French Studies

Studying French opens a wide range of opportunities, especially in Canada. The Department of French Studies offers undergraduate students the chance to delve into French in-depth through a minor, joint honours, or major program of study. Courses offered focus on oral and written French as well as on literature and culture. Students may also choose to further immerse themselves in French through an exchange in either Quebec or France. We also offer courses for the complete beginner, a French for Professionals Certificate, and a Certificate of Competence for students not registered in a French Plan.

TOP 5 REASONS to study FRENCH

1. Mastery of French gives access to a multicultural perspective on the world.
2. Find careers in translation, journalism, public relations, and health.
3. Study abroad and learn more about the French language and culture.
4. Interact closely with professors in class and during our many events held throughout the year.
5. Learn not only the language but the history, culture, and literatures of French, in Canada and abroad.

TOP ALUMNI JOBS

- 5% of alumni work in LAW & INSURANCE
- 5% of alumni work in BANKING & INVESTMENT
- 10% of alumni work in GOVERNMENT
- 55% of alumni work in EDUCATION

Alumni Story

My French Studies degree opened many doors to engaging employment opportunities. In particular, it has given me the confidence and skills needed to use the language in my career as a French Immersion teacher. I am entering my Masters of Education this coming Fall to further develop my French pedagogy and to return to the wonderful campus environment of my Undergraduate degree.

- Sophia Klymchuk, BAH ’19

2023-24 Plan Thresholds

Thresholds are made on a competitive basis and are updated annually. To see the thresholds for all programs as well as the latest information, please visit quartsci.com/planselection.

Interested in finding out how to augment your degree with Experiential Learning? Learn what opportunities and resources are available for you on the Experiential Learning website. You can also reach out to the team directly at asc.el@queensu.ca.


That is a degree from Queen’s.

queensu.ca/french
In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of French Studies along with some electives. Interested in getting a head start in learning and working in a digital world? Take ASCX 150 and develop future-ready skills!

Start going deeper into the discipline of French Studies, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as Media Studies. Learn more about Certificates and Internship options. Want to make sure your academics are where you want them to be? Visit SASS (Student Academic Support Services) and the Writing Centre for some help. Develop your entrepreneurial skills by participating in the Dean’s Changemaker Challenge (ASCX 200/300).

A chance to start grouping courses in areas of interest, or to keep it more general and explore many areas of French Studies. Meet with an Academic Advisor to make sure you are on track and have planned out your courses for next year.

Join teams or clubs on campus such as Club Francophone and Queen’s Model Parliament. See the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen’s Get Involved page for more ideas.

Look into summer jobs by talking to the department or Career Services about work through SWEP or Work-Study. Apply to the Department at the end of August to become a Teaching Assistant for online courses offered through Arts & Science Online (ASO).

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

Get involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC). Start or continue volunteering with organizations such as Queen’s Interfaith and Intercultural Society (QIIS).

Volunteering on- or off-campus with different community organizations such as Le Centre Culturel Frontenac and the Queen’s International Affairs Association.

Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUIC’s Intercultural Competency Certificate, and research possible immigration regulations.

Speak to a QUIC advisor to get involved in their programs, events, and training opportunities.

Want to speak French abroad? Start thinking about where you would like to study abroad. Apply in January for a third year exchange through the International Programs Office. Consider a one or two term exchange in France with the Ontario-Rhône-Alpes program.

Grappling with program decisions? Go to Majors Night or get some help wondering about career options from Career Services.

Explore different careers of interest in the Career Services Advising and Resource Area. For more information check out Career Cruising or by finding and connecting with alumni on LinkedIn.

Start focusing on areas of interest. Research education requirements for careers of interest. If needed, prepare to take any required tests (like the LSAT or GMAT) and get help thinking about grad school from Career Services. Get sneak peeks of jobs posted at ACFOMI to prepare for the future.

How to use this map
Use the 5 rows of the map to explore possibilities and plan for success in the five overlapping areas of career and academics. The map just offers suggestions – you don’t have to do it all! To make your own custom map, use the My Major Map tool.
RD YEAR

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4TH OR FINAL YEAR

- In fourth year you will have the chance to participate in research-based courses that can lead to Graduate School or to your future career path. Make sure to finish up all your courses for your major and your optional minor and/or certificate(s).
- Interested in working on a real-world problem with an actual client? Take ASCX 400 and develop your consulting and project-management skills.

What will I learn?

- A degree in French Studies can equip you with:
  - Fluency or near-fluency in French
  - Knowledge of the syntax, grammar, and vocabulary of the French language
  - Translation skills to translate documents from French into English
  - Oral and written communication skills to write papers and give presentations in French
  - Ability to work in groups in French
  - Research skills to conduct research in the French language
  - Understanding of the links between language and culture
  - Time management working on multiple projects
  - Civic engagement to use theatre to make a positive difference in local communities
  - Integrative learning to combine practical and theoretical knowledge and experiences

Where can I go?

- A degree in French Studies can take your career in many directions. Many students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a Master’s. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:
  - Banking and commerce
  - Curriculum development
  - Foreign service
  - Government and politics
  - Immigration services
  - Interpreter
  - Speech and language therapy
  - Technical writing and translation

- Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.
French Studies

Get started thinking about the future now – where do you want to go after your degree? Having tentative goals (like careers or grad school) while working through your degree can help with short-term decisions about courses and experiences, but also help you keep motivated for success.

Get the help you need

Queen's provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. At Queen's, you are never alone. We have many offices dedicated to helping you learn, think and do.

Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources – our welcoming living and learning environment offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally. Queen's wants you to succeed! Check out the Student Affairs website for available resources.

For guidance regarding French courses, certificates, plans, or the French Placement Test, please email francais@queensu.ca. We are happy to help!

Why study in Kingston?

For 175 years, our community has been more than a collection of bright minds – Queen’s has attracted students with an ambitious spirit. Queen's has the highest retention rates, the highest graduation rates, and one of the highest employment rates among recent graduates. We are a research intensive university focused on the undergraduate experience. The BBC has identified Kingston as one of the GREATEST UNIVERSITY TOWNS in the world – and it is often awarded the safest city in Canada. It is a university city at the core; just a quick drive to Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and even New York. A university with more clubs per capita than any other university in Canada, and a city with more restaurants per capita than any other city in North America – you will have the experience of a lifetime at Queen’s – and graduate with a degree that is globally recognized among the best.