French Studies

Get to know FRENCH STUDIES

Le Département d’études françaises offre trois programmes d’études au 1er cycle (de la mineure au baccalauréat spécialisé) ainsi que des cours destinés aux débutants, le tout dans une atmosphère collégiale et chaleureuse. Vous pourrez améliorer votre compétence en français, ou étudier la littérature et la culture de langue française. Il est également possible de participer à un programme d’échanges au Québec ou en France. Cet échange peut se faire au courant de l’été ou pendant l’année scolaire et peut alors être de une ou deux sessions.

The French Studies department offers three undergraduate concentrations (a Minor, a Medial and a Major) as well as courses for beginners. Areas of study include oral and written language as well as French literature and culture. Courses are offered in a supportive and collegial atmosphere. It is also possible to study French in either Québec or France during summer or one semester or year-long exchanges.

"Learn French in an official bilingual city or expand your French studies to include culture, literature and lexicology."

A Common START

Students in our Faculty are admitted into Arts, Science or Computing but the focus is on a common first year. Through self-exploration, and while you settle into university life, you have the opportunity to work with our advisors and faculty to discover your real interests and identify opportunities for success. Sometimes that discovery happens fairly quickly, and for other students it takes some work and time before the “ah-ha!” happens – either way your first year will be a great experience at Queen’s.

Degree OPTIONS

Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
Major / Medial / Minor
Bachelor of Arts (General)

Queen’s ADMISSIONS

Students apply to Queen’s Arts (QA) through the OUAC (Ontario University Application Centre) website. Secondary School prerequisites include Six 4U and 4M courses, including a minimum of three 4U courses, one of which must be ENG4U. Applicants outside of Ontario may have additional requirements. A language placement test is available to determine your appropriate starting level in French Studies.

Course HIGHLIGHTS

French Studies courses are much more than just language courses. Take courses such as Histoire culturelle et littéraire de la France moderne et contemporaine that discusses French 19th Century and contemporary literature and explores predominant trends in different media such as painting and cinema. Or consider more internationally focused courses such as Histoire culturelle et littéraire de la francophonie et du Québec that looks at the history of ideas and cultural evolution in French Canada, African and Caribbean culture and literature, from the colonial period to the present day - French Studies courses are much more than just a language course.

That is a degree from Queen’s.
quartscl.com
GET THE COURSES YOU NEED
Take FREN 150.
The online Placement Test will help you find your level.
Take 6.0 units. See the French Studies website for details on course requirements.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE
Join teams or clubs on campus such as Club Francophone and Queen’s Model Parliament.
Look in the Co-Curricular Opportunities Directory or AMS Clubs Directory for more ideas.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY
Volunteer on or off campus with different community organizations such as the Le Centre Culturel Frontenac and the Queen’s International Affairs Association.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY
The Queen’s University International Centre is your first stop to learn how to internationalize your degree or to leverage your existing cross-cultural experience.
Speak to a QUIC advisor or get involved in their programs, events and training opportunities.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION
Grasping with program decisions? Go to Majors Night or get some help wondering about career options from Career Services.
Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Advising and Resource Area, such as Careers for Culture Lovers. For more information check out Career Cruising or by finding and connecting with alumni on LinkedIn.

1ST YEAR

2ND YEAR
Take required courses on literature: FREN 230, 241 and 250 for all French Plans, plus required courses on language FREN 219 and 250.
Majors take 12.0-15.0 units, 12.0 for Medial, and 6.0-12.0 for Minors.

3RD OR FINAL YEAR
Develop your skills in textual analysis, oral and written French through a variety of courses. Look into doing an undergraduate thesis in your final year if interested.
Majors take 16.0 units on average, 12.0 for Medial, and 6.0-12.0 for Minors.

4TH OR FINAL YEAR
Advanced language and literature courses for Majors FREN 498 (6.0). Possible undergraduate thesis. Apply to graduate on SOUS.
Majors take 24.0 units on average, 12.0 for Medial, and 6.0-12.0 for Minors.

Consider a 12-16 month QUIP internship after graduation.
Consider international teaching opportunities, including France or tutoring in French.

Consider taking FREN 499 (6.0) as a TA for FREN 150.

Research in the field of
- Translation
- Language industries
- Government and politics
- Media and publishing
- Journalism
- International development
- Law
- Marketing
- Management consulting
- Advertising
- Administration
- Broadcasting - radio and TV
- Foreign service
- Civil service
- Diplomatic service
- Fundraising and event management
- Media and publishing
- Speech and language therapy
- Teaching French as a second language
- Technical writing and translation

Where could I go after graduation?
- Administration
- Advertising
- Banking and commerce
- Broadcasting - radio and TV
- Civil service
- Communications
- Community development
- Curriculum development
- Diplomatic service
- Editor
- Foreign service
- Fundraising and event management
- Government and politics
- Hospitality and tourism
- Immigration services
- International development
- Interpreter
- Journalism
- Law
- Language industries
- Management consulting
- Marketing
- Media and publishing
- Mediation and labour relations
- Political analyst
- Professor
- Public relations
- Speech and language therapy
- Teaching French as a second language
- Technical writing and translation
- Research in the field of humanities

*some careers may require additional training

Caution: This map is meant as a guide to provide suggestions throughout your university career. The activities, resources, and careers mentioned are possibilities – you are not restricted to them and you don’t have to follow this exact timeline. Every person (including you!) will find their own unique path through their degree at Queen’s and beyond.

Visit careers.queensu.ca/majormaps.html for the online version with links!
How to use this map
• Got questions about careers and classes?
• Feeling a little lost or overwhelmed by choices?
• Wondering what you are “supposed” to be doing?

Use this map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of career and academic life. Each map helps you explore possibilities, set goals and track your accomplishments. To make your own custom map, use the My Major Map tool.

Don’t stress if you haven’t done all of the suggested activities. The map is not a prescription – it’s a tool for finding your own way at Queen’s.

Getting what you need to succeed in the workplace

WHAT DO EMPLOYERS WANT?
In a recent survey from the Canadian Council of Chief Executives the top 6 skills sought by employers were:
1. People skills
2. Communication skills
3. Problem-solving skills
4. Analytical abilities
5. Leadership skills
6. Industry-specific knowledge

HOW DO I GET THE SKILLS I NEED?
It is important to develop a balanced skill set – many of which you will develop during your studies. To stand out, take advantage of experiential learning through the multitude of clubs and activities in and around Queen’s. Check out the Get Relevant Experience section of this map.

WHAT CAN I LEARN STUDYING FRENCH STUDIES AT QUEEN’S?
• Fluency or near-fluency in French
• Knowledge of the syntax, grammar and vocabulary of the French language
• Translation skills - translate documents from French into English
• Oral and written communication – write papers and give presentations in French
• Ability to work in groups in French
• Research skills – conduct research in the French language
• Understanding of the links between language and culture
• Time management working on multiple projects
• Civic engagement – use theatre to make a positive difference in local communities
• Integrative learning – combine practical and theoretical knowledge and experiences

WHAT MAKES ME SPECIAL?
No one will get exactly the same experience as you. Take the time to think about what skills you have developed to be able to best explain them with compelling examples in future applications to employers and further education. For help with this, check out the Career Services skills workshop.