Why Study French?

With over 220 million speakers in 29 countries and 5 continents, French speaking countries play a significant role in the world economy. Students emerge from our classes linguistically and culturally prepared for today’s increasingly fluid world.

At MIT, are you considering a MISTI internship in either Belgium, France, or Switzerland? French IV (21G.304) or equivalent proficiency is required for participation.
MINOR in French

Completed your concentration in French? Take your French skills to the next by pursuing a minor while satisfying most HASS elective and CI-H requirements

- 6 subjects total beginning with French III
- 5 out of the 6 subjects can be applied to the B-subject HASS requirement
- 1 of these 5 can apply to HASS Distribution (H, S, or A)
- 1-2 subjects taught in English pertaining to French/Francophone studies can be applied to minor (21G.028/328, .049, .052, .053, or .054)

MAJOR in French

Attain fluency and gain an in-depth understanding of Francophone cultures by completing a major in French.

- 11 subjects total beginning from French III, plus 2 CI-M subjects, and 8-9 upper-level subjects
- 72 units can overlap with the 96-unit HASS requirement (6 out 8 subjects)
- Flexible for double majors

Major/Minor Advisor:
Bruno Perreau, Associate Professor
bperreau@mit.edu, 14N-321, 5-384

FALL 2018 French Schedule

216.049 French Photography
Introduces students to the world of French photography from its invention in the 1820s to the present. Provides exposure to major photographers and images of the French tradition, and encourages students to explore the social and cultural roles and meanings of photographs. Designed to help students navigate their own photo-saturated worlds; provides opportunity to gain practical experience in photography. Taught in English. HASS-A, CI-H

216.301 French I
Introduction to the French language and culture with emphasis on the acquisition of vocabulary and grammatical concepts through active communication. Conducted entirely in French. Exposure to the language via a variety of authentic sources to help develop cultural awareness as well as linguistic proficiency. HASS-H

216.302 French II
Continuation of introductory course to the French language and culture with emphasis on acquisition of vocabulary and grammatical concepts through active communication. Conducted entirely in French. HASS-H

216.303 French III
Systematic work on grammar and vocabulary expands skills in understanding, speaking, reading and writing in French. Intercultural exploration through a variety of authentic materials. HASS-H

216.304 French IV
Focuses on language and intercultural understanding. Students work with a variety of materials such as surveys, newspapers, commercials, films and music. Systematic work on grammar and vocabulary expands students’ skills in understanding, speaking, reading and writing. HASS-H

216.310 French Conversation
Training in oral expression including communication skills, fluency, idiomatic French and pronunciation. Discussion materials include short literary and sociological texts, recent films, varied audio and digitized video interviews and the Internet. HASS-H

216.315 A Window onto French Contemporary Society
Intermediate subject designed to help students gradually build an in-depth understanding of France. Focuses on French attitudes and values regarding education, work, family, and institutions. Taught in French. HASS-H

216.325 New Culture of Gender: Queer France
Addresses the place of contemporary queer identities in French discourse. Discusses the new generation of queer authors and their principal concerns. Authors include Didier Eribon, Anne Garréta, Abdellah Talia, Monique Wittig, and Nina Boureanou. HASS-H

216.341 Contemporary French Film and Social Issues, HASS-H

216.346 Topics in Modern French Lit and Culture: Imagining Africa after Independence
Discusses the futures African social actors in French colonies imagined for themselves after the end of colonization. Centers on the writings and films of key Francophone African political figures, writers, and filmmakers in the years surrounding the independence of France’s West and Central African colonies in 1960. Taught in French. HASS-H

Looking ahead

IAP 2019
21G.301 French I, HASS-H
21G.302 French II, HASS-H
21G.303 French III, HASS-H
21G.304 French IV, HASS-H
21G.308 Writing Like the French, HASS-H
21G.311 Intro to French Culture, HASS-H
21G.346 North America through French Eyes, HASS-H
21G.026/326 Global A: Creative Cultures, HASS-H
21G.341 Contemporary French Film and Social Issues, HASS-H

STUDY and INTERN ABROAD

MISTI internship programs in Belgium, France and Switzerland

January Scholars in France
- 8 students selected to spend 2 weeks of tutored immersion in the culture of Paris

Course 17 Exchange at Sciences Po
- Open to all majors, not just PoliSci

Study Abroad Advisor:
Sabine Levet, Sr. Lecturer
slevet@mit.edu, 14N-423, 4-1473

Transfer Credit Advisor:
Maria Khotimsky
khotimsky@mit.edu, 14N-224, 5-5385

CONCENTRATION OPTIONS

A. French I or II through French IV
B. French III and two subjects beyond
C. French IV or above, plus two more subjects
- One subject allowed in English from 21G.028, .049, .052, .053, or .054

Concentration Proposal approval must be obtained by the first week of classes second term junior year.

Concentration Advisor:
Sabine Levet, Sr. