



The AMERICAN COLLEGE
of the MEDITERRANEAN

French Language Courses

FRE 101: Beginning French I - Intensive practical introduction to French for those with little or no previous study.

FRE 101 M: Practical Elementary French I for Art Students - This course is designed for art students who have had little or no exposure to the French language. The goal is to establish essential skills in French and to build student confidence in using them through thematic exposure to the arts and participation in French daily life. Exercises in listening, oral expression, reading, vocabulary acquisition and grammatical clarification will improve the students' comprehension, oral and spoken interactions. The student will get acquainted with culture in Aix-en-Provence, Provence and France and will acquire an understanding of French art, cuisine, customs and pastimes through exhibits, exposure to paintings and sculptures, newspaper and magazine articles, short literature excerpts and idioms. Content may slightly change according to the students' level and the pace of the class. Class is taught in French.

FRE 101 → 102: Practical Elementary French I then II - 6 credits - A year of college credit in one semester intended for those with little or no previous study. Intensive four-hour classroom instruction tied to two-hour workshops and activities. Development of an understanding of oral French through listening and speaking practices.

FRE 102: Beginning French II - Intensive practical study of more advanced components of the French language for those who have completed the equivalent of one semester of college-level French.

FRE 102 M: Practical Elementary French II for Art Students - This course is designed for art students with at least one semester of college French or 3 years of high-school French. The goal of this course is to deepen student knowledge of French. Through listening, reading, and writing exercises, through grammatical clarification, vocabulary acquisition and thematic exposure to the arts, students will develop written and oral skills and improve their comprehension and their production. The student will get acquainted with culture in Aix-en-Provence, Provence and France and will acquire an understanding of French art, cuisine, customs and pastimes through exhibits, exposure to paintings and sculptures, newspaper and magazine articles, short literature excerpts and idioms. Content may slightly change according to the students' level and the pace of the class. Class is taught in French.



FRE 102 → 201: Practical Elementary French II then Intermediate French I - 6 credits - A year of college credit in one semester intended for those who have completed the equivalent of one semester of college-level French. Intensive four-hour classroom instruction tied to two-hour workshops and activities. Development of an understanding of oral French through dialogue and role-playing.

FRE 201: Intermediate French I - Continued development of competence in reading, writing, speaking, and understanding spoken French. Intended for students who have completed the equivalent of one year of college-level French.

FRE 201 M: Intermediate French I for Art Students - This course is for art students with 2 semesters of College French. The course will deepen student knowledge of French and teach them how to use French more efficiently and express complex ideas in a proper fashion. The emphasis will be placed on improving students' communication skills through oral and written exercises, conversations and discussions in class and thematic exposure to arts. The student will get acquainted with culture in Aix-en-Provence, Provence and France and will acquire an understanding of French art, cuisine, customs and pastimes through exhibits, exposure to paintings and sculptures, newspaper and magazine articles, short literature excerpts and idioms. Content may slightly change according to the students' level and the pace of the class. Class is taught in French.

FRE 201 → 202: Intermediate French I then II - 6 credits - A year of college credit in one semester intended for those who have completed the equivalent of two semesters of college-level French. Intensive four-hour classroom instruction tied to two-hour workshops and activities. Development of oral French through conversation.

FRE 202: Intermediate French II - 4 credits - Intended for those who have completed the equivalent of three semesters of college-level French. Intensive four hours of classroom learning. Development of oral French through conversation.

FRE 202 M: Intermediate French II for Art Students - This course is designed for art students with at least three semesters of college French. The course will deepen student knowledge of French and teach them how to use French more efficiently and express complex ideas in a proper fashion. The emphasis will be placed on improving the students' communication skills through oral and written exercises, conversations, discussions, oral presentations, and thematic



exposure to arts. The student will get acquainted with culture in Aix-en-Provence, Provence and France and will acquire an understanding of French art, cuisine, customs and pastimes through exhibits, exposure to paintings and sculptures, newspaper and magazine articles, short literature excerpts and idioms. Content may slightly change according to the students' level and the pace of the class. Class is taught in French.

FRE 211: Living in France: Intercultural Communication

Intended for students who have completed the equivalent of two to three semesters of college-level French. Intensive focus on oral practice looking at popular French culture.

FRE 218: France, Francophonie, and Music - Intended for students who have completed the equivalent of two to three semesters of college-level French. Intensive focus on linguistic and cultural comprehension as well as oral expression through music in France and throughout the Francophone world.

