

FRENCH & FRANCOPHONE STUDIES

Faculty

Professors: Renée K. Gosson, Angèle M. Kingué (Senior Faculty Partner for Engagement & Inclusion)

Associate Professors: Nathalie Dupont (Director), John Westbrook

Assistant Professors: Esra Arici (Teaching), Léopold Mvuzolo

Study French, one of the world's most influential languages spoken by approximately 300 million people on all continents, and learn to communicate persuasively, think critically, and engage with global society — skills needed for career success. Explore the literatures, cultures and societies of France, Francophone Africa, Québec, and the Caribbean from the Middle Ages through the 21st century. Gain cross-cultural awareness by studying French through cultural artifacts (literature, music, cinema and the visual arts) and social practices (history, gastronomy, business and politics). Learn how historical and sociocultural events inform gender, class, and race constructions and relations within French-speaking societies. Join our study abroad program in France.

The French & Francophone studies program offers a minor consisting of five courses and a rigorous and interdisciplinary major consisting of eight courses. The major is best seen as a progression of linguistic-cultural study organized in four stages. The 100-level courses focus on language proficiency in cultural context. The 200-level courses consolidate language skills while beginning a more interdisciplinary study of French and Francophone literatures and cultures. A year or semester in France provides direct experience in the French and Francophone cultures. The 300-level courses focus on specific critical approaches to topics in literature, civilization and cultural studies.

Students enrolled in French & Francophone studies have the opportunity to satisfy College of Arts & Sciences Core Curriculum requirements by taking required courses for the minor or major. All our offerings count as Arts & Humanities Division courses and our 200 and 300-level courses fulfill the Global Connections component of the core curriculum. In addition, French & Francophone studies majors will have the opportunity to take W2 courses in 200 and 300-level literature and civilization courses. Through thoughtfully articulated writing assignments, presentations, class discussions and information literacy workshops in the library, French & Francophone studies majors will hone their research and analytical skills. They will gain familiarity with discipline-specific journals and databases and learn to evaluate information sources. As they engage in the critical interdisciplinary thinking necessary for successful completion of the major, students will lay the foundation for independent lifelong learning.

Double Majors

Students will find that the skills they develop through the study of French and Francophone languages, literatures and cultures will complement wide ranging interests and career trajectories. Past French & Francophone studies majors have also majored in such disciplines as international relations, political science, psychology, biology, economics and management.

Recent graduates hold jobs in international organizations, design, investment banking, marketing and pharmaceuticals, and pursue advanced degrees in fields from statistics to education.

Online Placement Test

Students who have studied French in secondary school or who are heritage speakers of the language must take the online placement test to determine the level at which they may register for a French course. Information on accessing the test is included in the first-year student registration information. Current students may access the placement test from the French & Francophone studies program webpage. Any questions regarding placement should be addressed to the director of the French & Francophone studies program.

Transfer Credits

Students may normally transfer up to two credits for coursework equivalent to courses offered by the French & Francophone studies program. Students need to obtain approval from the French & Francophone studies program director; otherwise, credit is not guaranteed.

For the French & Francophone studies minor, no more than one of the five required courses may be taken for credit at another institution. Likewise, students need to obtain approval from the French & Francophone studies program director; otherwise, credit is not guaranteed.

French & Francophone Studies Major

The **major** in French & Francophone studies consists of a minimum of eight courses at the FREN 102 Exploring French level and above. At least two of these courses must be taken at the 300 level, and one of these must be taken during the senior year.

