

French

BA (Hons)

COURSE DETAILS

- A level requirements: [BBB](#)
- UCAS code: R120
- Study mode: Full-time
- Length: 4 years

KEY DATES

- Apply by: [31 January 2024](#)
- Starts: 23 September 2024

Course overview

As one of the world's most important languages both in terms of speaker numbers and its role in science, industry and international diplomacy, studying French opens up a world of opportunities and prospects.

INTRODUCTION

Fluency in French opens up dynamic and fast-changing parts of the world outside Europe, including North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, as well as parts of the Caribbean, the Indian Ocean and the Pacific. A mastery of this language brings with it access to cultural products including world literature and cinema, but also important social, cultural, historical and linguistic debates.

At Liverpool, French can be taken from A level or as a beginner's language, with no previous qualifications necessary. Our vibrant programmes are designed to both refresh and extend your knowledge of French, with the perfection of language skills at the heart of our degrees. We also actively foster in our students the development of professional skills in French.

All our degrees demand a full intellectual engagement with a wide selection of areas in French studies. You will study French both in and beyond France, as well as aspects of French studies from various social, historical, visual, literary, filmic and linguistic aspects.

All students will spend one year in a French-speaking country as a language assistant in a school, student at a partner university, or on a work placement. If you combine French with a minor in another language, you will split the year between a French-speaking country and another country.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Fluency in French

- Knowledge of important social, cultural, historical and linguistic debates
 - Access to dynamic and fast-changing parts of the world outside Europe
 - A broad historical context of the French language
 - Awareness of wider issues in language and linguistics
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Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

YEAR ONE

In year one, you will study language modules as well as foundation modules, which will introduce you to a range of topics in French history, culture and linguistics. You will also take a 'language awareness' module which is designed to support your language learning by sensitising you to issues in language and linguistics.

There are six compulsory modules, including, two language modules and two foundational modules.

COMPULSORY MODULES

INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH STUDIES I (FREN114)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module aims to provide students with skills appropriate to a range of areas in French Studies, introducing them to the historical periods and cultural contexts with which they will engage in future years, and to assist them in developing generic study skills, including research skills, referencing and bibliographic skills, numeracy and data handling, and close reading and commentary writing.

INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH STUDIES II (FREN116)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This is the second semester foundational module in French Studies, which introduces students to key content and skills. The module focuses specifically on language issues, texts of various types, and film. The first part of the module covers language awareness, linguistics, the languages spoken in France and the French language as spoken outside France. The second part of the module covers issues of literary, visual, media, and film theory and draws on relevant movements and theoretical paradigms. The module introduces students to key skills in: reading and analysing primary and secondary sources critically; essay writing; and presenting to different audiences.

LANGUAGE AWARENESS (MODL105)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

The module is an introduction to linguistics, focusing on issues in theoretical and applied linguistics which are relevant for language learners. It aims to equip students with a better awareness of and explicit knowledge about language and language learning. The meta-awareness thus gained will assist in hypothesis testing and rule formation essential to the learning of language.

INTERMEDIATE FRENCH 5, YEAR 1 (FREN105)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module is the compulsory language module for all students enrolled in degree programmes aiming for a qualification in French. It is the first stage of a four-year learning curve and is preparation for the following year (FREN207 and FREN208).

This module is mapped against B1+ level in French according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

INTERMEDIATE FRENCH 6, YEAR 1 (FREN106)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This module is a compulsory language module for all students enrolled in degree programmes aiming for a qualification in French. It is the first stage of a four-year learning curve and is thus preparation for the following year (FREN207 and FREN208).

BEGINNERS FRENCH 1+2 (FREN112)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This French language module is designed for first year undergraduate students. It is for absolute beginners or students with very limited knowledge of the language. No previous knowledge of French is required. Through a variety of methods students will develop a basic competence in reading, writing, listening and speaking French and an understanding of basic French grammar.

