

French and Francophone World Studies, MA

The Master of Arts in French and Francophone world studies is offered with an optional French education emphasis.

For more detailed information on graduate degrees in French and Francophone world studies, contact the Department of French and Italian.

Learning Outcomes

- Mastery level of competence and proficiency in spoken and written French. Ability to change between languages and registers with ease as well as express sophisticated ideas in both English and French.
- Ability to perform a formal analysis of literary texts from a variety of genres, including narrative, poetry, theater, and those situated at the limits between traditional notions of genre as well as the visual arts.
- Knowledge of the various periods and subfields of French and Francophone literature from the Renaissance to the present, including major literary, cultural, and historical movements, and the relationship between France and its former colonies.
- Understanding of critical theory and its potential use for analyzing objects of study from a variety of media.
- Ability to think critically and make sustained and convincing arguments in relation to scholarship in the field, as well as express original opinions and thinking, as evidenced in a body of scholarship such as final papers.

Requirements

The Master of Arts program in French and Francophone world studies requires a minimum of 30 s.h. of graduate credit and is offered with or without thesis.

Thesis students may apply up to 6 s.h. of thesis credit toward the 30 s.h. required for the degree. They must take a written and oral examination on their areas of study and must defend their thesis at the time of the comprehensive examination. The thesis prospectus must be accepted one year before a student defends the thesis.

Nonthesis students must pass a written and oral examination. With permission of the director of graduate studies and the department chair, nonthesis students may earn up to 6 s.h. of the required 30 s.h. outside the department or transfer up to 6 s.h. of coursework completed at another institution.

All MA students must complete the following coursework.

Course #	Title	Hours
FREN:5001	Introduction to Graduate Study	2
FREN:5020	Comparative Stylistics	3

At least four graduate-level literature or culture courses numbered 5000 or above

French Education Emphasis

The Master of Arts program with French education emphasis requires a minimum of 38 s.h. of graduate credit in French.

The program is intended primarily for prospective secondary school and community college teachers. Candidates must pass a final written and oral examination.

All French education emphasis students must complete the following coursework.

Course #	Title	Hours
FREN:5001	Introduction to Graduate Study	2
FREN:5020	Comparative Stylistics	3
Courses in French literature numbered 5000 or above (minimum requirement)		9

Combined Programs

French and Francophone World Studies, MA/Literary Translation MFA

The Department of French and Italian and the Literary Translation Program collaborate to offer a combined Master of Arts in French and Francophone world studies and Master of Fine Arts in literary translation. Students interested in writing in its different forms—creative, academic, and translation—will find the University of Iowa to be the ideal place to develop their talents and an attractive option for more diversified career preparation.

A separate application and admission to each degree program is required. For more information, review the admissions requirements for French and Francophone world studies and literary translation.

Students in the combined program earn both degrees by completing a minimum of 60 s.h. of coursework, fewer semester hours than if each degree was completed separately. Qualified students may be eligible for up to three years of full funding for a teaching assistant (TA) position.

Requirements

French and Francophone World Studies

Course #	Title	Hours
One of these:		
FREN:5000	Teaching and Learning Languages	3
FREN:6005	Colloquium: Teaching French	3
Both of these:		
FREN:5001	Introduction to Graduate Study	2
FREN:5020	Comparative Stylistics	3
Seven courses in French and Francophone literature, culture, and/or linguistics		21

Students additionally complete written and oral final exams for the MA in French and Francophone world studies. Students are not required to complete a thesis; should they choose to do so, a separate thesis is required.

Literary Translation

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
TRNS:5999	Publishing, Prizes, and Prestige	3

TRNS:6000	The Craft and Contexts of Translation	3
TRNS:6400	Thesis	1
TRNS:6444	Thesis Workshop	3
TRNS:6459	Issues in Translation	3
Six translation workshops (18 s.h.), of which 3 s.h. may be French to English translation		18
Total Hours		31

Students additionally complete a thesis for the MFA in literary translation.

Admission

Applicants must have completed the equivalent of the University of Iowa undergraduate major in French. They also must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College; see the Manual of Rules and Regulations on the Graduate College website.

Applicants for the fall semester whose application materials are received in the department by Jan. 15 have the best chance to be admitted and receive financial aid. They must submit academic transcripts, letters of recommendation from three persons familiar with their past academic work, a statement of purpose in taking graduate work, and one or more samples of original writing, one of which should be in French, that show their ability to pursue graduate work in French (an honors thesis, term paper, seminar paper, or other course papers).

Financial Support

Teaching assistantships are offered through the department, and university fellowships and scholarships are available through the Graduate College. Contact the Department of French and Italian for details.

Exchange assistantship agreements with the University of Pau and the University of Poitiers provide one year of residence at these universities in France for graduate students.

Academic Plans

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

French and Francophone World Studies, MA

Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
30 s.h. must be graduate level coursework; graduate transfer credits allowed upon approval. More information is included in the General Catalog and on department website. ^{a, b}		
Hours		0
First Year		
Fall		
FREN:5001	Introduction to Graduate Study	2
FREN:5020	Comparative Stylistics	3

Literature or culture course ^c	3
Hours	8

Spring

Literature or culture course ^c	3
Elective course ^d	3
Elective course ^d	3
Hours	9

Second Year

Fall

Literature or culture course ^c	3
Elective course ^d	3
Elective course ^d	2
Hours	8

Spring

Literature or culture course ^c	3
Elective course ^d	2
Final Exam ^e	
Hours	5

Total Hours 30

a Students may complete 38 s.h. of graduate level coursework for the French education emphasis. In addition to fulfilling the requirements for the MA non-thesis, an additional 9 s.h. of coursework in French literature numbered 5000 or above is required. Graduate elective coursework may be reduced by 1 s.h. if students choose to complete the French education emphasis.

b Students must complete specific requirements in the University of Iowa Graduate College after program admission. Refer to the Graduate College website and the Manual of Rules and Regulations for more information.

c Complete at least four graduate-level literature or culture courses numbered 5000 or above.

d May apply 6 s.h. towards the degree from coursework outside the department, including graduate transfer coursework.

e Written and oral exam on areas of study.