Welcome to Paris! Upon arrival, students begin a ten-day intensive French review taught by our program director. At the end of this review, students take the Sorbonne placement test to determine their level and placement in language classes for the semester as outlined below.

All students will take:

- 9 credits of the French Language course at their appropriate level.
- 3 credits of the Director’s Course. This course is outlined on the following pages.
- 4 credits (minimum) of conférences. Each course worth two (2) credits. Descriptions found below.

The total semester course load per student is 16 credits.

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**French Language Course.** (10 hours per week for 9 credits)

Intensive grammar review, dictée and explication de texte, oral practice, composition, vocabulary and 10 hours of phonetics per month.

**Students take one of the following French language courses:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning - FRE 110 (9 credits)</td>
<td>Beginning - FRE 111 (9 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Intermediate - FRE 210 (9 credits)</td>
<td>Low Intermediate - FRE 211 (9 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate - FRE 310 (9 credits)</td>
<td>Intermediate - FRE 321 (9 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Intermediate - FRE 341 (9 credits)</td>
<td>High Intermediate - FRE 342 (9 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced - FRE 380 (9 credits)</td>
<td>Advanced - FRE 381 (9 credits)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
PROGRAMMES UNIVERSITAIRES DE LANGUE ET CIVILISATION FRANÇAISES

Program Director’s Course: FALL SEMESTER

French 495A: Paris, France and Europe in the 19th century (history, politics, art, and literature) (3 credits)

This course meets 3 times a week for 1 hour each, covering the following topics:

A. Political Evolution and History: Students will study the major political, economic, and social problems of France in the 19th century, and how the industrialization and urbanization developed through the main European capitals. A focus on how the birth of new European nations and new political ideology has lead to another understanding of human beings in society.

B. Art and Literature: Particular attention will be paid to the history and architecture of Paris from Lutèce to the “City of Light” of Napoleon III. Paris - capital of the arts: from Neoclassicism to Romanticism, Realism and Impressionism. Study of the famous authors who wrote about Paris, how they recaptured the city, related to her, and identified with her.

Program Director’s Course: SPRING SEMESTER

French 495B: Contemporary France in Europe and in the World (history, politics, economy, international relations and art) (3 credits)

This course meets 3 times a week for 1 hour each, covering the following topics:

A. The course will explore the historical, political, economic, and social aspects of France in the 20th century. Students will examine customs and rituals, population and diversity, work and transportation, communication, media, and environment in French society. Particular attention is given to the study of the place of France in the European Community, in the Francophone countries, as well as in the rest of the world.

B. Art and Architecture: Paris as capital of the arts. From Fauvism, Cubism, and Surrealism to Abstract Art, Informal Art, “Nouveaux Réalités”, etc. A focus on the architectural history of Paris will help the student to better appreciate the diversity of each area of the city.
CONFERENCES

FALL SEMESTER – Advanced and High Intermediate Levels

Each of the following conférences meets once a week for 2 hours. Students will choose 2.

1. **French History from the Middle Ages to 1789**: (2 credits) FRE 350
   The study of the origin of French civilization; from Gallo-Roman times to the Revolution: Gaule, the influence of Rome, Christianity, and the feudal system. The first unity of the French Kingdom, the 13th century: Age of Cathedrals. In the second half of the course: the 100-year War, the Reformation and the religious wars in France. The progression of the monarchy from Henri IV to Louis XV.

2. **French Literature and Civilization of the Renaissance and the 17th Century**: (2 credits) FRE 361
   This course deals with the relationship of literature to the civilization and history of the period. The ideological and literary currents of the 16th century are presented through Montaigne, Rabelais and poets of la Pléiade. For French literature of the 17th century, particular attention is given to the study of Corneille, Pascal, Racine, Molière, Bossuet and the "écrivains mondiaux,” and then on to La Bruyère and Fénelon.

3. **French Literature of the 18th Century**: (2 credits) FRE 362
   The classical period of the century of Enlightenment; Bayle, Fontenelle, and Montesquieu as critics and thinkers. Novel: Le Sage, Marivaux, Prevost, Laclos, Theater: the comedies of Marivaux, the works of Voltaire and his ideas. The Encyclopedia and Diderot. Rousseau: naturalism and pre-Romanticism.

