French (FRE) - Courses

+ next to a course number indicates a general education course

Courses

FRE 101 Cr.3
Elementary French I
The first of two introductory courses in French for students with no knowledge of French, focused on developing the four communicative skills: listening, speaking, writing, and reading. Introduction to contemporary Francophone cultures through a variety of topics from everyday life (family, shopping) to the arts (cinema, literature). Offered Fall, Spring.

FRE 102 Cr.3
Elementary French II
The second introductory course in French emphasizes the development of practical communication skills using an interactive learning approach and integrates cultures from the Francophone world in language learning to provide students with basic survival skills in a French-speaking country. Prerequisite: FRE 101 or placement based on UW System Placement Test scores. Offered Fall, Spring.

FRE 201 Cr.3
Intermediate French I
The first of two intermediate-level French courses which provides a review of basic structures while expanding on grammatical structures and vocabulary to allow students to express themselves in meaningful ways both orally and in writing. Cultural competence is integrated in language learning in an interactive manner. Prerequisite: FRE 102 or placement based on UW System Placement Test scores. Offered Fall, Spring.

FRE 202 Cr.3
Intermediate French II
The second of two intermediate-level French courses which provides a review of basic structures while expanding on grammatical structures and vocabulary to allow students to express viewpoints and opinions on a variety of topics from visual and cultural texts. Prerequisite: FRE 201 or placement based on UW System Placement Test scores. Offered Fall, Spring.

FRE 203 Cr.3
Elementary French II
The second of two introductory courses in French emphasizes the development of practical communication skills using an interactive learning approach and integrates cultures from the Francophone world in language learning to provide students with basic survival skills in a French-speaking country. Prerequisite: FRE 101 or placement based on UW System Placement Test scores. Offered Fall, Spring.

FRE 204 Cr.3
Advanced French I
Development of all French language skills with emphasis on reading and writing. Prerequisite: FRE 202. Offered Fall.

FRE 205 Cr.3
Advanced French II
Development of all French language skills with emphasis on listening and speaking. Prerequisite: FRE 203. Offered Spring - Even Numbered Years.

FRE 300 Cr.3
French for Professional Communication
A course designed to prepare students to communicate effectively in professional contexts. It addresses written and oral conventions in business and other professional settings, determines/compares professional expectations across Francophone and Anglophone cultures, and prepares for all aspects of the job search for a company dealing with Francophone professionals, with a focus on Canadian and European exchanges. Prerequisite: FRE 202 or equivalent. Offered Fall.

FRE 303 Cr.3
Sound, Speech, and Proficiency
This course first aims to improve students' pronunciation by providing an introduction to the principles of French phonetics and the study of stress, rhythm, and intonation. The course is designed to develop oral interactions through a pragmatic approach to language as students identify and practice different speech acts in their sociocultural contexts, applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational means of communication as defined by the ACTFL guidelines to achieve oral proficiency. Prerequisite: FRE 202 or equivalent. Offered Spring.

FRE 307 Cr.3
Exploring the Story
This course introduces students to a variety of narrative structures in their cultural context. Students will increase their vocabulary, reinforce reading strategies, interpret cultural signifiers, and develop critical thinking skills as they confront the printed word in comics, short stories, fairy-tales, fables, poems, or newspaper articles. Prerequisite: FRE 300 or FRE 301. Offered Fall - Odd Numbered Years.

FRE 317 Cr.3
Practice in Translation
This course is designed to introduce students to translation techniques, strategies, and theories, which students will apply to a variety of text genres. Focus is on translation from French to English so that students can compare and contrast the structures of French and English as they further their language acquisition. Prerequisite: FRE 300 or FRE 301. Offered Spring - Even Numbered Years.

FRE 320 Cr.3
Perspectives on French Civilization
From historical, chronological, thematic and literary perspectives, this course is designed to provide an examination of French Civilization from its origins to the French Revolution. Topics will include socio-political and cultural history, feudalism, absolutism, the Enlightenment, art, music, literature, and architecture. Prerequisite: FRE 300 or FRE 301. Offered Spring - Even Numbered Years.

FRE 321 Cr.3
Studies in Francophone Civilizations
This course is designed to provide an in-depth study of the civilization of French-speaking areas other than France. The individual topic will cover either the civilizations of several smaller areas or countries (i.e., Belgium, French Polynesia, Louisiana, etc.) or will deal with one major area (i.e., Quebec or Francophone Africa). The course is taught in French. Repeatable for credit - maximum six. Prerequisite: FRE 303 or concurrent enrollment. Offered Occasionally.
FRE 322 Cr.3
French without Borders
The course provides an overview of the Francophone world by defining the notions of "Francophonie" from a cultural, historical, political, and socio-linguistic point of view, with an emphasis on current events. Prerequisite: FRE 300 or FRE 301. Offered Spring - Odd Numbered Years.