At the end of this 12 week- module students will be able to carry out simple everyday tasks in French. Students will be able to understand and use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. They will be able to introduce themselves and others and ask and answer questions about personal details. They will be able to interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly. They will have a basic understanding of significant aspects of life and culture of the country and intercultural skills necessary for their language proficiency level. This module is mapped against A1 level in French according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

ELEMENTARY FRENCH 3+4, YEAR 1 (FREN134)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This module is mapped against A2 level in French according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). It is for students who have achieved a GCSE at foundation level or who have reached an A1 proficiency level in the Common European Framework. Through a variety of methods students will continue to develop basic competence in reading, writing, listening and speaking French and an understanding of basic French grammar. At the end of this 12 week- module students will be more confident to carry out all everyday tasks, they will start to be able to express their opinions about current affairs and function in many professional contexts. They will have an increased understanding of life and culture of the country and the intercultural skills necessary for their language proficiency level.

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

YEAR TWO

During your second year you will take language modules, plus content modules which cover the spectrum of French studies – from French film and texts discussing the New World, to contemporary French sociolinguistics, French cinema, fashion in France, and collaboration during the Second World War.

You will take two language modules and six content modules of which two are compulsory.

You may also, subject to approval, select relevant modules from the wider School of Histories, Languages and Cultures, including modules from Film Studies. Our work placement module allows you to apply your skills practically under the supervision of one of your departmental teachers.

COMPULSORY MODULES

INTERMEDIATE FRENCH 5+6, YEAR 2 (FREN256)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This compulsory module is designed for students who have successfully completed the beginners' modules FREN112 and FREN134, or have reached an A2+ proficiency level in the Common European Framework, and who plan to go abroad in their third year. It aims to provide students with an advanced competence in reading, writing, listening, speaking and grammar through both lessons and independent work. At the end of this 12 weeks- module students will have reached a B1 proficiency level in the Common European Framework of Reference and will confidently carry out all everyday tasks, they will be able to express their opinions about current affairs and function in many professional contexts. They will have a good understanding of life and culture of the country and the intercultural skills necessary for their language proficiency level.

ADVANCED FRENCH 7+8 (FREN278)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This compulsory module is designed for students who have successfully completed the beginners courses FREN112 and FREN134, as well as FREN256 in semester one of their second year, and plan to go abroad in their third year. It aims to further provide students with good competence in reading, writing, listening, speaking and grammar through both lessons and independent work.

At the end of this 12 weeks- module students will have reached a B1 proficiency level in the Common European Framework of Reference and will confidently carry out all everyday tasks, they will be able to express their opinions about current affairs and function in many professional contexts. They will have a good understanding of life and culture of the country and the intercultural skills necessary for their language proficiency level. This module is mapped against B2 level in French according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

ADVANCED FRENCH 7, YEAR 2 (FREN207)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module is mapped against B2 level in French according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

This module aims to develop further the skills of reading, listening, writing and speaking in French, as well as translating. This module will concentrate on fluency and accuracy in written and spoken French, through text analysis and language exercises. The module also provides a cultural preparation for the period of study in a French speaking country, focusing on job application, the world of work, the various registers and accents in French and practical information on accommodation, etc.

ADVANCED FRENCH 8 (FREN208)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This module aims to develop further the skills of reading, listening, writing and speaking in French, as well as translating and interpreting both in and out of French. The module also provides a cultural preparation for the period of study in a French speaking country, focusing on the Education system, aspects of French life, practical information on banks, accommodation, transport, health system.

OPTIONAL MODULES

AN INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH LINGUISTICS (FREN238)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

Although we spend a lot of time learning how to speak and write French, little space is given to understanding the way in which the French language 'works'. In this module, we work through all the dimensions of the French language to understand better why French idioms aren't the same as English ones, why French spoken in the banlieues differs from that of the chic quartiers of the city, why French word order is the way it is, and how French builds new words to cope with the changes in society. This isn't a language module, but the work we do –including thinking critically about how sounds are made in French – informs our understanding of French and should lead to the writing and speaking of more accurate, more authentic French.

INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH CINEMA (FREN236)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This module introduces you to the history of French cinema, with the emphasis on the 'Golden Age' (âge d'or) of the 1930s, the 'New Wave' (Nouvelle Vague) of the 1950s/60s, and films from the 1980s to the new millennium. While studying the French cinema, you will also be practising skills related to Film Studies, from the critical analysis of film texts or 'how to read a film', to relevant theoretical approaches. The emphasis throughout is on film language, or how film constructs meaning.

