French BA /

This four-year programme aims to develop students’ interest in, and knowledge of, the French and francophone worlds past and present. This includes language, film studies, literature from the medieval and early modern to the contemporary, libertinism, theory, modernism and postcolonialism.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2018

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

// You will benefit from a strong focus on spoken and written language work. Oral presentations, comprehension work and translation exercises will be features of your learning. Native speakers form an integral part of our teaching team.

// We place emphasis on film and literature studies, with resources including a notable French section in the UCL Library. We offer courses covering all periods of French and francophone literature and thought.

// As part of your studies, you will have access to the facilities of the UCL Centre for Languages & International Education. The French Society organises cultural and social events including theatre visits, drama productions and trips to France.

Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014

The Research Excellence Framework, or REF, is the system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions. The 2014 REF was carried out by the UK’s higher education funding bodies, and the results used to allocate research funding from 2015/16.

// 74% rated 4* (‘world-leading’) or 3* (‘internationally excellent’)

Learn more about the scope of UCL’s research, and browse case studies, on our Research Impact website.

Degree structure

In each year of your degree you will take a number of individual modules, normally valued at 0.5 or 1.0 credits, adding up to a total of 4.0 credits for the year. Modules are assessed in the academic year in which they are taken. The balance of compulsory and optional modules varies from programme to programme and year to year. A 1.0 credit is considered equivalent to 15 credits in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

The structure of the programme allows you to study core modules in French language (written and oral), literature, culture, history, politics and society. You will have some flexibility throughout your degree to focus on areas you find particularly interesting. These opportunities increase as you progress.

You will also take modules offered by the UCL School of European Languages, Culture & Society (SELCS), which allows you to study literature, film, art and culture from outside your subject area. This will enable you to focus on broad cultural movements, issues and approaches from an interdisciplinary perspective.

You will spend your third year in France or another part of la Francophonie (for example Québec or Martinique). You can choose whether to spend the year as a language assistant in a French school, as a student at a French-speaking university, or undertaking a work placement.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)

// French Oral (compulsory unless Francophone)
// The Making of Modern France
// French Film
// Reading French Texts
// Romanticism, Realism, Modernism
// Use of French

Optional modules

// You will also choose interdepartmental modules offered by the School of European Languages, Culture & Society. Optional modules may include the study of linguistics, film and history.

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)

// French Oral (compulsory unless Francophone)
// Use of French

Optional modules

// You will select 3.0 credits from a wide range of optional modules. Optional modules may include:

// Contesting Frenchness: Francophone Literature
// Enlightenment and Revolution: The 18th Century
// Exploration of Self and Form: the Contemporary Period
// France: Culture and Society
// French Film History
// 19th Century Literature
// The Classical Age: 17th Century Literature
// The Medieval Period
// The Renaissance Period
// ELCS Intermediate Level modules
YEAR THREE

Year abroad key information

- You will spend your third year abroad in a French-speaking country. Students on this programme currently complete:
- Any assessment required by a host university (if participating in a university exchange);
- or
- A British Council Assistantship or work placement abroad.
- Whether you undertake an internship or a university placement, while on your year abroad you will engage in guided academic work and critical reflections so as to make the most of your cultural and linguistic immersion.
- For further information and a list of partner universities, please see the SELCS Year Abroad website.

Optional modules

- There are no optional modules in year three.

FINAL YEAR

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Advanced Translation
- French Essay
- French Oral
- Use of French

Optional modules

- Optional modules may include:
- Advanced French Politics
- Cultures of AIDS in France: History, Policy and Representation
- Desire for Community: Literature as Anthropology
- Fictions of Grief
- Forms of Feeling in 17th Century France
- Gender, Race and Sexuality
- Introduction to Post-Structuralism
- Jean-Luc Godard
- Jean-Paul Sartre
- Medieval French Literature
- Old Worlds, New Worlds, Humanism and Travel Writing
- Reading Tintin
- Representations of the Algerian War
- Screen Cities: Representing the Margins of Paris 1830-2005
- Swiss Cinema
- The Haitian Novel, 1944-2004
- The ‘Libertine’ from Charles Sorel to Laclos
- ELCS Advanced Level modules

Your learning

Throughout the degree your teaching will be conducted mainly through small seminar groups, together with some lectures. Seminars are characterised by a "hands-on" textual and analytical approach, whereas lectures are used for discussing general intellectual contexts.

