# French Language Courses

**Elementary French**

- MTWTH
  - 9:00 - 9:50
  - 10:00 - 10:50
  - 12:00 - 12:50
  - 1:00 - 1:50

**Intermediate French**

- MTWTH
  - 9:00 - 9:50
  - 10:00 - 10:50
  - 12:00 - 12:50
  - 1:00 - 1:50
  - 2:00 - 2:50

**Intensive Intermediate French**

- MTWTH
  - 10:00 - 10:50
This course is designed to develop and improve writing skills through a variety of classroom activities: discussion, writing, editing. Students will learn how to write a college-level analytical paper. Selected grammar points will be discussed in class, and course content will be provided by a novel and two films. Homework will include short writing exercises and compositions as well as the preparation of grammar exercises related to the writing objectives. This course serves as prerequisite for most other 200 and 300-level French classes.
This course is designed to build fluency in speaking and understanding French. Classes will concentrate on increasing listening comprehension through viewing of videos and films, building vocabulary and idiom use, and enhancing oral communication skills. One group project based on a play.
French 204, Acting French, brings French language and culture to life through drama and performance. Focusing on everyday language and situations, students will write and act in groups in order to enhance their proficiency and fine tune their understanding of the lexical and grammatical nuances of French language. Students will read and analyze contemporary French plays. Communicative activities and acting exercises will develop students’ interpretive and interpersonal communication skill (listening, reading and speaking skills) while enhancing their intercultural competence.
"Changing France:"
Contemporary French Identities

An introduction to French culture through study and analysis of major themes, issues, and debates that characterize or preoccupy contemporary French thought and society, this course helps students understand French society and culture in today’s world. We explore the challenges posed to the traditional republican notion of French national identity by colonial history, decolonization, immigration, and globalization by studying a wide range of documents, texts, and films that portray individual and collective experiences. Drawing on the notion of “la France en mutation / changing France,” we study how historical events and French institutions (especially the state and the school) shape identities. Students gain an understanding of questions relating to social inequalities and diversities from a “French Global” perspective, while focusing on French definitions and experiences of (in)equality and diversity, and how these play out in terms of race and ethnicity, gender, class, and sexual orientation. Conducted entirely in French, this course is designed to increase students’ ability to speak, read, and write in French, and improve their aural comprehension. Students also learn techniques of close reading and detailed critical analysis through class discussion and presentations, the creative/reflective assignment, the analytical essay, and the practice of annotation.

This course is part of the pilot program for the proposed Social Inequalities and Diversities requirement in WCAS.
INTRODUCING POETRY IN FRENCH

This class offers a survey of lyric poetry in French from the Middle Ages to the twentieth century, placing special emphasis on the identification of genres, styles and poetic techniques in order to facilitate close-reading and analysis. Poetic movements studied include the medieval troubadours, the Pléiade, symbolism, modernism, surrealism, avant-garde poetry, négritude and francophonie. Readings, writing assignments, and class-discussions in French.

PROFESSOR DAVIS

FRENCH 273  TTH  11:00-12:20
ADVANCED WRITING
Finding Your Voice in French

Perfect your written expression in French and learn to write in a variety of genres such as portrait, summary, review of film or performance, explication de texte, correspondence, interview, editorial, documentary research and creative writing. Practice is organized according to language functions (describing, summarizing, persuading, hypothesizing, etc.) and communicative needs. You will review vocabulary and grammar as needed and develop awareness of appropriate styles of writing, learning their characteristics by reading authentic material.
The goal of this course is the development of oral proficiency through speech functions, conversational routines and patterns, so as to build confidence in the practice of the French language. In order to achieve this goal, emphasis will be put on extensive examination of French press and French television news, French movies, the reading of a book related to the author studied this quarter, and spontaneous expression through dialogues and discussion, and even debates. Special emphasis will be placed on group work and culturally appropriate usage. The students will participate actively in the choice of the materials.
Focused on seeking employment in a French-speaking environment, this course is designed to familiarize students with the business culture in France and in the Francophone world. The essential components of the course include acquiring knowledge of the economic sector, business structures and practices, business communication skills, as well as cultural competency.

In a student-centered classroom, students will practice their writing and speaking skills by way of reality-based and task-specific communicative activities. They will, for example, write a CV and a cover letter, conduct a job interview, respond to business clients, create and present a company. Upon completion of the course, students will have created a personalized and comprehensive portfolio of a French company that they can use as a model when entering the job market.
DEFINING DIFFERENCE IN OLD FRENCH NARRATIVES

The Middle Ages are often perceived as a period of rigid and narrow attitudes, when dominant cultural institutions displayed little tolerance for diversity and difference regarding fundamental social categories such as gender, sexuality, race and religion. While this is true in many respects, the literature produced in Old French during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries also displays a persistent interest in questioning the nature of the human and the place of the individual in society. This course examines texts such as the *Lais* of Marie de France, the *Roman de Floire et Blanchefleure*, *Aucassin et Nicolette*, and the *Roman de Silence*, which investigate the boundaries that separate humans from animals, Christians from Muslims, men from women, in each case providing surprisingly transgressive commentaries that not only challenge medieval norms and orthodoxies, but modern ones as well. Readings, written assignments, and class-discussions in French.
Love is a pervasive theme in 17th-century literature, notably in the most fashionable literary genres at the time: comedy, tragedy and the novel. The course focuses on the act of renouncing love in the writings of prominent 17th-century French authors such as Molière, Corneille, Racine, La Fayette, La Rochefoucauld and Pascal, and highlights how classical French literature contributed to redefining gender relationships and shaping new erotic and affective subjectivities on the threshold of modernity.