

French

A-Level

Overview

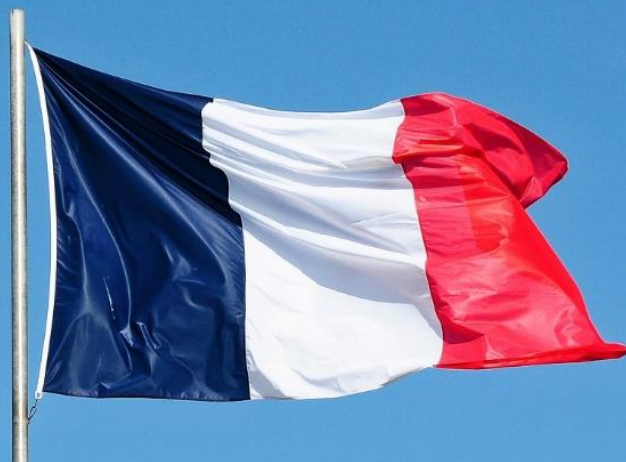
The Modern Languages department aims to develop as fully as possible students' innate linguistic ability and the teaching is sympathetic, supportive and, as far as possible, tailored to individual needs. A range of techniques and activities are employed to make the learning process as enjoyable and stimulating as possible.

Why Study?

There is no doubt that students who visit the countries whose languages they are studying come back motivated and enthusiastic to improve their language skills further. With that in mind, we help students organise work placements in France so that they are able to appreciate the culture, people and language first hand. Studying a language at A-level gives you the opportunity to practise key skills which can be useful for all careers choices. The ability to understand and communicate in another language is a life-long skill for education, employment and leisure purposes. Through the study of a language, you can discover new cultures and broaden your view of our globalised world. In current climates, employers look favourably on future employees with the ability to speak another language.

Studying a language at university can involve studying languages solely or more often they can be combined to get joint or multiple Honours degrees. There is a wide range of courses available in universities where you can study a language ab initio in conjunction with another language studied to A-level standard.

In recent years several students have continued French at university or have started a new language, on its own or in conjunction with subjects such as cinema, music, history, economics, education, management, European Studies, international relations, international politics, journalism or linguistics.





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Students are assessed across all four skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. The Speaking element of the exam is taken in advance of the main examining period. Students will be expected to write in French and English when answering key questions across the other papers. Key skills such as translation to and from French, summarising key information from a listening extract and text, inferring information as well as completing grammatical gap-fill exercises will be examined for the listening and reading exams. Students will be expected to write two essays; one based on the film studied and another based on the literary text studied.

Progression

Through the Erasmus Scheme or equivalent, universities are also able to offer undergraduates the opportunity to do part of their degree course abroad – a popular choice for students as it gives them an ability not only to become fluent but also to enjoy the culture of that particular country. Some key areas of employment after university are: civil service, education, media and journalism, marketing and publishing, transport and logistics and IT and telecommunications.

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