Assessment

Most modules are examined either by end-of-year examination papers or by assessed essay work completed during the year. You will also undertake oral examinations in French.

Your career

In addition to linguistic and cultural understanding, this programme aims to develop skills in critical reasoning, independent thinking and application of theoretical concepts. You will learn how to conduct research and to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

Graduates of the department have entered a wide range of professions including finance, commerce, journalism, education, the media, public relations, and translation and interpreting.

First career destinations of recent graduates (2013-2015) of this programme include:

- Editorial and Marketing Assistant, KT Press
- PGCE Languages, University of Cambridge
- MA in Medieval and Renaissance Studies, UCL
- Personal Assistant (PA), Science Museum
- Press Assistant, Sotheby's

Your application

Application for admission should be made through UCAS (the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). Applicants currently at school or college will be provided with advice on the process; however, applicants who have left school or who are based outside the United Kingdom may obtain information directly from UCAS.

We aim to ascertain the depth and extent of your intellectual interest in French culture. Evidence of this may include reading in French beyond the examination syllabus (in particular of literary works) and experience watching French-language films. We may also employ other selection methods. If this is the case we will inform you about them in advance.

If your application demonstrates that you are suitable and you receive an offer, then we will invite you to a post-offer open day where you can experience the sort of teaching we offer and life in SELCS.
Entry requirements

**A LEVELS**

*Grades*
AAB

*Subjects*
French required at grade A.

**GCSE**

English Language at grade B or 6, plus Mathematics at grade C or 5. For UK-based students, a grade C or 5 or equivalent in a foreign language (other than Ancient Greek, Biblical Hebrew or Latin) is required. UCL provides opportunities to meet the foreign language requirement following enrolment, further details at: www.ucl.ac.uk/ug-reqs

**IB DIPLOMA**

*Points*
36 overall.

*Subjects*
A total of 17 points in three higher level subjects including French grade 6, with no score lower than 5.

**OTHER QUALIFICATIONS**

UCL considers a wide range of UK and international qualifications for entry into its undergraduate programmes. Full details are given at: www.ucl.ac.uk/otherquals

**UNDERGRADUATE PREPARATORY CERTIFICATES (International foundation courses)**

The Undergraduate Preparatory Certificates (UPCs) are intensive one-year foundation courses for international students of high academic potential who are aiming to gain access to undergraduate degree programmes at UCL and other top UK universities.

Typical UPC students will be high achievers in a 12-year school system which does not meet the standard required for direct entry to UCL.

For more information see: www.ucl.ac.uk/upc.

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**TUITION FEES**

The fees indicated are for undergraduate entry in the 2018/19 academic year. The UK/EU fees shown are for the first year of the programme at UCL only. The Overseas fees shown are the fees that will be charged to 2018/19 entrants for each year of study on the programme, unless otherwise indicated below.

- **UK & EU: £9,250 (2018/19)**
- **Overseas: £19,390 (2018/19)**

Full details of UCL’s tuition fees, tuition fee policy and potential increases to fees can be found on the UCL Students website.

**FUNDING**

Various funding options are available, including student loans, scholarships and bursaries. UK students whose household income falls below a certain level may also be eligible for a non-repayable bursary or for certain scholarships. Please see the Fees and funding pages for more details.

**CONTACT**

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*Department:* School of European Languages, Culture and Society

**EU referendum**

For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to: www.ucl.ac.uk/eu-referendum

**Disclaimer**

This information is for guidance only. It should not be construed as advice nor relied upon and does not form part of any contract. For more information on UCL’s degree programmes please see the UCL Undergraduate Prospectus at www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus