



French- Subject Introductory Information

Introduction

Welcome to French!

Our discipline offers a wide range of courses related to France, and Francophone cultures. We teach written and oral language courses, literature, civilisation, and other modules which develop students' understanding of French and Francophone culture. We mainly teach through French.

Many of our courses include a semester or longer in a French-speaking country. Students often go to study in one of our partner universities in France or Belgium. Some students find placements as language assistants in French schools. This time abroad gives our graduates intercultural skills, allowing them to travel and adapt beyond university. Our graduates are mature, thoughtful and capable. They can communicate in French at a high level and understand cultures different from their own.

We have reciprocal exchanges of language assistants with universities in France, as well as a wide range of student exchanges under ERASMUS with universities in France and in Belgium. In addition, English Language Assistant posts are on offer within the primary/secondary education system in France as part of the Franco-Irish Language Assistant scheme.

Structure of the Programme

- **What are the main themes that will be covered over the three/four years of the programme?**

French language, French History, Culture and Media, French and Francophone Chanson, French Poetry, Literature for French Children and Young Adults, Language and Identity in Medieval France, Twentieth-Century French novel, Francophone literatures, French Cinema, French Sport and Identity, Gender and Identity.

- **What will be the focus of first year?**

This course builds on the knowledge of French acquired before entry to university. Classes offer practice and consolidation in the spoken and written skills of the language. A range of oral, aural and written exercises are employed, supplemented by spoken classes.

The short novel and the anthology of short French-language texts on *La France multiculturelle* (multicultural France) are designed to offer an introduction to aspects of twentieth-century French literature and society. These will be preceded by short courses introducing students to the key terms and concepts they will need to make sense of culture in France and the Francophone world, with a particular focus on media in its historical, political and social contexts.

- **Why might students decide to take this subject?**

CASSCS First Arts Orientation 2020

- For a year – for a more advanced level than the Leaving Cert
 - For 3 or 4 years – for an in-depth knowledge of the language
 - For a knowledge of French & Francophone societies & cultures
 - With another language or languages – including Irish
 - As a good combination with other subjects (e.g. English or History)
 - As a complete contrast to your other subjects
 - For a year abroad – study, work, placement
 - To improve your employment prospects
- **Which modules will be available in First Year?**
- FR1100 Introduction to French Language and Culture - for all students on the BA (Joint Honours), BA (Connect) and denominated programmes.
 - FR1101 Introduction to French Literature in Context - for all students on the BA Joint Honours and denominated programmes, *except* for those studying BA Connect programmes.

Online Learning and Teaching

All modules will be taught this year using a combination of online and onsite modes of delivery. Details of teaching arrangements and assessments for individual modules will be specified in the respective timetables.

Live Introductory Question and Answer Session

11am-12pm on Wednesday 23rd September and Friday 25th September

Important Link(s)

<http://www.nuigalway.ie/colleges-and-schools/arts-social-sciences-and-celtic-studies/language-literatures-culture/disciplines/french/undergraduate-courses/bajoint-honours/>