4. Economic and Social Geography of France (2 credits) GEO 497
   The purpose of this course is to acquaint the foreign student with the economic and social realities of contemporary France. Different aspects of demographics, social changes, the expansion and modernization of the economy, agriculture, industry, etc., and in certain cases, the relationship of these problems with the new European Union are studied.

5. **French Politics** (2 credits) FRE 394
   The political history of France from 1789 to 1850 including the major historical events and political problems; the evolution of French politics since the 18th century. This course stresses the relationship and influence of major factors such as the economy, society, public opinion, events, etc. during that period. The approach is that of political history rather than political science.

6. **French Art** (2 credits + 1 credit (optional)) ART 364
   Renaissance and classical paintings, Gothic and Baroque architecture. An additional 1 credit can be earned by participating in guided visits to museums and writing a final paper.

7. **Aspects of Contemporary French Politics and Economics** - Part 1 (2 credits) FRE 499
   This course offers to the student an analysis of the principal themes that dominate current debates in French society. The course deals with French society with regard to the following aspects: the economy, politics, administration and social movements.

   Each class deals with a particular subject, which, when linked with all of the other topics, should provide the student with an understanding of the cultural identity of France in an historical perspective. Also studied is the situation of France in the European Union and in the other countries of the world.
8. **History of French Ideas in the 18th Century** (2 credits) FRE 355

The study of the characteristics of French civilization and thought from the 16th to the 19th centuries: the study of the philosophers and thinkers who best exemplified this evolution. It includes the notions of civilization, progress, the philosophy of history, and its moral and political implications.

9. **Modern Life and Thought** (2 credits) FRE 495 Special Topics

This course describes the evolution of Western thought and the cultural transformations of French society as well as of the Western World.

10. **French Society from Medieval Times to the French Revolution** (2 credits) FRE 399

This course deals the following aspects: family, demography, religion, politics, privileges, and taxes. These have faced French society since medieval times under the monarchy and the absolute power of Louis XIV. This course also deals with 18th century society and life just before 1789.

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**SPRING SEMESTER – Advanced and High Intermediate Levels**

Each of the following conferences meets once a week for 2 hours. Students will choose 2.

1. **French Politics** (2 credits) FRE 394: French Political History

The study of the 4th Republic and its political ordeal. The Constitution of 1958 and the 5th Republic. The political parties in France (both right and left) and the tendency towards bipolitization of French political thinking, as well as the study of French institutions and administrative structures.

2. **Economic and Social Aspects of Contemporary France** (2 credits) IST STUDIES 355 or 356: French Civilization

The study of the economic and social problems relative to France’s geographical regions: Brittany, Alsace, the southwest, etc. are examined and discussed in class. Included are aspects such as: natural resources or industrial development, agriculture or technical equipment, demographic data, the concepts of crisis or normalization regarding the present economic and social structures.

3. **Modern Life and Thought** (2 credits) FRE 495: Special Topics

This course combines the economic and philosophical problems of French society as well as those of the rest of the world. These problems include the passage of an individual society towards a society of obsolescence, the passage of society from liberty to security, the passage of society from the idea “to be”, and the risk of universality. The solutions to the questions of how to satisfy the need to have and to be in and to have power, both in a utopian society as well as in a materialistic society, are discussed.

4. **French Art** (2 credits + 1 credit (optional)) Art 353. 19th Century Art (from the 19th Century to the present)
   
   a) Painting: From Neo-classicism to the present. The major painters studied are Ingres, Delacroix, Courbet and Corot. Follows the study of Naturalism, Impressionism, Symbolism, Fauvism and Surrealism to the contemporary arts of the “Ecole de Paris.” An additional 1 credit can be earned by participating in guided visits to museums and writing a final paper.

   b) Architecture and Sculpture: Their evolution from the 15th century to 1950, closely studied in relation to social, economic, and ideological changes throughout the centuries. Course supplemented with slide presentations.
5. **Contemporary French Society** (2 credits) FRE 399

This course deals with the main problems that French society has been facing over the last 20 years: family, education, health, unemployment, culture, immigration, demography, etc.