FRE 301: Advanced French I: Structure and Expression - Intended for students who have completed the equivalent of four semesters or two years of college-level French. Advanced written and oral practice and grammar review. Essay topics follow a simulation enriched with a variety of documentation and multimedia activities.

FRE 301 M: Advanced French I for Art Students - This course is designed for art students with at least 4 semesters of college French. The course will deepen the student's knowledge of French and teach them how to use French more efficiently and express complex ideas in a proper fashion.

The emphasis will be placed on improving the students' communication skills through oral and written exercises, conversations, discussions, oral presentations, and thematic exposure to arts. In addition, the students will review and refine French grammar and syntax. The student will get acquainted with culture in Aix-en-Provence, Provence and France and will acquire an understanding of French art, cuisine, customs and pastimes through exhibits, exposure to paintings and sculptures, newspaper and magazine articles, short literature excerpts and idioms. Content may slightly change according to the students' level and the pace of the class. Class is taught in French.



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FRE 302: Advanced French II: Conversation and Composition - Intended for student who have completed the equivalent of five semesters of college-level. Students improve their advanced command of oral and written French.

FRE 306: Cross-Cultural Studies in Food and Culture - Both the Mediterranean diet and French Gastronomy have been declared intangible cultural heritage by UNESCO. This course will explore the language and the culinary customs of French cuisine, examining differences in food patterns between the U.S. and France, the fundamentals of French and regional food and eating, including the history, and use of ingredients, as well as political and economic factors affecting rural French food systems.

FRE/BUS 311: Business French - Intensive training in French for business and commercial purposes, emphasizing specialized forms and vocabulary.

FRE/LIT 315: Readings in French Literature I - Readings in French literature, from the 16th to the 18th centuries, and introduction to methods of literary analysis for students with the equivalent of at least two years of college-level French.

FRE/LIT 316: Readings in French Literature II - Readings in French literature, focusing on the 19th and 20th centuries, and introduction to methods of literary analysis for students with the equivalent of at least two years of college-level French.

FRE/HIS 328: Provençal History and Culture through its Monuments - Introduction to the History of Provence and a study of its most exemplary monuments. Typically includes excursions to sites in Provence.

ARC/ARH/FRE 331C: Archaeology, Art, and Architecture of Ancient Provence - Summer Term
- This class is a survey of the History of Provence based on its art, architecture, and archaeological discoveries. Typically includes site visits in Aix-en-Provence and in Provence.
Taught in French

FRE 333: Contemporary France: Society, Politics, and Culture - Study of contemporary French civilization through political, cultural, and social issues.



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FRE 335: The Phonetics of Contemporary French - Phonetic theory illustrated by aural practice and pronunciation. Intensive practice in sound reproduction and fine-tuning the ear to new sound combinations.

FRE/LIT 340: French Children's Literature: Exploring Language, Culture, and Society - French Children's Literature: Exploring Language, Culture, and Society - This course focuses on the way French children's literature explores the creativity of language (with wordplay, for example) and the interaction between text and illustrations, while giving us an historical glimpse of French culture and society and of the underlying value system that pervades children's literature. We will study classics (Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, Charles Perrault's and La Fontaine's tales, la Comtesse de Ségur) and more contemporary texts (Joseph Joffo, Daniel Pennac, Sempé and Pierre Gripari) to offer a comprehensive view of this literary category. The students will also rely on their own imagination to comprehend this genre and to conceive a literary text of their own.

FRE/BUS 341: Internship - Internship positions in various enterprises from small local businesses to regional chains to multi-nationals with offices in the Aix area. Students usually work 10-12 hours per week on site, submitting regular written reports to their professors at ACM. An upper-intermediate level of French or higher is essential. Availability depends on company offers. Flexible hours according to a student's course schedule.

FRE/FLM 355: France as seen through its Movies, Post WWII to the 1970's - This course proposes an historical, cultural, and esthetic approach to French films made between the end of the second World War and the 1970s. How do the films describe the dominant elements of a society and how they witness as well as create these representations?

FRE/FLM 356: France as seen through its Movies, The 1980's to Today - Study of the different facets of France — from literary imagination to social issues, from the 1980's to today — through a varied selection of films.

