in the target language to count toward the certificate requirements. If the adviser approves courses taken outside of Yale for inclusion in the certificate requirements, students must take the necessary steps to ensure those courses appear on their transcript.

Credit/D/Fail: No courses taken Credit/D/Fail may be counted toward the requirements of the certificate.

Faculty of the Department of French

Professors: R. Howard Bloch, Dominique Brancher (Visiting), Marie-Hélène Girard (Visiting), Alice Kaplan, Pierre Saint-Amand, Maurice Samuels

Assistant Professors: Morgane Cadieu, Thomas C. Connolly, Jill Jarvis, Christophe Schuwey

Senior Lecturers: Lauren Pinzka, Maryam Sanjabi, Alyson Waters

Senior Lectors: Kathleen Burton, Ruth Koizim, Soumia Koundi, Matuku Ngame, Françoise Schneider, Constance Sherak, Candace Skorupa, Vanessa Vysosias

Lectors: Leo Terttrain

Group A Courses

* FREN 110a, Elementary and Intermediate French I
  Staff: Intensive training and practice in all the language skills, with an initial emphasis on listening and speaking. Emphasis on communicative proficiency, self-expression, and cultural insights. Extensive use of audio and video material. Conducted entirely in French. To be followed by FREN 120. For students with no previous experience of French. Daily classroom attendance is required. L1 RP 1½ Course cr

* FREN 120b, Elementary and Intermediate French II
  Staff: Continuation of FREN 110. Open only to students who took FREN 110 (L1) at Yale. Conducted entirely in French. Only after FREN 110. To be followed by FREN 130. L2 RP 1½ Course cr
* FREN 121a, Intermediate French  Staff
Designed for initiated beginners, this course develops all the language skills with an emphasis on listening and speaking. Activities include role playing, self-expression, and discussion of cultural and literary texts. Emphasis on grammar review and acquisition of vocabulary. Frequent audio and video exercises. Conducted entirely in French. Daily classroom attendance is required. Placement according to placement test score. Online preregistration required; see french.yale.edu for details. L2 RP 1½ Course cr

* FREN 125a, Intensive Elementary French  Constance Sherak
An accelerated course that covers in one term the material taught in FREN 110 and 120. Practice in all language skills, with emphasis on communicative proficiency. Admits to FREN 145. Conducted entirely in French. For students of superior linguistic ability. No preregistration required. L1, L2 RP 2 Course cr

* FREN 130a or b, Intermediate and Advanced French I  Staff
The first half of a two-term sequence designed to develop students’ proficiency in the four language skill areas. Prepares students for further work in literary, language, and cultural studies, as well as for nonacademic use of French. Oral communication skills, writing practice, vocabulary expansion, and a comprehensive review of fundamental grammatical structures are integrated with the study of short stories, novels, and films. Admits to FREN 140. Conducted entirely in French. After FREN 120, 121, or a satisfactory placement test score. L3 RP 1½ Course cr

* FREN 140a or b, Intermediate and Advanced French II  Staff
The second half of a two-term sequence designed to develop students’ proficiency in the four language skill areas. Introduction of more complex grammatical structures. Films and other authentic media accompany literary readings from throughout the francophone world, culminating with the reading of a longer novel and in-class presentation of student research projects. Admits to FREN 150. Conducted entirely in French. After FREN 130 or a satisfactory placement test score. L4 RP 1½ Course cr

* FREN 145b, Intensive Intermediate and Advanced French  Candace Skorupa
An accelerated course that covers in one term the material taught in FREN 130 and 140. Emphasis on speaking, writing, and the conversion of grammatical knowledge into reading competence. Admits to FREN 150. For students of superior linguistic ability. Conducted entirely in French. After FREN 120, 121, or 125. No preregistration required. L3, L4 RP 2 Course cr

* FREN 150a or b, Advanced Language Practice  Staff
An advanced language course intended to improve students’ comprehension of spoken and written French as well as their speaking and writing skills. Modern fiction and nonfiction texts familiarize students with idiomatic French. Special attention to grammar review and vocabulary acquisition. Conducted entirely in French. After FREN 140, 145, or a satisfactory placement test score. May not be taken after FREN 151. Online preregistration required; see http://french.yale.edu/academics/placement-and-registration for details. L5 RP

Group B Courses

Group B courses are conducted entirely in French. Courses numbered from 160 to 199 are open to students who have passed FREN 150 or the equivalent, and to others with consent of the department. Courses numbered from 200 to 449 are open to students who have passed FREN 170, or with permission of the instructor. Students who have taken a course at the 200 level or higher may not ordinarily take a 100-level course for credit, with the exception of advanced language courses numbered 185 or higher. Students may take 200-, 300-, and 400-level courses in any order. Courses in the 200–299 range are devoted to general fields; courses in the 300–449 range are devoted to specific topics.