LANGUAGE TEACHING: THEORY AND PRACTICE (MODL200)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This second-year optional module will introduce students to the theory and practice of language teaching. Subject specific lectures will provide an overview of the evolution of teaching methodologies and approaches throughout history and up until the latest developments in the field, such as gamification or the flipped classroom approach. They will also guide students on applying these theories to different teaching contexts, taking into account variables such as language level, students' profile, motivation, or the cognitive implications of second language learning. School placements and/or supervisions will provide the opportunity to apply the theory to an actual teaching context and to develop a teaching project.

LIVING THE GLOBAL EIGHTEENTH CENTURY (HLAC200)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This module introduces you to aspects of life in Britain and Europe between about 1740 and 1815. This period is often seen as the beginning of the modern world, when the ideas about human nature and society that still shape our own lives came into circulation and when the global entanglements generated by trade and colonisation began to have a lasting impact on everyday life in Europe. The module is taught by tutors from French, German and English Studies, and History, as well as staff from the National Museums Liverpool. It gives you an insight into the range of materials and methods that are used in research in eighteenth-century studies. Interactive lectures, seminars and fieldwork encourage a hands-on approach to learning. You start by inventing an 18th-century character and you follow that character through various experiences typical of the period: shopping, reading, travelling, thinking about political issues of the day. Images, artefacts and contemporary texts in English and other languages are made available to support your research. The aim is for you to develop your capacity for asking questions (curiosity) as well as for answering them (research skills).

MANGER! FOOD AND FRENCH CULTURE (FREN230)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

An introduction to the practice of the food critic and to the rich history of French food culture. French cuisine is not only a fundamental part of national identity; it is one of the first cuisines to achieve recognition across the world. This module introduces students to the cultural history of food presenting a history of France in menus. As humans have fewer more basic needs, the production and absence of food have also profoundly affected social relations across the ages, thus you will also learn about the feasting and fasting habits of the nobility in the Middle Ages, bread riots in the eighteenth century and twentieth-century wartime food propaganda.

MULTILINGUAL LIVERPOOL: READING THE CITY (MODL234)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Although often considered a monolingual English city, Liverpool is as diverse and multilingual as most major urban centres. This module invites students to draw on their linguistic skills and their awareness of languages more widely to consider critically the extent to which multilingualism is part of Liverpool. Taking both established theories and new ways of thinking, we will go out and physically explore parts of the city to see what resources (languages and images) are used to make Liverpool. At the same time, we look at the ways in which the city could be usefully more multilingual, and not only identify but also fill the gaps in the public space with students' own translations into Chinese, French, German, Italian, Spanish...

ART AND VIOLENCE: VISUAL CULTURES AND THE MEDIA IN MODERN FRANCE (FREN220)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Learn how to read an image, images from advertising (commercial and public service), company logotypes, Asterix and satirical political cartoons (Charlie Hebdo)

PROPAGANDA AND CENSORSHIP (FILM202)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

Using some of the most controversial films ever made as case studies, this module examines the relationship between film, political authority and public morality. The module examines films from the Soviet Union, Nazi Germany, the German Democratic Republic, France, Italy, Spain and China. All films are shown with English subtitles and the module is suitable for all students in HSS interested in film, propaganda and censorship.

THE CINEMATIC CITY (FILM201)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

The modern city and the cinema developed together, and as they developed they referred to each other: cities have always been a prime space for film, while many urban theorists have found it useful to think of cities as cinematic spaces. The module introduces you to cinematic ways of representing the city, through the study of a number of representative films that deal with some major metropolis. You will have the opportunity to produce your own short smartphone film of the city of Liverpool as part of a small-scale group project. This will allow you to put your ideas into practice and to reflect on the filmmaking process. No prior knowledge of practical filmmaking is required to enrol in this module but you will need to be willing to familiarise yourself with the process of shooting and editing of a smartphone film.

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

YEAR ABROAD (YEAR THREE)

You will spend one year in a French-speaking country as a language assistant in a school, as a student at a partner university, or on a work placement. If you combine Major French with a Minor in another language, you will split the year abroad between a French-speaking country and another country.

Assessment during your year abroad

You will complete assessment tasks appropriate to your year abroad placement, either producing one or more pieces of work in French or completing modules at your host university.

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

YEAR FOUR

During your final year you will take language modules, plus content modules which cover the spectrum of French studies – from French film and texts discussing the New World, to contemporary French sociolinguistics, French cinema, fashion in France, and collaboration during the Second World War.