The major includes:

At least one pre-revolutionary France literature and/or civilization course in French at the 200 or 300 level. All topics courses must be pre-1789 subject matter.¹

FREN 220	Women's Voices In Early Modern France
FREN 230	French Literature I

FREN 322	Medieval and/or Renaissance Studies	
FREN 323	Early Modern Worlds & Cultures	
At least one post-revolutionary France literature and/or civilization course in French at the 200 or 300 level. All topics courses must be post-1789 subject matter. ¹		1
FREN 231	French Literature II	
FREN 250	French Comics & Graphic Novels	
FREN 255	Introduction to French Cinema	
FREN 270	La France actuelle	
FREN 275	French Business Culture	
FREN 326	19th Century Through Empires & Revolutions	
FREN 327	The Making of Contemporary France	
At least one Francophone literature and/or civilization course in French at the 200 or 300 level. All topics courses must be Francophone subject matter. ¹		1
FREN 236	Topics in Francophone Literature and Culture	
FREN 336	Francophone Worlds	
5 additional FREN courses at or above the FREN 102 level. ¹		5

¹ The following topics courses may satisfy this requirement, pending approval by the program director: FREN 295 Topics in French or Francophone Studies, FREN 330 Topics in Literature, FREN 355 Topics in French and/or Francophone Cinema, FREN 370 Topics in Civilization, FREN 371 Topics in the Arts, FREN 395 Seminar in French or Francophone Studies. At least two of the eight major courses must be taken at the 300 level; one of these must be taken during the senior year.

Upon approval from the French & Francophone Studies Program director, majors may elect to take one course taught in English within or outside of the French & Francophone Studies Program (e.g., in history, English, anthropology, etc.) on a French/Francophone subject.

The following courses do not count for the major:

FREN 201	Intermediate French Conversation I	.5
FREN 202	Intermediate French Conversation II	.5
FREN 262	Intercultural Communication (When taking FREN 262 as 1 credit it may count toward the major.)	.5
FREN 301	Advanced French Conversation I	.5
FREN 302	Advanced French Conversation II	.5

All majors will complete a **Culminating Experience**: During the senior year (or second semester of the junior year with permission of their adviser and the program director), majors in French & Francophone studies will designate as their culminating experience one 300-level seminar on a French or Francophone topic taught by a faculty member in the French & Francophone Studies Program (FFSP). As part of the learning activities in that seminar, majors will undertake a paper or research project related to French or Francophone literature or culture. At the end of the semester, they will present the result in its final written form and as an oral presentation in French based on their research, preferably at a symposium organized by the FFSP on campus. These two components of the Culminating Experience (paper and presentation) must provide evidence of: 1) competency in written and oral communication through structured arguments using appropriate forms of textual, cultural and visual analysis and evidence, and 2) familiarity with critical approaches, academic research and methodology in the field of French & Francophone studies. A committee of French & Francophone studies faculty will evaluate these culminating experiences to determine whether they meet both of these learning objectives and thus satisfy the requirement. With the permission of the French & Francophone studies adviser, students who are taking an independent study or pursuing honors in French & Francophone studies may satisfy the culminating experience requirement through the successful completion of an independent study project or an honors thesis. However, in such cases, these students will still be required to make an oral presentation in French based on their research project or thesis to provide evidence for the two learning outcomes under examination, as stated above.

Study Abroad

All learners of French are strongly encouraged to study abroad in France in our own Bucknell *en France* (BEF) program, as we believe this immersion experience to be an integral part of language acquisition and the development of skills as culturally-competent citizens in an increasingly globalized world. Indeed, since its inception in 1987, the BEF program features rich, immersive experience grounded in a strong academic program targeting students at all levels of language proficiency, and has become a defining feature of the academic and personal experiences of most of our students, both majors and minors. Through BEF, the French & Francophone Studies Program is able to graduate highly qualified majors who are proficient in spoken and written French, who are able to understand and articulate positions on social, literary or cultural topics in a manner understandable to native speakers, and who have attained the linguistic and cultural proficiency necessary to function in a French-speaking academic or professional environment. Through courses offered at Bucknell and abroad, our majors and minors further develop transferable skills such as critical thinking, active learning, information literacy, writing and presentation skills. Students are encouraged to develop an appreciation for and sensitivity to cultural

differences and the socio-cultural logic informing them to develop the basis for a self-reflexive approach to their future engagement in professional and communal life.

All courses taken from the BEF program may be counted toward the major as long as the courses are approved by the French & Francophone Studies Program director.

Up to two courses taken abroad from non-Bucknell-administered programs may be counted toward the major. Students need to obtain approval from the French & Francophone Studies Program director; otherwise, credit is not guaranteed.

