French and Francophone Studies

The concentration in French and Francophone Studies is committed to the pursuit of an interdisciplinary, linguistically rigorous, and textually informed understanding of French and Francophone literatures and cultures. Concentrators engage actively through their coursework with a wide range of texts and critical perspectives, pertaining to multiple literary genres, media, and contexts. They have opportunities to study different periods of French history as well as Francophone cultures beyond France. By the time they graduate, concentrators will have learned to read with knowledge and nuance and produced a varied body of critical work in French.

The following concentration program became effective in the spring 2014 semester and replaces the French Studies concentration.

The concentration program is designed to encourage and support language-specific study. Literary texts and cultural documents are read principally in the original. Likewise, in most courses, French is the language of class discussions, presentations and research/critical papers. Concentrators thus achieve advanced proficiency in the language. By the time they graduate, they will have learned to read with knowledge and nuance and produced a varied body of critical work in French.

Concentration Requirements

A minimum of 10 courses is required for the concentration in French and Francophone Studies. Concentrators must observe following guidelines when planning their concentration. It is recommended that course choices for each semester be discussed with the department's concentration advisor.

Note: A maximum of four courses from study in France or a Francophone country may count toward the concentration, from either a single semester or an entire year. A year or semester of study abroad in France or a Francophone country is considered an integral part of the concentration and is therefore highly recommended. Our concentrators are strongly encouraged to spend one or two semesters (usually in their junior year) in France or in a Francophone country to derive the richest benefits of linguistic and cultural immersion. Through the Brown-in-France program (http://brown.edu/academics/french-studies/undergraduate/brown-france-program), administered by OIP and departmental faculty, students can enroll directly in French institutions.

FREN 0600 Writing and Speaking French II (is accepted for concentration credit)

Required Courses

One (and no more than two) of the following 0720,0750,0760 series gateway courses:

FREN 0720A De l'Amour courtois au désir postmoderne
FREN 0750A Lost in Translation: Les voyageurs français en Amérique de Chateaubriand à Baudrillard
FREN 0750B Au carrefour des sciences sociales: introduction à l'interprétation de la fiction littéraire
FREN 0750C Cinéma et histoire
FREN 0750D Nous et les autres: les Français et le monde de la Renaissance à la Révolution
FREN 0750E Lost in Translation: Representations of America by French Writers
FREN 0750F L'idée de l'empire dans l'imaginaire français
FREN 0760A Introduction à l'analyse littéraire

One of the following:

FREN 1510A Advanced Oral and Written French: Traduction
FREN 1510F Advanced Written and Oral French: Regards sur la France actuelle
FREN 1510C Advanced Oral and Written French: A table!
FREN 1990 Senior Thesis

Electives

At least two 1000-level courses offered in the Department of French Studies (excluding FREN 1510 and FREN 1900) are required

Up to two 1000-level courses taught in English offered by French Studies or other departments at Brown are eligible for concentration credit. (Appropriate courses on French or Francophone topics from other departments must be approved by the concentration advisor. Departments in which electives are typically taken include Africana Studies, Anthropology, Art History, Comparative Literature, English, History, Linguistics, Modern Culture and Media)

At least one course must cover a pre-Revolutionary period ¹

- FREN 1030A L'univers de la Renaissance: XVe et XVIe siècles
- FREN 1030B The French Renaissance: The Birth of Modernity?
- FREN 1040A Civilité et littérature
- FREN 1040B Pouvoirs de la scène: le théâtre du XVIIe siècle
- FREN 1040C Le Grand Siècle à l'écran
- FREN 1040D Moïrié et son monde
- FREN 1050A "Family Values": Représentations littéraires de la famille au 18ème siècle
- FREN 1050B Fictions de l'individu
- FREN 1050C Le Siècle des Lumières: Culture, Pensée, Société
- FREN 1050D The Age of Voltaire: Culture, Pensée, Société
- FREN 1050E French Lovers: Séduction et libertinage sous l'Ancien Régime
- FREN 1050F Espace public; espace privé
- FREN 1050G Le corps des Lumières
- FREN 1050H The Age of Voltaire: Lumières et modernité
- FREN 1100F Contes et nouvelles du Moyen Age
- FREN 1100G Old French Language and Literature Seminar
- FREN 1100I Hostages and Prisoners of War in Medieval French Literature
- FREN 1100H Histoires et contes du Moyen Age

At least one course a post-Revolutionary period ¹

- FREN 1060A Décadence
- FREN 1060B Gender and the Novel
- FREN 1060C La texte réaliste
- FREN 1060D L'Orient littéraire
- FREN 1060E Gender, Sexuality and the Novel
- FREN 1060F Paris: Capital of the 19th Century
- FREN 1060G Boulevard du crime
- FREN 1070A Avant-Gardes
- FREN 1070B Emergent literature: Postcolonial Nations and Cultural Identity
- FREN 1070C Figures du roman français au XXe siècle
- FREN 1070D Le roman français au présent
- FREN 1070E Littérature, appartenance et identité
- FREN 1070F Nations of Writers
- FREN 1070G Writing the Self: Memory, Childhood and the Novel
- FREN 1070H Literature and Social Thought: Le Roman Policier
- FREN 1070I Histoires d'animaux

Total Credits 10

¹ Or another appropriate course as agreed to by concentration advisor

Honors

Students who have received all "A's" in their concentration courses, have completed at least six concentration courses by the first semester of their senior year, and are highly recommended by two professors are eligible to apply for admission to the honors program. For more information, consult the requirements on the Department’s website: http://www.brown.edu/academics/french-studies/undergraduate/honors-program