

Definition

The study of the French language

- provides the personal satisfaction of broadening one’s communicative skills,
- increases the student’s transfer options as numerous four-year schools have foreign language requirements,
- enriches foreign travel through the ability to communicate with others in their own language,
- provides exposure to the richness of cultural variety,
- fosters understanding and appreciation of one’s cultural heritage,
- opens new job opportunities,
- develops a new perspective on one’s own language and culture,
- offers salary increments in certain occupations.

The ability to speak a foreign language is often viewed as one of the hallmarks of the aware and educated individual.

Staff

To access faculty and staff, dial (661) 722-6300, then the 4-digit extension.

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Adjunct Faculty:

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V.M.

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Program Description

All of the courses in French are transfer-level. Students learn the basic features of the languages; develop speaking, aural comprehension, reading, and writing skills; and gain an acquaintance with the literature, history and culture of the countries concerned.

Distinctive Features

In addition to classroom instruction, foreign language students are exposed to publications, films, recordings, and videotapes in the languages being studied. Further enrichment is provided by field trips to activities as diverse as foreign restaurants or Oktoberfests.

Career Options

Banking

Consular and Junior Foreign Service Officer

Import and Export Business

International Business

International Relations

Medicine

Nursing

Overseas Employment

Police Work

Social Security Office

Teacher

Translating and Interpreting

Social Services

(Some of these careers may require education beyond the two-year college level.)

Certificate Program

Certificate not applicable.

Associate Degree

An associate degree with a major in French is not available. French courses can be included in the 18 units necessary for an associate degree with a major in Liberal Arts and Sciences or toward the General Education Requirements. (See Graduation/ Associate Degree Requirements.)

Transfer

Students planning to continue studies at a four-year college or university after AVC should visit the Transfer Resource Center and consult with a counselor as soon as possible. Additional information on official transfer articulation agreements from AVC to many CSU/UC campuses can be found at the following Web site: www.assist.org

Prerequisite Completion

If a course is listed as a prerequisite for another course, that prerequisite course must be completed with a satisfactory grade in order to enroll in the next course. According to Title 5, Section 55200(d), a satisfactory grade is a grade of “A,” “B,” “C” or “P”. Classes in which the Pass/No Pass option is available are indicated with an asterisk (*) before the course title. See “Pass/No Pass Option” in the catalog for full explanation.

French Courses

FREN 101 *ELEMENTARY FRENCH 1

5 units

5 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 101/ENGL 101SL.

Introduction to understanding, speaking, reading, and writing French. Emphasis is on the vocabulary, grammar, and cultural

knowledge necessary to communicate in everyday situations. Course will include work in pairs and small groups so that students will be active learners. The basic geography and history of French-speaking countries will also be covered. Students will also be introduced to critical thinking, such as it pertains to the comparisons of different value systems. They will use various Francophone perspectives to examine, compare, and contrast issues and values such as family, holidays, religion, politics, education, children, work, and contrast them with their own culture. (CSU, UC, AVC)

FREN 102 *ELEMENTARY FRENCH 2

5 units

5 hours weekly

Prerequisite: Completion of FREN 101.

Course continues the work of FRENCH 101 on understanding, speaking, reading, and writing French. Emphasis is on the vocabulary, grammar, and cultural knowledge necessary to communicate in everyday situations. Course will include work in pairs and small groups so that students will be active learners. A more in-depth knowledge of geography and history of French-speaking countries will also be covered. The course will be conducted entirely in French. Students will also be introduced to critical thinking, such as it pertains to the comparisons of different value systems. They will use various Francophone perspectives to examine, compare, and contrast issues and values such as family, holidays, religion, politics, education, children, and work, and contrast them with their own culture. (CSU, UC, AVC)

FREN 201 *INTERMEDIATE FRENCH 1

5 units

5 hours weekly

Prerequisite: Completion of FREN 102.

This course is a comprehensive intermediate French program that uses culture as the organizing principle to its communicative approach in the teaching of reading, writing, listening, speaking ability and critical thinking. A variety of texts, including contemporary short stories, poems, newspapers and magazine articles, excerpts from essays and literary works will be read and discussed. Students will also see videos, sing songs, and hear short lectures. Class work includes Web activities, reading aloud, working in groups or pairs, review of grammar and practice exercises. The major historical periods, events, cultures, and political figures of French and Francophone countries will be introduced. The course is conducted entirely in French and is intended for French majors, students studying literature or linguistics or other subjects that require more than two semesters of a foreign language, or those seeking to broaden or maintain their proficiency in French language and French and French-speaking cultures. (CSU, UC, AVC)

FREN 202 *INTERMEDIATE FRENCH 2

5 units

5 hours weekly

Prerequisite: Completion of FREN 201.

This course continues to develop students' ability to read, write, speak, and comprehend French. Students will read and discuss intermediate literary and non-literary texts. Grammar will be reviewed as necessary through brief lectures and exercises. Major twentieth century French and Francophone authors will be introduced through readings and discussion. Cultural and social issues will be discussed. The course is conducted entirely in French and is intended for French majors, students studying literature or linguistics or other subjects that require more than two semesters of a foreign language, or those seeking to broaden or maintain their proficiency in French. (CSU, UC, AVC)

FREN 203 *ADVANCED FRENCH

3 units

3 hours weekly

Prerequisite: Completion of FREN 202.

Reading and discussion of literary texts. Students will also read contemporary non-literary texts, such as newspapers, magazines and essays on topics of current interest. Course includes advanced vocabulary building, essay writing and critical analysis of literary and non-literary texts. The course is conducted entirely in French and is intended for French majors, students studying literature or linguistics or other subjects that require more than two semesters of a foreign language, or those seeking to broaden or maintain their proficiency in French language and French and French-speaking cultures. (CSU, UC, AVC)