Honors

French & Francophone studies majors are encouraged to write a senior thesis and to consider interdisciplinary topics which could link French & Francophone studies to their additional academic interests. In their junior year, students interested in pursuing honors in French & Francophone studies should contact a faculty member to discuss the process. Should the faculty member agree to mentor the student, they will take at least one independent study (FREN 390) during their senior year. This is in addition to the eight required courses for the major.

French & Francophone Studies Minor

The **minor** in French & Francophone studies consists of five courses *taught in French* at the FREN 101 Discovering French level and above, excluding:

FREN 201	Intermediate French Conversation I	.5
FREN 202	Intermediate French Conversation II	.5
FREN 262	Intercultural Communication (When taking FREN 262 as 1 credit it may count toward the minor.)	.5
FREN 301	Advanced French Conversation I	.5
FREN 302	Advanced French Conversation II	.5

Study Abroad

All learners of French are strongly encouraged to study abroad in France in our own Bucknell *en France* (BEF) program, as we believe this immersion experience to be an integral part of language acquisition and the development of skills as culturally-competent citizens in an increasingly globalized world. Indeed, since its inception in 1987, the BEF program features a rich, immersive, home-stay experience grounded in a strong academic program targeting students at all levels of language proficiency, and it has become a defining feature of the academic and personal experiences of most of our students, both majors and minors. Through BEF, the French & Francophone studies program is able to graduate highly qualified majors who are proficient in spoken and written French, who can understand and articulate positions on social, literary or cultural topics in a manner understandable to native speakers, and who have attained the linguistic and cultural proficiency necessary to function in a French-speaking academic or professional environment. Through courses offered at Bucknell and abroad, our majors and minors further develop transferable skills such as critical thinking, active learning, information literacy, writing and presentation skills. Students are encouraged to develop an appreciation for and sensitivity to cultural differences and the socio-cultural logic informing them to develop the basis for a self-reflexive approach to their future engagement in professional and communal life.

All courses taken from the BEF program may be counted toward the minor as long as the courses are approved by the French & Francophone studies program director.

One course taken abroad from non-Bucknell-administered programs may be counted toward the minor. Students need to obtain approval from the French & Francophone studies program director; otherwise, credit is not guaranteed.

Majors in French & Francophone studies will be able to:

1. Speak, read, write and understand French at an "advanced-low" level as defined by the proficiency criteria of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages ("ACTFL guidelines") or the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages level B1 or higher. (7, 9)
2. Demonstrate an ability to analyze and interpret a wide variety of Francophone literary and cultural works, drawing on the disciplinary tools and critical methods of French & Francophone studies. (1, 2, 3, 7)
3. Demonstrate competency in written and oral communication through the production of persuasive texts and presentations supported by structured arguments that respect disciplinary norms for evidence and citation. (7)
4. Demonstrate research competency in French & Francophone literatures and cultures, through the application of appropriate academic research methodologies and the use of pertinent bibliographical and other sources related to coursework. (8)
5. Demonstrate the ability to synthesize learning across courses in French & Francophone studies in order to develop a global view of the discipline and to apply the knowledge and skills it promotes beyond the discipline. (2, 9)

Minors in our program will be able to:

1. Speak, read, write and understand French at an “intermediate-high” level as defined by the proficiency criteria of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. (2, 3, 7, 9)

Numbers in parentheses reflect related Educational Goals (<http://www.bucknell.edu/x50032.xml>) of Bucknell University.

Courses

FREN 101. Discovering French. 1 Credit.

Offered Both Fall and Spring; Lecture hours:3,Recitation:1

Beginning language skills. Practice in listening, speaking, reading, and writing; elementary grammar; and introduction to French Francophone civilizations. Prerequisite: no more than two years of secondary school French or permission of the instructor.

FREN 102. Exploring French. 1 Credit.

Offered Both Fall and Spring; Lecture hours:3,Recitation:1

Continuation of language skills. Practice in listening, speaking, reading, and writing; grammar; readings in literature and civilization. Prerequisite: FREN 101 or one year of secondary school French.

