

FRENCH

Modern Languages Mission Statement

Educated people spend their lives pursuing growth in political, social and intellectual freedom. One kind of intellectual freedom requires us to break away from the notion that our native language is the most natural and apt means of expressing the full range of human experience. An education can start with the discovery that all words are purely conventional devices. They are nonetheless tools that stir emotions, articulate ideas, and establish relationships with others. Learning another language contributes to our education by intimately exploring cultural and linguistic concepts that broaden our understanding of what it means to be human in today's world.

Our basic courses offer the opportunity to begin acquiring the skills and knowledge necessary for the eventual mastery of a language. When students take full advantage of that opportunity, they can use the target language in subsequent courses dealing with the culture. The department emphasizes the use of the target language in most of its courses because it believes that students can best appreciate a culture from within its own mode of expression.

With a view toward career opportunities, the department encourages integrating language study with a variety of other academic areas, such as history, philosophy, international studies, environmental studies, biology, economics, politics and public affairs, global commerce, global health, and English. Courses in cultural studies and literature, aside from their intrinsic worth, also present multiple perspectives on other cultures and areas of intellectual experience.

Students who want to spend a summer, a semester, or a year abroad with programs approved by Denison should consult members of the department and the Center for Global Programs (see Off-Campus Programs). On-campus opportunities to improve command of the language are provided by language tables, international films, club meetings, and similar activities sponsored by the Department. There are also subsidized field trips to museums and pertinent activities in cities across the country, and in some cases international travel.

Faculty

Associate Professor Charles St-Georges, Chair

Associate Professor Melissa Huerta, Associate Chair

Professor: Christine Armstrong, Associate Professors: Isabelle Choquet, Yvonne-Marie Mokam

Academic Administrative Assistant

Liz Barringer-Smith

View faculty profiles and contact information (<https://denison.edu/academics/french/contacts/>)

French Major

Students majoring in French must take a minimum of nine courses beyond FREN 211 - Intermediate French. The first six courses required for the major are

Code	Title
FREN 213	Cinema for French Conversation and Pronunciation

FREN 214	What Makes the French French?
FREN 215 or FREN 305	Intermediate French Readings and Grammar Introduction to Francophone Texts
FREN 311	Survey of French Literature I: From the Middle Ages through the 18th Century
FREN 312	Survey of Literature of French Expression: 19th-21st Centuries
FREN 418	Senior Seminar (to be taken during the senior year)

The three other required courses will be advanced courses in literature, culture, or language.

French Minor

Students minoring in French must take six courses beyond FREN 211 - Intermediate French:

Code	Title
FREN 213	Cinema for French Conversation and Pronunciation
FREN 214	What Makes the French French?
FREN 215 or FREN 305	Intermediate French Readings and Grammar Introduction to Francophone Texts
And three advanced courses in literature, culture, or language, at least one of which must be either:	
FREN 311	Survey of French Literature I: From the Middle Ages through the 18th Century
FREN 312	Survey of Literature of French Expression: 19th-21st Centuries

Additional Points of Interest

The Language Lab

An important asset of the department is the Language Lab with its 27 Macs, zone-free Blu-ray player and document camera. It also has a VIA Connect PRO which is a wireless collaboration and presentation solution that makes sharing and presenting easier for all computers in the room. The lab provides support for learning activities outside and inside the classroom, ranging from grammar drills to research and collaborative writing projects, as well as discussions of authentic materials published on the Internet. The area is designed not only for individualized instruction but also for group work and small seminars that use a variety of digital materials for class discussion.

General Department Regulations

Students planning to major in the department are advised to begin course work in the first year. Those who wish to fulfill the basic requirement in language by continuing one begun in secondary school will find it advantageous to begin their course work in the first year. Whether students satisfy the language requirement by continuing with their secondary-school language or by taking up a new language, the Department of Modern Languages strongly recommends that students complete their language requirement by the end of their sophomore year.

Cultural Enrichment

Each semester the department offers students exceptional opportunities for cultural enrichment in language study. These opportunities include, for example, off-campus trips to target-culture plays, movies and performances, as well as campus visits by native scholars and performers. In that way, experiences in target cultures become more

readily available to our students. These opportunities are made possible through a most generous endowment bestowed on the Department of Modern Languages by the Patty Foresman Fund. The department maintains a Modern Languages Facebook page where Denison community members can view upcoming events.