FRE/THE 357: Communication in French Theatre - Course focuses on oral communication through reading, recitation, study, and interpretation of modern theatrical texts. Students will demonstrate elocution of French language with texts from playwrights as diverse as Beckett, Camus, Reza, and Delerm. Course develops strategies for more precise use of French for oral presentations or even job/internship interviews. *Not offered 2020-2022*



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FRE/LIT 362: Women and the Mediterranean: from Myth to Modernity - This course is designed to encourage students to question the notion of gender through canonical works of French literature. By studying “great texts’ in varying genres, including novels, poetry, and theatre, and using images (paintings, engravings, and photographs), this course will examine the fabrication of gender (and particularly femininity) through the cultural and aesthetic devices presented in these works. It will articulate the socio-historical and geographic context in which they arose, and their reappropriation by the authors studied. How do these representations continue to shed light on the present? Does the geographical location affect the construction of the female gender? Readings combined with in-class discussions will allow students to synthesize the different issues raised by the concept before engaging in their own creative writing.

FRE/POL 376: Contemporary French Identities - Examining some of the main points of division as well as of unity in France today, this course explores the republican ideal, its background, the crisis it is currently undergoing, and contemporary French identity(s).

FRE/LIT 383: Writing in Provence: Literature and Regional Culture - How do writers whose subjects celebrate Provence and the interactions between its inhabitants and its visitors help students better comprehend their own immersion in the region and in the language? This course will guide students to analyze and write their own personal reflections inspired by regional writers such as Marcel Pagnol, Jean Giono, René Char, Maylis de Kérangal, Stendhal, and others.

FRE 379: Deep-Dive into the French Language: History, Acquisition and Teaching - This course asks students to step back and ask the question: “What happens when I’m learning French?” We will reveal a wider understanding of our own practices as learners, more specifically as learners of French. Students will be challenged to question their own preconceptions. More than a theoretical exercise, they will also be asked to put their ideas into practice. The course develops analytical, critical, and argumentative skills, requiring a precise use of the French language.

FRE 401: Translation and Structure I: From Colloquial to Literary - Translation from English to French and French to English, with constant reference to technical, theoretical, and colloquial considerations.



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FRE 402: Translation and Structure II: From Colloquial to Literary - Translation from English to French and French to English, with constant reference to technical, theoretical, and colloquial considerations.

FRE/LIT/ART 411: Crossing Spaces in the Intercultural Context - 4 credits - *Fall Semester and Summer Term* - Course proposes an exploration of literary and artistic themes related to the notion of space, both personal (internal) and geographic (external), and specifically the tensions created by the crossing (“Traversée”) between one space and another.

FRE/LING 412: Contemporary French: The Linguistics of Everyday Language - Course will reflect on and undertake a series of analyses on the language forms in current practice in French society. Analytical linguistics tools will be applied to usage in current-day, intercultural, youth, political, and advertising among others.

FRE/LIT/ART 413: Crossing Spaces in the Intercultural Context - 4 credits - *Spring Semester* - Course proposes an exploration of literary and artistic themes related to the notion of space, both personal (internal) and geographic (external), and specifically the tensions created by the crossing (“Traversée”) between one space and another.

FRE/LIT 414/415: France and Francophone Literature, a Dialogue - Covering subjects such as the spirit of the desert, slavery, the Mediterranean, and the initiation journey, this course reflects on the ongoing dialogue between authors from France and authors from French-speaking countries of former colonial territories.

FRE 470: Translation and Publishing Workshop

This course is designed to provide advanced instruction and supervised practice in translation (from French into English) and editing work. During the course, students will be working directly with a major French publisher, translating promotional materials (used by French publishers to promote books to booksellers) intended to sell the rights of these books abroad and original French texts that haven’t been translated into English. Several genres will be encountered, including novels, short stories, and essays. The course includes both supervised practice of translation, and rewriting (in French and English), and familiarization with the publishing industry. At the end of this course, the students will have a professional translation portfolio.



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FRE 489: Senior Capstone Course – Students in their final semester will choose a subject and advisor for the Senior Capstone Course. The candidate’s thesis will be supervised by their faculty advisor with additional oversight from the French department. Oral defense of the thesis will be conducted in front of the BA in French Studies committee at the end of the term.

FRE 399: Elective Independent Study – This course gives students the opportunity to explore an area of personal academic interest. Often, the idea for an independent study arises from an interest in a particular past course, such as HIS/COM 314: France during the Occupation.

A student may develop an interest in the German presence in France and ask the professor to supervise an independent study focused on this topic for the next semester. It is recommended to propose one’s course of study a semester in advance, as a full semester may be required to design the course and its area of academic research.