INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The French major opens the door to understanding the language and cultural production of France and the French-speaking world. Majors advance their oral and written competency in French through studies of linguistics, translation, film, and literature. Courses in the French department emphasize the ties between language and the arts on the one hand and history, politics, race, and gender on the other. Students of French bring the insights developed through contact with this famously rich culture to a critical appreciation of their own.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

• Immerse yourself in French language with UC Study Abroad in France and Senegal or Berkeley Summer Abroad in Paris.
• Build skills in a Berkeley Global Internship in Paris.
• Complement your studies with a secondary field like Linguistics, Global Studies, Political Economy, Art History, English, Molecular and Cell Biology, or Media Studies.
• Find out about France for the Pre-Med.

WHO STUDIES FRENCH

The French major interests students desiring a general humanistic education based on the language and literature of the French-speaking world; students planning to teach French at the elementary or secondary level; students who intend to pursue graduate work in preparation for teaching and research at the college level; and students preparing for careers in such areas as law, business, or government service, which require both training in a major foreign language and/or a general background in a humanistic discipline.

CONNECT WITH US

Cal Day
Come to Berkeley’s annual Open House in April for information sessions, campus tours, special talks, and more. Attend a sample French class and lecture by French faculty, and talk to students who share your enthusiasm for French.

Golden Bear Orientation
Join your peers in the campus-wide UC Berkeley orientation program for all new students. Ask the French Academic Adviser about your first/next step in French.

Events
Attend department events with students, staff, and faculty. Visit french.berkeley.edu for news and updates or email frendept@berkeley.edu and ask to receive department email announcements.

ADVISING

Students can drop-in to 4209 Dwinelle Hall to speak with the French Undergraduate Academic Advisor or email questions to frendept@berkeley.edu. You can also schedule an appointment to meet with the advisor.

Advising Drop-In Hours
Monday - Friday 10am-12pm, 1-4pm

HOW TO USE THIS MAP

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

Visit vcue.berkeley.edu/majormaps for the latest version of this major map.
FRENCH
Bachelor of Arts

DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY

FIRST YEAR
- Read placement guidelines and enroll in a French language course.
- Ask about French courses for first-year students.
- Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans.
- Review major and college requirements.

SECOND YEAR
- Complete the lower division prerequisite French language sequence.
- Enroll in the prerequisite course FRENCH 102: Writing Skills in French and meet with the major advisor to declare the major.
- Review major guidelines for study abroad.

THIRD YEAR
- Review your degree progress with your major and college advisor.
- Focus on upper division requirements.
- Review study abroad courses that satisfy French major requirements.
- Ask your major advisor about the French honors program.

FOURTH YEAR
- Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate.
- Complete any "bucket list" courses.
- Finish remaining major, college, and campus requirements.
- Complement your major with a certificate, course thread, or summer minor.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

Jobs and Employers
- Advancement Assoc., French Intl. Sch.
- Annual Fund Supervisor, L.A. Opera Comms. Specialist, UN Women
- Computational Linguist, MITRE
- Content Manager, Air France
- Executive Briefing Manager, Oracle
- Interpreter, Cordon Bleu, Paris
- Invest. Banking Anl., Goldman Sachs
- Lawyer, Marketing Specialist
- Philanthropy Specialist, Mercy Fdn.
- Physician, Planning Assoc., City of Los Angeles
- Public Health Professional
- PR Coordinator, Yerba Buena Center
- Res. Asst., MD Anderson Cancer Ctr.
- Software Engineer, Amazon, Yelp
- Teaching Asst., Teaching Asst. Pgm. Fr.
- Technical Recruiter, Bloomberg
- Translator & Précis Writer, UN

Graduate Programs
- Business, Masters
- Art History, PhD
- French, Masters and/or PhD
- International Public Mgmt., Masters
- Law, JD
- Linguistics, PhD
- Medicine, MD
- Public Health, Masters
- Public Policy, Masters
- Secondary Educ. & Teaching, Masters

Examples gathered from the July 2019 French Department LinkedIn network and the Career Destinations Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.

Updated Last: 07/26/2019

Explore your major
- Connect and build community
- Discover your passions
- Engage locally and globally
- Reflect and plan your future

Review the placement guidelines and enroll in a French language course. Ask about French courses for first-year students. Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans. Review major and college requirements.

Get French tutoring through the French department tutoring program. Get 1:1 mentoring from graduate students with L&S Mentors Program. Enroll in FRENCH 197 to become a French tutor. Attend guest lectures in the department.

Find out new interests in a Freshman Seminar or student-run DeCal course. Visit the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarships. Explore the Berkeley Language Center.

Attend the Calapalooza student activities fair and get involved with a student organization. Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center. Explore study, internship, and research abroad options in France with Berkeley Study Abroad.


Immerse yourself in French and Senegal through UC Study Abroad. Get international work experience with the Berkeley Global Internship in Paris. Find out about France for the Pre-Med. Get research and work experience in France with the Institute for Field Experiences.

Hone your leadership skills with the Peter E. Haas Public Service Leaders program. Explore service opportunities after graduation, such as Peace Corps, Teach for America, or U.S. Department of State. Consider teaching abroad with the Teaching Assistant Program in France.

Learn about career fields and conduct informational interviews. Ask about French department "Professional Pathways" events. Discuss graduate school options with advisors and professors. Attend career and graduate school fairs.

Attend Job Search Essentials workshops. Ask professors and graduate student instructors for recommendation letters. Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities. Join the French Department LinkedIn network to connect with French alumni.