

FRENCH, B.A.

Saint Louis University's Bachelor of Arts in French program, offered by the Department of Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures (<https://www.slu.edu/arts-and-sciences/linguistics-literatures-cultures/>), aims to develop students' competency in the language while increasing their knowledge of the French-speaking world.

As the living environment becomes increasingly transnational, a major in French offers an attractive asset to careers in many fields, including business, medicine, politics, law and the humanities. In addition, the major prepares SLU students for graduate work in French by providing them with a broad range of courses in French and Francophone literature and culture.

Additional program highlights:

- We offer a wide variety of French-speaking courses, including French and International Relations, Business French, French Cinema and French and Francophone Media.
- Students can spend a semester or a year in France in either Lyon or Poitiers. Both cities have study abroad programs that allow students to experience the country and its culture firsthand. Students will take classes in the French university system with French students and other international students. Courses taken in these full-immersion programs may count toward the student's major or minor in French. Classes taken in France may also fulfill some University Undergraduate Core requirements.
- The French experience at SLU extends beyond the classroom walls. The department offers frequent *activités culturelles* open to all levels and hosts a chapter of the national French honor society, Pi Delta Phi. Students can also participate in service opportunities in the St. Louis community.

Curriculum Overview

French course offerings cover all centuries of French literature and culture, Francophone and postcolonial studies, gender studies and interdisciplinary areas such as art and literature, music and literature, cinema, cross-cultural questions, literature and the environment. Unique undergraduate offerings allow students to combine international, scientific and professional interests with French.

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

Students are encouraged to enhance their majors through an immersion experience in a French-speaking country. SLU students can choose from a variety of study options in French, including summer, semester and academic-year programs in the cities of Lyon and Poitiers in France. SLU French majors often complete a major in another discipline (English, biology, psychology, international business, communication, etc.).

Careers

The benefits of the French program also include several career opportunities. Combining practical aspirations with the humanizing and broadening effects of language study, the undergraduate major prepares students to perform in many rewarding careers. Accessibility to faculty is a hallmark of the Department of Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures. Faculty will be happy to advise students on career options.

Career paths for French graduates include:

- Education
- International business
- Nongovernmental organizations
- Foreign service
- Law
- Medicine
- Research
- Interpreting
- Cultural services planning
- Museum work
- Relocation abroad services
- Travel consultant
- Study abroad advisor

Admission Requirements

Begin Your Application (<https://www.slu.edu/apply.php>)

Saint Louis University also accepts the Common Application and the Coalition Application.

Freshman

All applications are thoroughly reviewed with the highest degree of individual care and consideration to all credentials that are submitted. Solid academic performance in college preparatory coursework is a primary concern in reviewing a freshman applicant's file.

To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, applicants must be graduating from an accredited high school, have an acceptable HiSET exam score or take the General Education Development (GED) test.

Transfer

Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED or HiSET.

Students who have attempted fewer than 24 semester credits (or 30 quarter credits) of college credit must follow the above freshmen admission requirements. Students who have completed 24 or more semester credits (or 30 quarter credits) of college credit must submit transcripts from all previously attended college(s).

In reviewing a transfer applicant's file, the Office of Admission holistically examines the student's academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student's ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University. Where applicable, transfer students will be evaluated on any courses outlined in the continuation standards of their preferred major.

International Applicants

All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students along with the following:

- Demonstrate English Language Proficiency (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency/>)
- All academic records must include an English translation. An official course-by-course transcript evaluation may be required and accepted.

Tuition

Tuition/Fee	Cost Per Year
Undergraduate Tuition	\$58,960
University Fees	\$1,000

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Net Price Calculator (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/calculator.php>)

Cost of Attendance (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/cost-of-attendance.php>)

Information on Tuition and Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition/>)

Miscellaneous Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/fees/>)

Information on Summer Tuition (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition-summer-current/tuition-summer-current.pdf>)

Scholarships and Financial Aid

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

- **Scholarships:** Scholarships are awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
- **Financial Aid:** Financial aid is provided through grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

Saint Louis University makes every effort to keep our education affordable. In fiscal year 2025, 99.6% of first-time freshmen and 92% of all students received financial aid (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/>) and students received more than \$517 million in aid University-wide.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by Feb. 1.

For more information on scholarships and financial aid, visit the Office of Student Financial Services (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/>).

Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will be able to interact in French.
2. Graduates will be able to interpret authentic materials in French.
3. Graduates will be able to compare their own cultures with cultures in which French is a dominant language.

Requirements

French students must complete a minimum of **30 credit hours** for the major regardless of whether they start at FREN 2010 Intermediate French Language & Culture or later.