The Foresman Lounge

Located in the central hub of the department, the lounge provides the Denison community with a space for a wide range of activities such as receptions, classes, and informal gatherings. This area has a kitchenette with a table and chairs for sharing lunch or a coffee with our faculty as well as mobile soft seating for easy reconfiguration of the space. It is also equipped with a wide range of technological devices to enrich our students' learning experiences. This room has a 52-inch flat screen TV connected to a webcam, zone-free Blu-ray player and a document camera. The lounge also has a ceiling-mounted laser projector that connects to a networked Mac computer, the Blu-ray player and a VIA for wireless connection to the data projector.

Courses

FREN 111 - Beginning French I (4 Credit Hours)

A comprehensive introductory course in French through the four basic skills: aural comprehension, speaking, reading and writing. Does not count as credit toward a major or minor. Conducted in French.

FREN 112 - Beginning French II (4 Credit Hours)

A continuation in the development of the four basic skills: aural comprehension, speaking, reading and writing. Does not count as credit toward a major or minor. Conducted in French.

Prerequisite(s): FREN 111.

FREN 199 - Introductory Topics in French (1-4 Credit Hours)

A general category used only in the evaluation of transfer credit.

FREN 211 - Intermediate French (4 Credit Hours)

A completion of an overview of the structure of French. Emphasis placed on developing skills in speaking, writing, listening, and reading. Does not count as credit toward a major or minor. Conducted in French.

Prerequisite(s): FREN 112 or placement.

FREN 213 - Cinema for French Conversation and Pronunciation (4 Credit Hours)

Training and refining of all skills, with an emphasis on pronunciation and oral communication. Conducted in French.

Prerequisite(s): FREN 211 or placement.

FREN 214 - What Makes the French French? (4 Credit Hours)

The course deals with the question: "What makes the French French?" by examining several aspects of French culture, such as child rearing and the process of socialization, the structure of the family and society, and symbolic behavior. The approach compares American and French cultures. Conducted in French.

Prerequisite(s): FREN 213 or equivalent.

FREN 215 - Intermediate French Readings and Grammar (4 Credit Hours)

Students will read extensively from Francophone literary works and works of general culture while reviewing French grammar in detail. Conducted in French. May be taken concurrently with FREN 213 or equivalent.

Prerequisite(s): FREN 213.

FREN 299 - Topics in Intermediate French (1-4 Credit Hours)

A general category used only in the evaluation of transfer credit.

FREN 305 - Introduction to Francophone Texts (4 Credit Hours)

Approaches to comprehension and appreciation of literary texts through analysis and writing. Recommended as preparation for advanced work in French. Conducted in French. This course satisfies the upper level writing requirement.

Prerequisite(s): FREN 215 or equivalent.

FREN 311 - Survey of French Literature I: From the Middle Ages through the 18th Century (4 Credit Hours)

Introduction to major literary and cultural movements and figures with readings from representative authors. Conducted in French.

Prerequisite(s): FREN 215 or FREN 305 or equivalent.

FREN 312 - Survey of Literature of French Expression: 19th-21st Centuries (4 Credit Hours)

Introduction to major literary and cultural movements and figures with readings from representative authors. Conducted in French. This course satisfies the upper-level writing requirement.

Prerequisite(s): FREN 215 or FREN 305 or equivalent.

FREN 330 - Texts in French: Themes (4 Credit Hours)

This course proposes the study of texts of French expression (taken in the broad definition, including the written text, film, music) through a theme such as Childhood Narratives in Francophone Caribbean Literature, Women Voices in Francophone Africa, Literary Children of the French Revolution, French Gastronomy, Maghrebi Immigration to France, Gide, etc. Conducted in French. This course satisfies the upper-level writing requirement.

Prerequisite(s): FREN 305 or FREN 311 or FREN 312.

FREN 361 - Directed Study (1-4 Credit Hours)

FREN 362 - Directed Study (1-4 Credit Hours)

FREN 363 - Independent Study (1-4 Credit Hours)

FREN 364 - Independent Study (1-4 Credit Hours)

FREN 399 - Advanced Topics in French (1-4 Credit Hours)

A general category used only in the evaluation of transfer credit.

FREN 418 - Senior Seminar (4 Credit Hours)

Advanced study of special topics in language, literature or culture. Conducted in French. This course satisfies the upper-level writing requirement. Must be taken in senior year.

Prerequisite(s): One advanced course beyond FREN 311 - FREN 312.

FREN 451 - Senior Research (4 Credit Hours)

FREN 452 - Senior Research (4 Credit Hours)