6. **French Literature of the 19th Century**: (2 credits) FRE 371: 19th Century French Literature

Topics covered are literary feelings and taste during the period of the First Empire (B. Constant, Chateaubriand); Romanticism of 1830 and its particular French characteristics (Lamartine, Hugo, Vigny, Musset); the novel: Balzac and Stendhal; French literature during the Second Empire: Leconte de Lisle, Baudelaire, Nerval, Hugo in exile and Flaubert; after 1870: naturalism and symbolism.

7. **French Literature of the 20th century** (2 credits) FRE 372: 20th Century French Literature

Presentation of the major writers of our century, in relation to changes in literary forms and contemporary thought:

a) the generation of great literary figures: Apollinaire, Valery, Giraudoux, Proust, and Gide.
b) the tragic period (1935-50): Sarte and Camus.
c) since 1950: the Nouveau Roman and Theater of the Absurd.

8. **French History from the 19th century to the present** (2 credits) HIS 328: Modern France

The consequences of the French Revolution; a study of the First and Second empires and the Republics regarding social, economic and demographic aspects in France. In the 20th century, a study of the two world wars, the evolution of French politics in the new European context; the changes in French society and thought since the 1968 revolution, and the present state of crisis.

9. **Aspects of Contemporary French Politics and Economics** - Part 2 (2 credits) FRE 499

This course offers to the student an analysis of the principal themes that dominate current debates in French society. The course deals with French society with regard to the following aspects: the economy, politics, administration and social movements.

Each class deals with a particular subject, which, when linked with all of the other topics, should provide the student with an understanding of the cultural identity of France in an historical perspective. Also studied is the situation of France in the European Union and in the other countries of the world. This course can be taken independently from part 1 of the fall semester.

10. **History of Ideas in Modern France** (2 credits) FRE 356, French Civilization

The major tendencies are presented in French philosophy from the 16th to the 19th century, as exemplified in the works of representative philosophers. Particular attention is given to the study of the concepts of freedom, reason and conscience and their repercussion upon moral and political thinking.

**Additional Option for High Intermediate and Advanced students:**

**Business French (Sorbonne/Chambre de Commerce de Paris)**

This course covers the main aspects of French business language, commercial office work and correspondence, commercial French, the language of company management, the language of international relations. The course runs for 12 weeks, with six hours of practical language (six credits) and four hours of business French (four credits FRE 399 Business French) plus 10 hours of phonetics per month. There will be two final examinations: the Practical Language Exam and the Business French Exam. (Certificate of the Chamber of Commerce of Paris)

**Additional course option for fluent or near-fluent speakers of French:**
At la Sorbonne there is a special course for very advanced students that called "la section universitaire," with a choice in literature or economy. It is the same total credit hours as the less advanced courses, but just 2 hours of grammar per week. The remaining hours are lectures, classes in literature, or in economy at the same level as the French students at the university. At the completion of the course the student earns a diplome of Sorbonne Paris 4, equivalent to the one the French students earn.

In this course, students still study with other international students. During orientation students take a placement exam; if it happens that the student is not strong enough for the "section universitaire" the student will be placed into the normal advanced level courses.

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**FALL SEMESTER – Intermediate and Low Intermediate Levels**

Each of the following conferences meets once a week for 2 hours. Students will choose 2.

1. **French Art** (2 credits + 1 credit optional) ART 364
   Renaissance and Classical paintings, Romanesque, Gothic and Baroque architecture, an additional 1 credit can be earned by participating in guided visits to museums and writing a final paper.

2. **History of Paris - Part 1** (2 credits) FRE 355
   A study of the origins of Paris and of Parisians with an emphasis on the evolution of the city of the ways of living, from the Middle Ages to the French Revolution.

3. **French Society - Part 1** (2 credits) FRE 399
   This course deals with the following aspects: family, demography, religion, politics, privileges, taxes, education, food, health, etc.

4. **French History from the Middle Ages to 1789** (2 credits) FRE 350
   The study of the origins of French civilization; from Gallo-Roman times to the Revolution: gaule, the influence of Rome, Christianity and the feudal system; the first unity of the French Kingdom, the 13th century: age of the Cathedrals. In the second half of the course: the 100-year War, the Reformation and the religious wars in France, the progression of the monarchy from Henri IV to Louis XV.