You will take two language modules, two applied language modules and four optional modules.

You may also, subject to approval, select relevant modules from the wider School of Histories, Languages and Cultures, including modules from Film Studies. Our work placement module allows you to apply your skills practically under the supervision of one of your departmental teachers.

COMPULSORY MODULES

PROFICIENT FRENCH 11 (FREN311)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

The final year language module is a course in communicative French at level C1 or C2, as specified in the Common European Framework of Reference. It introduces students to the principles of debate, reporting and presentation. Students also have the opportunity of developing their interpreting skills. Alongside the consolidation of their oral skills, students will also work on improving their writing skills, practise their grammatical accuracy, translation skills, as well as producing an extended piece of prose, focusing on report writing. Listening and reading skills will be developed during the contact hours and while preparing for assignments.

PROFICIENT FRENCH 12 (FREN312)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This is the second module which makes up the final-year programme in communicative French language. Like FREN311, it focuses on improving communication skills in French both orally and in writing. The aim is to increase linguistic confidence and to equip students with skills useful for social and professional life in a French environment.

OPTIONAL MODULES

DISSERTATION (MODL307)

Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session

This module gives students the opportunity to carry out independent research in an area of interest to them. The topic should be related to one of the research specialisms of members of staff in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures. Students are expected to take the initiative in planning, researching and writing the dissertation. Supervision and guidance will be provided from a member of staff in the Department.

FRENCH DRESSING: SIX CENTURIES OF CLOTHING AND CULTURAL HISTORY IN FRANCE (FREN335)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

From haute couture to prêt-à-porter, from textile production to designer training, France has historically been at the forefront of fashion and of clothing technology. This cultural investment in both dress and the visual arts provides the underpinning to this module. Unique in UK French Studies curricula, it brings together the academic study of dress history with literary and visual studies, and provides an introduction to the growing discipline of material culture studies. Taught in a mixture of lectures and seminars, the module looks at a range of cultural productions – medieval manuscript illustration, theatre designs, fashion-plates, lifestyle journalism, bande dessinée – and allows students to consider how dress functions as a tool for self- and group definition, and as a means of shaping and interpreting social and personal identity. Across the centuries, in France as elsewhere, what we wear sends out important messages about who we are and how we want others to see us. Getting dressed in the morning will never seem quite so innocent again.

THE SOCIOLINGUISTICS OF MODERN FRENCH (FREN333)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Whilst much time is devoted to perfecting standard French in the language modules from year one onwards, the year abroad will have confirmed the fact that – as with English spoken in the UK – there is considerable variation in the way in which real French people living in France speak the language. In this module, we will look more closely at how French came to emerge as the primary language of France, how it was standardized, and how this process has been resisted, especially in contemporary France. We will also explore the ways in which gender, age, ethnicity, and social class all contribute in different ways to the French language that individuals encountered on the year abroad spoke. To this end, we will ascertain whether it is more appropriate to refer to Frenches than the French language when analyzing the ways in which people speak and – increasingly – write.

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

CHOOSING THIS SUBJECT AS A COMBINED DEGREE

If you split your degree between French and another subject area, you will study a French language module, at beginners' or advanced level, and a cultural module per semester, alongside two other modules in your other subject.

If you combine French with a non-language subject, you will spend the year abroad in a French speaking country as an assistant in a school, as a student at a university or on a work placement. If you combine French with another language, you will split the year abroad between the two countries.

HOW YOU'LL LEARN

You will be taught in a mixture of formal lectures, seminars and small group tutorials where a friendly environment prevails and great attention is paid to giving feedback on assessed work.

In language classes, we make every effort to ensure that we have a small number of students compared to competitor institutions, which means that academic staff are able to support students to achieve their full potential. All language modules involve continuous assessment such as oral presentations, listening tests and grammar tests as well as exams. Tuition takes place in small groups with first-language speakers playing a prominent part and includes a range of skills such as listening, writing, speaking, interpreting and translation.

Students are also expected to make regular use of our fully-refurbished Language Lounge to enhance their own study. We encourage our students to become independent learners, and support them through our dedicated library resources in the Sydney Jones Library which is open 24-hour in term time. We also make extensive use of our virtual learning environment VITAL where students can complete structured tasks outside the classroom.

