Studying French opens a wide range of opportunities, especially in Canada. The Department of French Studies offers undergraduate students interested in pursuing the subject in-depth the chance to study French as either a minor, a medial, or a major. We also offer courses for the complete beginner and Certificates of Competencies for students not registered in a French Plan. Courses offered focus on oral and written French as well as literature and culture. For interested students, it is also possible to study French in either Quebec or France on exchange.

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

"I have recently returned from an international exchange to France. Living my everyday life using the French language further enhanced my knowledge and confidence in speaking another language. I was able to make international friends, travel, and communicate in a classroom setting as well as in a local atmosphere in French."

- Melissa McCoy, BAH '15

Note that degree requirements are revised regularly. The most current requirements, including course lists and options, are found in the Academic Calendar at: QUarts.com/academic-calendar
FRENCH STUDIES MAJOR MAP

MAJOR BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONOURS)

1ST YEAR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of French Studies along with some electives.

See the back page for specific courses to consider.

Attend Majors Night in the Winter term to learn more about Plan options.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

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.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

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

GET THINKING GLOALLY

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.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Grappling 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.

2ND YEAR

START GOING DEEPER INTO THE DISCIPLINE OF FRENCH STUDIES, WHILE CONSIDERING A MINOR AND/OR CERTIFICATE SUCH AS MEDIA STUDIES. ATTEND DEGREE – IN THE FALL TERM TO 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.

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

Start going deeper into the discipline of French Studies, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as Media Studies. Attend Degree + in the Fall term to 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.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Look into summer jobs by talking to the department or Career Services about work through SWEF or Work Study.

If interested, take a summer course in Quebec through the Explore program to immerse yourself in a French-speaking environment.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Get involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC).

Start or continue volunteering with organizations such as Queen’s Interfaith and Intercultural Society (QIS).

GET THINKING GLOALLY

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.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

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.

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 ACFO/M to prepare for the future.

3RD YEAR

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 — FOR SOME IDEAS, SEE THE BACK PAGE.

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

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 — for some ideas, see the back page.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

If interested, apply for an Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellowship (USSRF). Consider applying to do a 12-16 month QUIP internship after your third year. Look into employment with the federal government such as a Parliamentary Guide or a guide at a war memorial in France with VRC. Think about taking FREN 499 (6.0) as a TA for FREN 110 if you are a CON-Ed student, apply in January with the Department.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Do targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest by joining the LinkedIn group Queen’s Connects. Connect with professors at events or workshops hosted by the DSC. Develop contacts with the Kingston francophone community.

GET THINKING GLOALLY

Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with other cultures by practicing or improving your language skills.

Consider taking FSL through the Faculty of Education to become a teacher.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Click the Portrait Hub for more idea.

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 ACFO/M to prepare for the future.

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).

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

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).

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest. Assess what experience you’re lacking and fill in gaps with volunteering, clubs, or internships – check out the Career Skills Services workshop for help. Consider international teaching opportunities such as teaching English in France for a year or tutoring in French.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Join groups on LinkedIn reflecting specific careers or topics of interest in French.

GET THINKING GLOALLY

Consider the Ontario-Rhône-Alpes program.

Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest. Assess what experience you’re lacking and fill in gaps with volunteering, clubs, or internships – check out the Career Skills Services workshop for help. Consider international teaching opportunities such as teaching English in France for a year or tutoring in French.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Apply to jobs or future education, or make plans for other adventures. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, interviews, Grad School applications, or other decisions. ACFO/M and Le Centre Culturel Frontenac can help with future plans.

What will I learn?

A degree in French Studies can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

• 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 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.