



French

Course Details and Assessment

You will learn to communicate at a higher level in French through developing your competence in the four language skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking.

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing

You will learn to listen and to understand contemporary spoken French and answer questions on what you have heard. Recordings may include informal dialogue, news items and interviews and talks or discussions of a more formal nature.

You will develop your ability to read, understand and extract information from written passages of French which may be in the form of a narrative, interview or informative or argumentative articles.

You will also develop your translation skills, translating from French to English.

AS: **45% of AS Level**
Assessed by one 1h 45 min. exam

Advanced: **50% of A Level**
Assessed by one 2h 30 min. exam

Paper 2: Writing

You will develop your translation skills, translating from English to French.

You develop your analytical skills, writing critical and analytical essays on a French novel and a French film.

AS: **25% of AS Level**
Assessed by one 1h 30 min. exam

Advanced: **20% of A Level**
Assessed by one 2h exam

Paper 3: Speaking

You will become more competent at holding conversations in French. In the AS examination you will be required to engage in a discussion on two topic areas as well as defend a specific point of view. These tasks are based on written stimuli.

At Advanced level, in addition to a discussion on one of the A level topics, you will give a short presentation of an independent research project and discuss its content.

AS: **30% of AS Level**
Assessed by one 12-14 min. exam

Advanced: **30% of A Level**
Assessed by one 21-23 min. exam

TOPICS

AS

Social Issues and Trends

Aspects of French-speaking society: including the changing nature of family; the 'cyber-society'; the place of voluntary work.

Artistic Culture

Artistic culture in the French-speaking world: including a culture proud of its heritage; contemporary francophone music; cinema: the 7th art form.

Film

Au revoir les enfants – Louis Malle

Advanced

Current Issues

Aspects of French-speaking society: including positive features of a diverse society; life for the marginalised; how criminals are treated.

Political and Artistic Culture

Aspects of political Life in the French-speaking world: including teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment; demonstrations, strikes – who holds the power? Politics and immigration.

Literary Text

No et moi – Delphine de Vigan

Film

Au revoir les enfants – Louis Malle

Skills needed

You will need to have achieved a good grade in GCSE French to cope with AS/A Level French.

You will need to have a desire to improve your communication skills through personal reading of French newspapers, through listening to Spanish broadcasts and watching French TV and DVDs and through establishing personal contacts in French.

You will need to feel confident in all four language skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. You will need to be able to analyse the grammatical structure of the language. You will need to show a capacity for personal study and consistent application. You will need to be able to participate in group work.

Suitability

If you are interested in languages and communication, and you enjoy learning about other cultures and ways of life, then this course could be suitable for you. Similarly, if you are interested in the business world, in travel or tourism or in journalism and the media, then you are likely to find this course appropriate.

Whether you want to use French for work, for further study, training or for leisure, this course will equip you with the necessary skills and knowledge.

Future Career Prospects

At the end of the course there will be a range of opportunities open to you. You may wish to choose to follow a degree course in French or a Higher Education course in another subject with French alongside it.

The subject has relevance to careers in teaching, interpreting and translating, journalism, broadcasting, travel and tourism and will improve your employability in commerce and industry.

For More Information

Students interested in following the A level French course should contact the Head of Department.

Subject staff

Mr L Della Rocca B.A. (Hons), P.G.C.E.

Head of Department

Mr L Della Rocca B.A. (Hons), P.G.C.E.

Mrs R Bason B.A. (Hons), Dip Ed

Syllabus

French

Specification Codes: 7651 and 7652

Exam Board

AQA

Website

Further details of this course can be found on the exam board's website.

www.aqa.org.uk