FREN 103. Building Proficiency in French. 1 Credit.

Offered Both Fall and Spring; Lecture hours:3,Recitation:1

A review of basic grammar emphasizing all four language skills and culture. Prerequisite: FREN 102 or equivalent (three years of secondary school French).

FREN 104. Communicating in Context. 1 Credit.

Offered Both Fall and Spring; Lecture hours:3,Recitation:1

Continuing review of basic grammar emphasizing all four language skills and culture. Prerequisite: FREN 103 or equivalent (more than four years of secondary school French).

FREN 1NT. French Non-traditional Study. 1 Credit.

Offered Fall, Spring, Summer; Lecture hours:Varies,Other:3

Nontraditional study in French.

FREN 201. Intermediate French Conversation I. .5 Credits.

Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:2; Repeatable

Concentration on development of speaking skill. Conducted entirely in French by native speaker. Not open to students who have studied in France or other French-speaking countries. Intended for students enrolled in 200-level courses. Prerequisite: FREN 104 or equivalent. (Cannot be applied toward the French Francophone studies major or minor).

FREN 202. Intermediate French Conversation II. .5 Credits.

Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:2; Repeatable

Concentration on development of speaking skill. Conducted entirely in French by native speaker. Not open to students who have studied in France or other French-speaking countries. Intended for students enrolled in 200-level courses. Prerequisite: FREN 104 or equivalent. (Cannot be applied toward the French major or minor).

FREN 210. Building Bridges in French. 1 Credit.

Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3

Application of major linguistic functions and acquisition of skills essential for 200-level courses through a series of contextualized writing and reading assignments. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 215. Advanced Intermediate French I. .5-1 Credits.

Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:Varies,Other:Varies

Intensive French language study during the student's first month in Tours. Offered only in Tours, required of all students their first semester there. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 216. Advanced Intermediate French II. .5-1 Credits.

Offered Both Fall and Spring; Lecture hours:Varies,Other:Varies

Guided practice for the improvement of written and spoken French at the advanced intermediate level, and preparation for the DELF French proficiency exam. Offered only in Tours, required of all students their first semester there. Prerequisite: FREN 215.

FREN 217. Advanced French I. .5-1 Credits.

Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:Varies,Other:Varies

Intensive French Language study during first month of second semester in Tours. Offered only in Tours. Prerequisite: FREN 215.

FREN 218. Advanced French II. .5-1 Credits.

Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:Varies

Guided practice for the improvement of written and spoken French at the advanced intermediate level, and preparation for the DELF French proficiency exam. Offered only in Tours. Prerequisite: FREN 216.

FREN 220. Women's Voices In Early Modern France. 1 Credit.**Lecture hours:3; Repeatable**

Introduction to history of French literature from the Middle Ages to the French Revolution (1789) with an emphasis on women writers and women's lived experiences and/or literary representations. Provides an introduction to literary history and methods of critical reading. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 230. French Literature I. 1 Credit.**Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3**

Introduction to history of French literature prior to the French Revolution (1789). Provides an introduction to literary history and methods of critical reading. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 231. French Literature II. 1 Credit.**Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3**

Introduction to history of French literature of the 19th century to the present and to methods of critical and literary analysis. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 236. Topics in Francophone Literature and Culture. 1 Credit.**Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable**

Study of the literature, language, geography, history, music, and film of a particular Francophone region (French Caribbean, Quebec, West Africa, Maghreb, etc.). Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 250. French Comics & Graphic Novels. 1 Credit.**Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3**

This course serves as an introduction to comic books and graphic novels in French from the 19th century to the present. Students will examine the socio-historical contexts in which this popular medium was born and how it has evolved thematically and stylistically into a recognized art form.

Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 255. Introduction to French Cinema. 1 Credit.**Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3**

Introduction to French cinema from a cultural and historical perspective. Students will familiarize themselves with major cinematic movements and with methods of critical analysis. The course also includes discussions of the relationships between film, literature and other visual arts. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 261. Translation. 1 Credit.**Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3**

Introduction to translation. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 262. Intercultural Communication. .5-1 Credits.**Offered Occasionally; Lecture hours:3**

This course is intended to provide a foundation in intercultural communication theory with specific application to the French and American cultures. Offered only in Tours.

