The Department of French and Italian offers a Bachelor of Arts in French and a minor.

The study of French involves the mastery of the language and its literary expressions - fictional, non-fictional, dramatic and poetic, as well as the study of social, cultural and political institutions within the context of intellectual history. Students also have the opportunity to choose from a number of stimulating courses in the literature, art, cinema, and history of France or the Francophone world, particularly Francophone Africa and the Francophone Caribbean Islands.

The Department of French and Italian offers courses taught in French in interrelated subject areas: literature may be studied chronologically, set against its historical and intellectual background; other courses approach texts generically, emphasizing the development of the various literary forms of expression. There is parallel course work in literary criticism (theoretical and applied), and studies in French culture and society: gender studies, women writers, current events, and cinema.

Additional components of the French program are currents of French philosophical and political thought and mentalities (the hidden patterns of French life seen through contemporary documents, culinary traditions, folklore). Such courses may be broad in coverage or designed as more sharply focused seminars with topics changing from year to year. To satisfy diverse student needs the department also offers courses on French literature and culture with readings and class work in English. Courses are kept small to allow for maximum interaction between students and professors.

Visit the department website at http://dornsife.usc.edu/fren-ital/ for more information.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Basic Language Course (4-8 units): French 250 (French IV)

CORE Courses (12 units): French 300, 330, and 351

Six Upper-Division Courses (24 units) chosen from:

FREN 310, 320, 347, 360, 370gm, 373, 375gmw, 382, 383, 392, 393, 401, 402, 403, 404, 410, 432, 445, 446, 448m, 449, 464, 490x, 499

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

Basic Language Course (4-8 units): French 250 (French IV)

CORE Courses (8 units): French 300, 330

Three Upper-Division Courses (12 units) chosen from:

FREN 310, 320, 347, 360, 370gm, 373, 375mw, 382, 383, 392, 393, 401, 402, 403, 404, 410, 432, 445, 446, 448m, 449, 464, 490x, 499

Additional Guidelines:

- Only two courses may be in English for major; Only one course may be in English for minor.

- At least two of the six upper-division courses for the major must be at the 400 level. At least one of the three upper-division courses for the minor must be at the 400 level.

- FREN 310 and FREN 360 may not both be taken for credit toward the minor in French.
At least four (4) courses must be unique to the minor (ONLY MINORS).

Courses must be taken for letter grades (excludes CR/NC courses taken thru USC Overseas Programs).

Up to 4 units of upper-division transfer credit may be counted towards the major in French, with departmental approval.

Many courses that are taken in France are eligible for degree credit (check with advisor for details).

The Department at its discretion may substitute no more than 25 percent of the required upper-division units defined in the catalogue for a given major program. Substitutions of courses with the same departmental prefix are exempt from this limit.

DOUBLE MAJOR

An increasing number of undergraduates are making their academic plans early, enabling them to combine the study of French with another discipline in the form of a double major. French can be combined with other areas of study as, for example, business, international relations, political science, and the sciences. The double major prepares students for careers where foreign language skills and cultural sensitivity are essential. The double major also provides excellent preparation for graduate work and professional schools.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

We offer departmental programs which consist of: the French Honor Society (Pi Delta Phi), the French Movie club, the weekly casual conversation sessions of Pause Café.

STUDY ABROAD

Students are encouraged to improve their knowledge of French language, literature, and culture while studying abroad. Students can choose between the following programs: Fall or Spring semester in Paris program; Junior Year in Paris program offered through Sweet Briar College; A four-week summer intensive program offered in Dijon. Courses taken are university-approved programs and applicable toward the major or minor in French. All programs provide students with the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities. In addition, several weekend excursions are planned so that students may discover France’s historical and artistic sites. More information on the study abroad programs can be found on the Overseas Studies Office website at http://dornsife.usc.edu/overseas-studies/.

HONORS IN FRENCH

The B.A. in French with Honors is available to students who have an overall GPA of 3.0 and a GPA of at least 3.5 in courses counted for major credit. To fulfill the requirements of the Honors Program, students must complete three 400-level courses and write an Honors Thesis of 25 to 30 pages, in French, in conjunction with a 400-level course on a subject agreed upon with the course instructor. Students will have up to two semesters to complete the thesis. The Honors Thesis will be read by the course instructor and by the Director of the Honors Program.

For additional Program information, please contact:
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For additional information, and to declare the French major or minor, please contact:
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