GATEWAY COURSES

* FREN 160a or b, Advanced Culture and Conversation  Staff
Intensive oral practice designed to further skills in listening comprehension, speaking, and reading through the use of videos, films, fiction, and articles. Emphasis on contemporary French and francophone cultures. Conducted entirely in French. Prerequisites: FREN 150, 151, or a satisfactory placement test score, or with permission of the course director. May be taken concurrently with or after FREN 170. L5 RP

* FREN 170a or b, Worlds in French: An Introduction to French and Francophone Literatures  Staff
Introduction to close reading and analysis of literary texts written in French. Works by authors such as Marie de France, Molière, Balzac, Hugo, Baudelaire, Duras, Proust, and Genet. May not be taken after FREN 171. L5, HU

ADVANCED LANGUAGE COURSES

* FREN 182b, Creative and Critical Writing Workshop  Lauren Pinzka
An advanced writing course for students who wish to work intensively on perfecting their written French. Frequent compositions of varying lengths, including creative writing, rédactions (compositions on concrete topics), and dissertations (critical essays). Recommended for prospective majors. Conducted entirely in French. After FREN 150 or higher, or a satisfactory placement test score. May be taken after courses in the 200–449 range. L5

* FREN 183a, Medical French: Conversation and Culture  Leo Tertrain
An advanced language course emphasizing verbal communication and culture. Designed to foster the acquisition of the linguistic and cultural skills required to evolve within a Francophone medical environment. Discussions, in-class activities, and group projects in simulated professional situations, with a focus on ethical questions. Topics such as public health policies, the doctor-patient relationship,
medicine in Francophone Africa, humanitarian NGOs, assisted reproductive technologies, end-of-life care, organ donation are explored through films, documentaries, articles, excerpts from essays and literary texts. Conducted entirely in French. Prerequisite: FREN 150 or a satisfactory placement test score, or with permission of instructor. May be taken concurrently with or after FREN 160 and FREN 170. 15

* FREN 184b, Business French: Communication and Culture  Leo Tétrault
An advanced language course emphasizing verbal communication and culture. Designed to foster the acquisition of the linguistic and cultural skills required to evolve within a Francophone business environment. Discussions, in-class activities, and group projects in simulated professional situations, with a focus on ethical questions. Topics such as human resources, labor unions, labor law, taxation, the service sector, the sharing economy, the green economy are explored through films, documentaries, articles, excerpts from essays and literary texts. Conducted entirely in French. Prerequisite: FREN 150 or a satisfactory placement test score, or with permission of instructor. May be taken concurrently with or after FREN 160 and FREN 170. 15

* FREN 191a, Translation  Alyson Waters
An introduction to the practice and theory of literary translation, conducted in workshop format. Stress on close reading, with emphasis initially on grammatical structures and vocabulary, subsequently on stylistics and aesthetics. Translation as a means to understand and communicate cultural difference in the case of French, African, Caribbean, and Québécois authors. Texts by Benjamin, Beckett, Borges, Steiner, and others. Readings in French and in English. After FREN 150 and 151 or with permission of instructor. Preference to juniors and seniors. 15, HU

* FREN 191b, Intermediate Literary Translation  Alyson Waters
A continuation of FREN 191 for students who wish to work on a longer project and to deepen their reading in translation theory.
Prerequisite: FREN 191. 15, HU

GENERAL FIELDS

SPECIAL TOPICS

* FREN 310a, Montaigne Beyond Skepticism: Learning to Read the Essais  Dominique Brancher
Que sais-je? What do I know? This is Montaigne's motto, engraved on a medal in 1576 at the writer's request. At the crossroad of disciplines, this seminar explores how Michel de Montaigne develops a philosophy of doubt by literary means. We see that he does not naively or theoretically subscribe to the skeptical tradition, but rather proposes a practical and singular use of a non-judgmental attitude in the writing of Les Essais — the early modern masterpiece of the French literature of the self. We read essays on topics such as: idleness, education, eroticism, imagination. These texts are coupled with short, theoretical excerpts (Sextus Empiricus, Diogène Laërce, Henri Estienne). Readings and discussion in French. 15, HU

* FREN 360a, Great Novels of the Twenty-First Century  Morgane Cadieu
Why should a long book be an airport novel or an old classic? What are today's sagas or romans-fleuves? In this seminar, we read "great" novels of the 21st-century in both senses of the word: these fictions are long and acclaimed works of art. If our current attention span is supposed to be eight seconds, this course is a workshop to develop different forms of paying attention to a text. We discuss the influence of length on our reading and interpretation practices. There won’t be more pages to read every week than in any other course, just fewer texts. We read two long contemporary fictions by Antoine Volodine and Nina Yargekov. 15, HU TR

* FREN 368b, Reasoning with Voltaire  Pierre Saint-Amand
An investigation of the French Enlightenment through its principal representative philosopher, Voltaire. An examination of Voltaire's preoccupations, including philosophy, religion, tolerance, freedom, and human rights. Readings include Voltaire's contes, major plays, entries from the Dictionnaire philosophique, treatises, and pamphlets. Conducted entirely in French. 15

* FREN 388b / HUMS 162b, Feminine Voices in French Literature  R. Howard Bloch
An exploration of women's voices in French literature from the Middle Ages to the mid-twentieth century. The specificity of the feminine voice, the plurality of feminine voices, love and sexuality, and social and professional identity. Authors include Marie de France, Marguerite de Navarre, George Sand, Maryse Condé, and Marguerite Duras. Readings and discussion in English. WR, HU

Special Tutorial and Senior Courses

* FREN 491a or b / FREN 492a or b, The Senior Essay  Morgane Cadieu
A one-term research project completed under the direction of a ladder faculty member in the Department of French and resulting in a substantial paper in French or English. For additional information, consult the director of undergraduate studies.