5. **French Literature and Ideas from the Middle Ages to the 18th Century** (2 credits) FRE 362
   This course starts with a study of Middle-Ages literature (les chansons de geste...), with Renaissance thinkers such as Montaigne, Rabelais and with Poets of la Pleiade. For French literature of the 17th century, particular attention is given to the study of Corneille, Descartes, Pascal, Racine, Moliere.... The classical period of the century of Enlightenment (18th century) will be on the Encyclopedia, Diderot, Voltaire, Rousseau.

6. **French Regions - Part 1** (2 credits) FRE 356
   The study of the cultural, economic, and social problems relative to France’s geographical regions: Brittany, Alsace, the southwest etc...are examined and discussed in class. Included are aspects such as: natural resources or industrial development, agriculture or technical equipment, demographic data.

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**SPRING SEMESTER – Intermediate and Low Intermediate Level**

Each of the following conferences meets once a week for 2 hours. Students will choose 2.
1. **French Art of the 19th and 20th Centuries** (2 credits + 1 credit optional) ART 353
   Paintings from Neo-Classicism to the present, the major painters studied are Ingres, Delacroix, Courbet, and Corot. Follows the study of Naturalism, Impressionism, Symbolism, Fauvism, and Surrealism to the contemporary arts. An additional 1 credit can be earned participating in guided visits to museums and writing a final paper.

2. **History of Paris – Part 2** (2 credits) FRE 355
   A study of the great changes of Paris from the 19th century under Napoleon III with the “Haussmanization”, up to today’s 21st century construction of the new quarters “Paris Rive Gauche” (Bercy/ Bibliothèque François Mitterrand)

3. **Contemporary French Society - Part 2** (2 credits) FRE 399
   This course deals with the main problems that French society has been facing over the last 20 years: family, demography, religion, politics, privileges, taxes, education, food, health, etc.

4. **French History: 19th and 20th Centuries** (2 credits) HIS 328
   The consequences of the French Revolution; a study of the first and second empires and the Republics regarding social, economic, and demographic aspects in France. In the 20th and 21st centuries, a study of the two World Wars, the evolution of French politics in the new European context.

5. **French Literature and Ideas in the 19th AND 20th Centuries** (2 credits) FRE 372
   Topics covered are literary feelings and taste during Romanticism, Realism, Naturalism and Symbolism with a particular attention on Chateaubriand, Hugo, Stendhal, Balzac, Flaubert, Zola, Baudelaire etc. Novels (Proust, Camus, Sartre, Butor, Duras…) Plays (Nouveau Theatre) and Poems (Apollinaire, Valery) of the 20th century will be studied.

6. **French Regions - Part 2** (2 credits) FRE356
   The study of the cultural, economic and social problems relative to Frances geographical regions: Brittany, Alsace, the southwest etc… are examined and discussed in class. Included are aspects such as: natural resources or industrial development, agriculture or technical equipment, demographic data.

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**FALL SEMESTER – Beginner Level**

Each of the following conferences meets once a week for 2 hours. Students will choose 2.

1. **Art and Literature of the 17th and 18th Centuries** - Part 1 (2 credits) FRE 335
   The major artistic and literary works of the 17th and 18th centuries are examined.

2. **French Society in the 20th Century** (2 credits) FRE 337
   The course covers aspects related to society and living in France over the past century, including aspects of family, demography, religion, education, and more.

3. **Then Great Names of France** (2 credits) FRE 339
   This course will introduce students to some of the great personalities and historical figures of France, including artists, musicians, historical leaders, and other personalities.
SPRING SEMESTER – Beginner Level

Each of the following conferences meets once a week for 2 hours. Students will choose 2.

1. Art and Literature of the 17th and 18th Centuries - Part 2 (2 credits) FRE 336

The major artistic and literary works of the 19th and 20th centuries are examined.

2. French Society in the 20th Century (2 credits) FRE 338

The course covers aspects related to society and living in France over the past century, including aspects of family, demography, religion, education, and more.

3. Then Great Names of France (2 credits) FRE 340

This course will introduce students to some of the great personalities and historical figures of France, including artists, musicians, historical leaders, and other personalities.