French

See also Modern Languages page 130

Degrees all available With or Without Integrated Year Abroad

Degree options in the Faculty of Arts or Faculty of Science

MA (Single Honours Degree)
French

MA (Joint Honours Degrees)
French and one of:
- Ancient History
- Arabic
- Art History
- Biblical Studies
- Classical Studies
- Classics
- Comparative Literature
- English
- Film Studies
- Geography
- German
- Greek (Ancient)
- Hebrew
- International Relations
- Italian
- Latin
- Management
- Mediaeval History
- Modern History
- Persian
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Russian
- Social Anthropology
- Spanish
- Theological Studies

MA (Honours Degrees) in
- French and two of Arabic, German, Italian, Persian, Russian, Spanish
- French and (one of Arabic, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish) and Comparative Literature
- Modern Languages (French and (one of Arabic, German, Italian, Persian, Russian, Spanish) and one of Ancient History, English, International Relations, Latin, Management)
- Modern Languages (French and (one of Arabic, Italian, Persian, Russian, Spanish) and Classical Studies)
- Modern Languages (French and (one of German, Italian, Persian, Spanish) and Greek (Ancient))
- Mediaeval Studies (see page 106)

BSc “With” Degree
Honours in which the majority of the course deals with the first-named subject:
- Biology with French
- Chemistry with French

MChem “With” Degree
Honours in which the majority of the course deals with the first-named subject:
- Chemistry with French
- Chemistry with French and External Placement

Entrance Requirements

Obtaining the following grades will not guarantee you a place as we consider all aspects of every application, including the Personal Statement.

SQA Highers: AAAB (A in French)**
GCE A-Levels: AAB (A in French)
International Baccalaureate Points: 36 including HL6 in French.

** For BSc and MChem degrees – Chemistry is required and one further Higher must include Mathematics or an approved science. Approved sciences are: Biology, Computing Science or equivalent, Geography, Geology, Physics, Psychology.

For full Faculty Entrance Requirements, see page 53.

For degrees combining more than one subject, the subject with the higher Entrance Requirements determines the grades you need. You will also need to meet any further subject-specific Entrance Requirements as outlined on their pages.

For further country-specific qualifications and pre-degree foundation programmes see:

www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/international

Do I need previous knowledge of this subject? – Yes, see above.

Subject enquiries

Dr Gavin Bowd
E: frenchhod@st-andrews.ac.uk

Features

* Academic staff are leading researchers in their fields.
* The teaching team is engaging and includes several native speakers.
* Acquisition of high-level skills in spoken and written French.
* Honours modules in French Literature, History and Culture, ranging from the Mediaeval period to the twenty-first century.
* Transferable skills, such as analysis, synthesis and the ability to give public presentations, are developed throughout the programme.
* Opportunity to apply for a work placement in France as part of a five-year degree or study at a French university as an integral part of a four-year degree.

Resources

The Department of French is diverse in its outlook and activities. Significant numbers of international students are attracted to it within the context of our exchange and postgraduate study programmes, making it a truly international and francophone environment in which to pursue academic study. We have a Multimedia Centre with the latest technology.
“St Andrews is the most wonderful place. This small town offers an entirely unique experience: the balance between a challenging academic environment and a seaside holiday mindset cannot be compared to any other university. I love studying French and seeing my level of language and appreciation for French culture improve. Although my year abroad was truly phenomenal, I am so glad to be back in the ‘Bubble’, with lifelong friends, fantastic societies and a positively hectic social calendar.”

Alice (Edinburgh, Scotland)

What will I study?

- You will be given the opportunity to develop language and communication skills to a level of high proficiency.
- You will be offered a broad view of French literature, civilisation and culture in the first two years of study.
- You will be able to shape your degree according to your various interests in specific topics at Honours level.
- You will be allowed to develop analytical and critical skills, along with transferable skills, in English and in French.
- You will be given direct access to French culture, history and values, and to all the debates, contradictions and extraordinary creativity that characterise contemporary France.

The building of a high level of competence in language skills is a priority in all modules, and you will be expected to write using correct spelling, grammar and punctuation in both French and English.

Indicative programme information

First Year (2 x 20-credit modules required)
The language modules, taught in French and English, are designed to consolidate and develop skills acquired in secondary school, and to increase fluency in the target language. Four literature texts – encompassing prose, drama and poetry – are studied per semester; these are read as a means of enhancing language learning and introducing you to wider issues of French history and cultural identity. Teaching includes two-and-a-half hours of language per week (including one oral class with a native speaker), plus literature lectures and seminars.

Second Year (at least 40 credits required over Semester 1 and Semester 2)
The course diversifies, and is taught primarily in French. It comprises a core language element and, depending on your degree choice, literature and/or civilisation. The course aims to prepare you for the Year Abroad and help you to make an informed choice of modules at Honours level. The second year French course is currently being redesigned. You are invited to contact the Department for further information.

Honours – Third and Fourth Years
(normally 4 x 15-credit core modules required and at least 5 other 15-credit modules required over 2 years)
In Honours we offer four consecutive 15-credit language modules with an emphasis on communication skills. A range of modules in language, literature, intellectual history and twentieth- and twenty-first century culture, politics and society is also available. We also offer dissertation modules, allowing you to work on extended personal research with a tutor to advise you.

Every year, the French Department awards the following prizes and bursaries:
- The Dudley Morgan Prize for the best final year student(s)
- Year-Abroad Project Prize
- The Margaret F.K Fleming Bursary to study at a French university

St Andrew Abroad
Many students take the opportunity to apply to spend a year working in France, between second year and Junior Honours (third) year. UK students may undertake teaching placements in French schools through the British Council’s Language Assistantship scheme. Alternatively, you may organise a work placement with the approval of the Department. You may instead apply to spend your Junior Honours year at one of our Erasmus+ partner institutions; in these cases the work done in France replaces the Junior Honours year in St Andrews. In 2016-2017 our partners include the Sorbonne and Sciences Po in Paris, as well as the universities of Toulouse and Perpignan. All students are fully briefed about the possibilities for study abroad during second and third semesters in St Andrews. For options available during your intended period of study, see: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/studyabroad/outgoingstudents

You may also apply to study abroad under the University’s St Andrews Abroad programme. See page 46.

Typical class sizes and teaching information

First Year: lectures 110 – 140, literature seminars 7 – 15, language classes 15 – 17, oral classes 9 – 12
Second Year: lectures 80 – 100, literature seminars 10 – 17, language classes 10 – 17, oral classes 9 – 12
Honours: 15-credit module seminars 14 – 18, language classes 12 – 18, oral classes 8 – 12

Lectures are used to provide information, to stimulate thought and to suggest directions for further reading and personal study. Small language classes and seminars will allow you to work together and with your tutors, presenting papers and discussing texts and issues relevant to the course. Specialist Honours modules encourage you to pursue your individual interests, to work together on texts and ideas, and develop spoken and written communication skills.

Typical methods of assessment
All our modules include at least 40% assessment by coursework with the balance of assessment in the form of written examinations.

Careers

Recent graduates have gone to work for the British Council, HSBC’s executive training programme, Citibank, Christian Salvesen, Harper Collins, Glasgow City Council and even to work in Japan teaching English as part of the JET scheme. Many also go on to study for postgraduate qualifications or higher degrees. For more information: http://bit.ly/sta-modlangs-careers

See also page 36 for details of the University’s Careers Centre.