* FREN 493a and FREN 494b / FREN 495a and FREN 496b, The Senior Essay in the Intensive Major  Morgane Cadieu
A yearlong research project completed under the direction of a ladder faculty member in the Department of French and resulting in a paper of considerable length, in French or English. For additional information, consult the director of undergraduate studies.

Group C Courses

Courses in this group are conducted in English; readings may be in French or English. Group C courses numbered above 100 are open to all students in Yale College.
FREN 216a / ENGL 154a / HUMS 134a / LITR 194a, The Multicultural Middle Ages  Ardis Butlerfield
Introduction to medieval English literature and culture in its European and Mediterranean context, before it became monolingual, canonical, or author-bound. Genres include travel writing, epic, dream visions, mysticism, the lyric, and autobiography, from the Crusades to the Hundred Years War, from the troubadours to Dante, from the Chanson de Roland to Chaucer. Formerly ENGL 189.  HU

FREN 240b / HUMS 201b / LITR 214b, The Modern French Novel  Maurice Samuels and Alice Kaplan
A survey of major French novels, considering style and story, literary and intellectual movements, and historical contexts. Writers include Balzac, Flaubert, Proust, Camus, and Sartre. Readings in translation. One section conducted in French.  HU TR

* FREN 307b / LITR 302b, France by Rail: Trains in French Literature, Film, and History  Morgane Cadieu
Exploration of the aesthetics of trains in French and Francophone literature and culture, from the end of the nineteenth-century and the first locomotives, to the automatically driven subway in twenty-first century Paris. Focus on the role of trains in industrialization, colonization, deportation, decolonization, and immigration. Corpus includes novels, poems, plays, films, paintings, graphic novels, as well as theoretical excerpts on urban spaces and public transportation. Activities include: building a train at the CEID and visiting the Beinecke collections and the Art Gallery. May not be taken after FREN 306.  WR, HU

* FREN 369b / AFST 369b / MMES 369b, Deserts, Oceans, Islands: Literature of Migration & Refuge  Jill Jarvis
A critical study of literature and film that charts different spaces shaped by intersecting—or colliding—routes of colonization and forced migration: deserts (Sahara, Sonoran), oceans (Indian, Atlantic, Mediterranean), and islands (Haiti, Martinique, Zanzibar, Mauritius, Sri Lanka). Students contribute to the Desert Futures interdisciplinary symposium to be held at Yale in spring 2020. Seminar is conducted in English. Prerequisite: Reading knowledge of French required (FREN 160 or above; contact instructor with questions about language preparation).  HU

* FREN 394b / FILM 416b / LITR 366b, French Cinema through the New Wave  Dudley Andrew
The history of French cinema c. 1930 to 1970, from the onset of sound through the New Wave movement. The New Wave "idea of cinema"; the relation of cinema to national self-perception and state policy in France.  HU RP

* FREN 400a / HSAR 458a / HUMS 415a, The Worlds of Chartres Cathedral  Jacqueline Jung and R. Howard Bloch
An exploration of Chartres Cathedral as a meeting point of various artistic, technological, ritual, literary, intellectual, and social trends in the High Middle Ages. We study what went into building this "chief sanctuary of the Virgin in Western Europe," how the cathedral fit into and changed the world around it, Gothic design and construction, and the literature connected to Chartres as well as to the urban centers of northern France in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Topics include: the pre-history of the present cathedral; royal, noble, and local patronage; sculptural programs of the west façade and northern and southern portals; stained glass programs of the west wall, nave, transept (great rose windows), and choir; relics; liturgical and affective experiences of Chartres; the cathedral as a physical, sacred and social space; the cult of the Virgin; new learning and the cathedral school; literary works attached to the Charlemagne window (The Song of Roland, The Pilgrimage of Charlemagne, The Pseudo-Turpin), to the cathedral more generally (The Miracles of Our Lady of Chartres), to the towns of medieval France (Fabioux); renovation and restoration of post-medieval Chartres.  HU

Reading Course

* FREN 109a, French for Reading  Maryam Sanjabi
Fundamental grammar structures and basic vocabulary are acquired through the reading of texts in various fields (primarily humanities and social sciences, and others as determined by student interest). Intended for students who either need a reading knowledge of French for research purposes or are preparing for French reading examinations and who have had no (or minimal) prior study of French. No preregistration required. Conducted in English. Does not satisfy the language requirement.