

Minnesota State University, Mankato
Department of World Languages & Cultures
French Program - Advising FAQ

What do I have to do for a major in French?

Students who choose to major in French must complete at least 36 credits, to be selected among the following areas of study:

Skills - *Students must complete all four courses in this subject area.*

FREN 302w - Advanced French Composition
FREN 323 - French Phonetics and Applied Linguistics
FREN 366 - Oral Communication
FREN 404 - French Syntax

Literature - *Students must complete FREN 350 and two more courses in this subject area.*

FREN 350 - Introduction to French Literature
FREN 420 - French Seminar
FREN 432 - French Literature I
FREN 442 - French Literature II
FREN 452 - French Literature III

Civilization - *Students must complete one course.*

FREN 305 - France Today
FREN 402 - French Civilization

Major Electives

Additional required credits not completed as part of the Intermediate sequence or the Major courses may be selected from a pre-approved list (see current bulletin).

Required Minor

Students majoring in French must also minor in another field. Popular choices are other languages, business-related fields, Art, and History. Please note that if you are already majoring in another field, this requirement does not apply.

Students who begin in French at MSU-Mankato at or below the 200 level may count their credits from FREN 201 and FREN 202 toward the total credits required for the French major, but these credits will not replace any specific program course requirements.

In certain cases, students may be allowed to substitute other courses for the required ones listed above. Often, this will occur when student has participated in a study abroad program or when motivated students choose to complete an approved independent study.

What do I have to do for a minor in French?

Students who choose to minor in French must complete at least 24 credits, to be selected among the following areas of study:

Skills - *Students must complete all four courses in this subject area.*

FREN 302w - Advanced French Composition

FREN 323 - French Phonetics and Applied Linguistics

FREN 366 - Oral Communication

FREN 404 - French Syntax

Literature - *Students must complete the course in this subject area.*

FREN 350 - Introduction to French Literature

Civilization - *Students must complete one of the courses in this subject area.*

FREN 305 - France Today

FREN 402 - French Civilization

Major Electives

Additional required credits not completed as part of the Intermediate sequence or the Major courses may be selected from a pre-approved list (see current bulletin).

Students who begin in French at MSU-Mankato at or below the 200 level may count their credits from FREN 201 and FREN 202 toward the total credits required for the French minor, but these credits will not replace any specific program course requirements.

Are there different requirements for a French BS in Teaching?

Yes, students who choose to complete a French Teaching degree have slightly different degree requirements.

Additional Courses

Students are required to take additional courses, though these courses do not include additional credits in French.

MODL 460 - Methods of Teaching Modern Language

MODL 461 - Applied Modern Language Teaching Methods

MODL 462 - Foreign Language Elementary School (FLES) Methods

MODL 463 - Applied (FLES) Methods

Additional Requirements

While there is no required minor for this version of the French BS, students are required to complete an additional major course of study in Professional Education. For details, please see the Secondary Education section of the current Undergraduate Bulletin.

Students selecting this option must also demonstrate an intermediate-high level speaking proficiency as defined in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines established by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages or equivalent. Also required are first-hand experiences with the target cultures.

Are all required courses offered every year?

No. While some courses are offered once each academic year, others -- due to scheduling and faculty teaching-load restrictions -- are only offered once every other year. The courses in question are **FREN 323** (offered every Fall semester of odd-numbered years), **FREN 404** (offered every Spring semester of odd-numbered years), **FREN 302w** (offered every Fall semester of even-numbered years). In addition, either **FREN 305** or **FREN 402** is offered only in the Spring semester of odd-numbered years. Please keep this in mind when preparing your long-range enrollment plan, and if you anticipate a conflict, speak to your French adviser. In certain cases, accommodations or course substitutions may be proposed to students whose course of study creates a genuine conflict with this staggered scheduling.

Am I able to study abroad?

Yes, absolutely! In fact, the French program at MSU-Mankato is the proud sponsor of one of the United States' longest-running university study abroad programs of its kind. Since 1980, faculty have led groups of students from our institution on a six-week program that emphasizes development of both cultural awareness and linguistic. For more information about the program and an application form, please see the [Summer Study in France page](#).

Although the program does not currently require its students to study abroad, participation in an overseas program is strongly encouraged for all students, particularly those who choose to major in French.

What can I do with a French degree if I am not interested in teaching?

The question is, what *can't* you do with a degree in French?!? This [video](#) will give you a few suggestions!

Whom may I contact with additional questions?

Dr. Evan Bibbee
World Languages & Cultures
AH 227
Minnesota State University, Mankato
Mankato, MN 56001
(507) 389-6250 TEL
evan.bibbee@mnsu.edu