HOW YOU'RE ASSESSED

Performance throughout the year is carefully monitored and used to supplement examinations. For language, such a programme of continuous assessment involves evaluating performance in a variety of written and oral exercises. Other modules have a mix of essay and exam assessment. Our aim is always to assess by methods of evaluation appropriate to the skills being developed and to allow students to gain credit for good work done during the year.

Exams take place at two points in the academic year: at the end of semester one in January and at the end of the session in May, so that the workload is evenly distributed. As regards the final degree result, for language programmes, the second year's work counts for 20%, the work done during the year abroad (foreign exams or extended essay or portfolio) counts for another 10%, and the final year's work counts for 70%.

LIVERPOOL HALLMARKS

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

Careers and employability

French graduates have the opportunity to gain employability skills and work experience, with a curriculum that delivers the skills employers are looking for. The Year Abroad also provides the option to develop international experience as part of their degree studies.

French graduates go on to careers in all sectors worldwide, including:

- The media.
- Industry and commerce.
- Finance.
- Local and central government, administration.
- Translation and interpreting.
- Teaching in schools and universities.

Many of our students also undertake postgraduate study, either in our own department or for example, on a PGCE translation or law conversion course.

82% OF LANGUAGES, CULTURES AND FILM STUDENTS ARE IN WORK AND/OR FURTHER STUDY 15 MONTHS AFTER GRADUATION.

Discover Uni, 2018-19.

Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

TUITION FEES

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)	
Full-time place, per year	£9,250

International fees	
Full-time place, per year	£22,400

Fees are correct for the academic year 2024/25

If you are participating in a Study Abroad programme you will still be entitled to all of your normal student loans – and you may be entitled to extra funding from Student Finance. If you are studying a semester abroad, your normal tuition fee will be payable. If you are studying a full year abroad, your tuition fee for that year is reduced. All students participating in Study Abroad are entitled to University of Liverpool travel insurance.

[Information about funding opportunities available for Study Abroad.](#)

ADDITIONAL COSTS

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

We offer a range of scholarships and bursaries to provide tuition fee discounts and help with living expenses while at university.

Check out our [Undergraduate Global Advancement Scholarship](#). This offers a tuition fee discount of up to £5,000 for eligible students starting an undergraduate degree from

September 2024. There's also [the Liverpool Bursary](#) which is worth £2,000 per year for eligible students.

[Discover our full range of undergraduate scholarships and bursaries](#)

Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Your qualification	Requirements About our typical entry requirements
A levels	BBB Applicants with the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) are eligible for a reduction in grade requirements. For this course, the offer is BBC with B in the EPQ. You may automatically qualify for reduced entry requirements through our contextual offers scheme .
GCSE	4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics
Subject requirements	Requirements for 100%: A Level in French at grade B for entry to Advanced language; (no subject requirement for entry to Beginners' Language) Requirements for 50% with another subject outside Languages, Cultures and Film: A Level in French at grade B for entry to Advanced language; (no subject requirement for entry to Beginners' Language) Requirements for 50%/50% with two languages: A Level at Grade B in either of the two languages
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma	Applications encouraged. We evaluate each BTEC application on its merits, entry to Advanced language with an A level or equivalent in relevant language (no subject requirement for entry to Beginners' Language).
International Baccalaureate	30 including 6 at higher level in relevant language (no subject requirement for entry to Beginners' Language), with no score less than 4.

Your qualification	Requirements About our typical entry requirements
Irish Leaving Certificate	H2, H2, H2, H3, H3, H3 (including H2 in relevant language for Advanced)
Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher	BBB in Advanced Highers including grade B in relevant language for entry to Advanced language; (no subject requirement for entry to Beginners' language) combinations of Advanced Highers and Scottish Highers are welcome.
Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced	Accepted with A Level grades BB including French (no subject requirement for entry to Beginners' Language).
Access	30 level 3 credits at Distinction and 15 level 3 credits at Merit for entry to Beginners' language
International qualifications	Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our entry requirements. Completing your Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the University of Liverpool International College , means you're guaranteed a place on your chosen course.

ALTERNATIVE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, [contact us](#) for advice
- Aged 20+ and without formal qualifications? The one-year [Go Higher](#)

- [diploma](#) qualifies you to apply for University of Liverpool arts, humanities and social sciences programmes
 - [Applications from mature students](#) are welcome.
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THE ORIGINAL
REDBRICK

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