FRE 325 Cr.3
Modern and Contemporary France
Through chronological, thematic and literary perspectives this course is designed to provide an examination of French Civilization from the French Revolution to the present. Topics may include socio-political and cultural history, the history of gender and sexuality, regional and national identity, anti-Semitism, colonialism, popular culture and mass media. Taught in French. Prerequisite: FRE 303 or its equivalent. Offered Occasionally.

FRE 326 Cr.1
Current Events
A weekly discussion of current events in the French-speaking world, based on readings, web-based news sources and television broadcasts in the target language. Students may take as many times as desired, but only three credits will count towards major/minor. Prerequisite: FRE 202 or equivalent. Offered Fall, Spring.

FRE 327 Cr.1
Grammar Review
A course designed to provide additional practice and review of French grammar and syntax. Students will engage in focused writing assignments that will allow them to master frequently occurring grammar structures (e.g., past tenses in narration, objective pronouns, relative pronouns.) Prerequisite: FRE 202. Offered Spring.

FRE 331 Cr.3
French Phonetics
An emphasis on French vocalic sounds, phonetic transcription, and practice in pronunciation. Prerequisite: FRE 202 or concurrent enrollment. Offered Spring.

FRE 351 Cr.3
French Cinema
The course introduces students to film analysis and visual literacy while presenting the development of French cinema in its historical and theoretical context. It also includes a study of film adaptations of various literary genres. Prerequisite: FRE 300 or FRE 301. Offered Spring - Odd Numbered Years.

+FRE 395 Cr.3
French Literary Voices in English
This course is designed to be an exploration of Francophone literature using a thematic approach. Students will read, discuss, and write about great texts written in French and translated into English. Texts will include short stories and novels by writers from the classical French canon (e.g., Maupassant, Voltaire, Flaubert, Hugo) and those from the Global French world (e.g., Laye, Memmi, Begag, Ba). Prerequisite: sophomore standing. Offered Fall - Even Numbered Years.

FRE 403 Cr.3
Studies in French/ Francophone Literature
A course designed to explore social, political, and cultural issues as related in literary works of authors of French-speaking countries. Specific topics vary by semester but may include "Voices from Quebec" or "Francophone Women Writers". Prerequisite: FRE 305 or FRE 351 or FRE 395. Offered Spring - Odd Numbered Years.

FRE 404 Cr.3
French Literature: Theatre
A course which examines major authors and literary trends in French theatre from the Middle Ages to the present day. Works read in entirety. Prerequisite: FRE 305 or equivalent. Offered Spring - Every Third Year.

FRE 405 Cr.3
French Literature: Prose
A course which examines major authors and literary trends in French prose works of all ages. Emphasis will be on the evaluation of the short story and novel with studies on the development of the narrator’s role and the evolution in the description of a character. Prerequisite: FRE 305 or equivalent. Offered Spring - Every Third Year.

FRE 406 Cr.3
French Literature: Poetry
A course which examines major authors and literary trends in French poetry from the Middle Ages to the present day. Emphasis will be on the interrelationships of poetry, theatre, art, and music. Prerequisite: FRE 305 or equivalent. Offered Spring - Every Third Year.

FRE 407 Cr.3
African and Caribbean Literature in French
A survey of African and Caribbean literature of French expression, including works from colonial times to the present, in the context of the political and cultural history of the African diaspora. Prerequisite: FRE 305. Offered Spring - Every Third Year.

FRE 430 Cr.3
French Connections
This course is designed for students to explore connections between their French studies and other disciplines. Due to its Interdisciplinary nature and its seminar format, the course content is tailored to students' research paper topics, while focusing on the practice of more complex grammatical structures and academic writing conventions in French. Prerequisite: FRE 300, FRE 301, and FRE 307. Offered Fall.

FRE 450 Cr.1-4
National/International Intern Program
A course in French individually tailored to fit career needs: cultural awareness, technical vocabulary in French to prepare students who elect internship credits in other departments. French majors or minors or other students having the equivalency of FRE 202 may elect to take these credits off campus. Repeatable for credit - maximum four. Prerequisite: a declared major in department offering intern programs or a declared major in French. Offered Occasionally.

FRE 491 Cr.3
Films and Literature
Viewing and criticism of subtitled films and reading their literary sources in translation. Prerequisite: one course in literature from either the Modern Languages or English Department. Offered Occasionally.

FRE 495 Cr.2
Honors Seminar in French
An in-depth examination of a topic in French or Francophone literature or civilization concluding with a research paper and presentation to faculty and peers. Prerequisite: FRE 305; one 400-level literature or civilization course; admission to the Alvida Ahlstrom Honors Program. Offered Occasionally.

FRE 498/598 Cr.1-3
Independent Study
Fieldwork, research, individual projects in a specific area of French language civilization or literature. Repeatable for credit - maximum six. Prerequisite: two advanced French courses; junior standing. Offered Occasionally.
FRE 499/599 Cr. 1-3

Independent Study
Fieldwork, research, individual projects in a specific area of French language, civilization or literature. Repeatable for credit - maximum six. Prerequisite: two advanced french courses; junior standing. Offered Occasionally.