FREN 270. La France actuelle. 1 Credit.**Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3**

Introduction to contemporary France from historical, sociological, anthropological, and symbolic perspectives. The study of French attitudes, lifestyles, conceptions of society, social and political structures, and of France and French in a post-colonial context. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 275. French Business Culture. 1 Credit.**Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3,Other:2**

In-depth study of the language, culture, politics, and economic climate of business in France. Preparation for further study of management and internships in France. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 282. Patrimoines gastronomiques. .5-1 Credits.**Offered Both Fall and Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable**

Introduction to food practices in France from historical, sociological, anthropological, and symbolic perspectives. Studies conceptions of society through gastronomic discourse. Bucknell en France only. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 290. Independent Study. 1 Credit.**Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:Varies,Other:1; Repeatable**

Independent study in French. Subject to be selected by student in consultation with the instructor. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

FREN 295. Topics in French or Francophone Studies. .5-1 Credits.**Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:Varies; Repeatable**

Topics vary but permit study of one or several subjects in French or Francophone literature, culture and civilization. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 301. Advanced French Conversation I. .5 Credits.**Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:2; Repeatable**

Advanced conversation for students who have studied in France or other French-speaking countries. Conducted entirely in French by native speaker. May not be taken by native speakers of French. (Cannot be applied toward the French Francophone studies major or minor.) Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 302. Advanced French Conversation II. .5 Credits.

Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:2; Repeatable

Advanced conversation for students who have studied in France or other French-speaking countries. Conducted entirely in French by native speaker. May not be taken by native speakers of French. (Cannot be applied toward the French Francophone studies major or minor.) Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 322. Medieval and/or Renaissance Studies. 1 Credit.

Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable

Examination of the literature of the medieval and/or Renaissance periods emphasizing the analysis of themes, ideas, and styles as well as cultural and historical contexts. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 323. Early Modern Worlds & Cultures. 1 Credit.

Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable

Topics vary, but examine key historical moments, as well as social-political, philosophical and cultural components of France (or areas where French is spoken in Africa, the Caribbean, Europe, and North America) from the Renaissance (16th century) through the Siècle des Lumières (18th century). Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 326. 19th Century Through Empires & Revolutions. 1 Credit.

Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable

Topics vary, but examine through diverse cultural productions the major political, economic, social, and cultural transformations of France between Napoleon's First Empire and l'esprit fin-de-siècle. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 327. The Making of Contemporary France. 1 Credit.

Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable

Topics vary, but examine through diverse cultural productions the major events, social movements, and ideologies that have shaped 20th- and/or 21st-century France, engaging with a selection of critical issues such as war and society, gender roles and rights, environmental politics, race and ethnicity, immigration and multiculturalism. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 330. Topics in Literature. 1 Credit.

Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable

Advanced study of themes or topics in French or Francophone literature. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 336. Francophone Worlds. 1 Credit.

Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable

Advanced study of literature, film, politics and society of diverse Francophone worlds and cultures. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 355. Topics in French and/or Francophone Cinema. 1 Credit.

Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable

Advanced study in themes, topics or periods in French and/or Francophone cinema.

FREN 370. Topics in Civilization. 1 Credit.

Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable

Advanced study in themes, topics, or periods in French or Francophone history or civilization. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 371. Topics in the Arts. 1 Credit.

Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable

Advanced study in themes, topics, or periods of French art history. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 390. Independent Study. .5-1 Credits.

Offered Both Fall and Spring; Lecture hours:Varies; Repeatable

Subject to be selected by student in consultation with the instructor. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

FREN 395. Seminar in French or Francophone Studies. 1 Credit.

Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable

Topics vary, but permit detailed study of any one of innumerable subjects in French or Francophone literature and civilization. Prerequisite: FREN 104.

FREN 3NT. French Non-traditional Study. .5-1 Credits.

Offered Fall, Spring, Summer; Lecture hours:Varies,Other:3

Non-traditional study in French.