Code	Title	Credits
University Undergraduate Core (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/university-core/)		
Major Requirements		

French Foundational Course

FREN 2010	Intermediate French Language & Culture	3
<i>Developing mastery of French in specific themes and contexts:</i>		
Select no fewer than 3 FREN 3xxx level courses (FREN 3001-3999)		9
<i>French 4000-level Elective Courses</i>		
Select no fewer than four FREN 4xxx-level among French elective courses. ¹		12
<i>Additional French Elective Courses</i>		
Select no fewer than two FREN 3xxx and/or 4xxx level courses needed to complete the 30 credits from the following:		6
FREN 3010	Discovering the French-Speaking World	
FREN 3020	Text, Voice, & Self-Expression	
FREN 3030	21st-Century France	
FREN 3040	Society, Nation & the Arts in Pre-Revolutionary France	
FREN 3930	Special Topics	
FREN 4160	French for the Professional	
FREN 4170	French and the Sciences	
FREN 4180	French and International Relations: Global Simulation	
FREN 4200	Perceiving Others: US & France	
FREN 4210	Translation & Comparative Stylistics - French/English	
FREN 4220	French and Francophone Media : Qu'est-ce qui se passe ?	
FREN 4230	French Masterpieces: Survey of French Literature	
FREN 4240	French Cuisine: Culture, Text, and Context	
FREN 4250	The World of New Media: Friend ou Faux?	
FREN 4290	Conflict and Social Change: Women Writers in French	
FREN 4300	Masculin/Feminin	
FREN 4315	Performing Texts: Performativity and Gender in French Literature	
FREN 4320	French Short Story	
FREN 4360	Paris in 19th-Century Literature	
FREN 4380	Hugo and the Misérables	
FREN 4510	Early Modern French Theatre: Comedy, Tragedy and Mystery	
FREN 4610	French Cinema	
FREN 4630	Themes in French Literature	
FREN 4640	Studies in Francophone Literature	
FREN 4660	Nation, Identity, Culture	
FREN 4700	Love and Honor in Early Modern France	
FREN 4710	Women and Writing in Early Modern France	
FREN 4870	Exoticism in French Literature	
<i>General Electives</i>		55-58
Total Credits		120

¹ Up to 9 credits may be in related fields with the approval of the Department.

Continuation Standards

All French major courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher in order to count and for the student to continue in the major/minor.

Roadmap

This roadmap is just one example of a semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. There are other plans students can and do take. The plan of study for each particular student is established in consultation with each student's academic advisor; *this roadmap does not replace academic advising appointments.*

Roadmap notes:

- This Roadmap assumes full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.
- Courses/Milestones marked with an "!" are critical and must be completed in the semester listed in the Roadmap to ensure a timely graduation.
- Course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
	Participation in First-Year Mentoring Activities	
FREN 1010	Communicating in French I ¹	3
CORE 1000	Ignite First Year Seminar	2-3
	University-CORE	3
	General Electives	7
Credits		15-16
Spring		
	Participation in First-Year Mentoring Activities	
FREN 1020	Communicating in French II	3
	University-CORE	6
	General Electives ²	6
Credits		15
Year Two		
Fall		
	Participation in Second-Year Mentoring Activities	
FREN 2010	Intermediate French Language & Culture	3
	University-CORE	6
	General Electives	6
Credits		15
Spring		
	Participation in Second-Year Mentoring Activities	
FREN 3010	Discovering the French-Speaking World ³	3
	University-CORE	3
	General Electives	9
Credits		15
Year Three		
Fall		
FREN 3000-level Elective ³		3
FREN 3000-level Elective		3
	University-CORE	6
	General Electives	3
Credits		15

Spring

Students can also choose to spend either a semester or a year abroad in France. See Program notes.

French Elective	3
French Elective	3
University-CORE	6
General Electives	3
Credits	15

Year Four

Fall

Students might need to take two or three courses for the second major, depending on whether the second major counts core courses toward the hours for the major.

French elective ⁴	3
French elective	3
University-CORE	3
General Electives	6
Credits	15

Spring

French elective ⁵	3
French elective	3
University-CORE	3
General Electives	6
Credits	15
Total Credits	120-121

¹ Students with prior experience in French take a placement test (SLUPE) to determine their level. See Program Notes.

² French majors generally have a second or even third major. See Program Notes.

³ For all FREN 3000-level courses, the prerequisite is FREN 2010 or a SLUPE (placement test at SLU) with a score of 4 or 5. Students may take any FREN 3000-level courses, in any order. Students are required to take a minimum of three (3) FREN 3000-level courses. Some FREN 3000-level courses fulfill the University-CORE (Eloquentia Perfecta II- Oral and Visual Communication; Writing Intensive, among others.).

⁴ Many French 4000-level courses also fulfill the Global Citizenship Core Diversity requirement or the University-Core requirements.

⁵ French 4000-level literature courses fulfill the Core Literature Requirement.

Program Notes

The sequence of courses will vary according to the student's previous experience with the language and individual preferences.

Students have several options to study abroad in a French-speaking country, including a one-semester program in Poitiers, France. Students also can study for a yearlong program in Lyon, France. We encourage students to finish FREN 3010 Discovering the French-Speaking World or FREN 3020 Text, Voice, & Self-Expression before studying abroad.

SLU French majors often complete a second or even a third major in another discipline – for example, political science, English, biology, psychology, international business, communication or international studies.

Contact Us

For additional information about this program, please contact languages@slu.edu or call 314-977-2617.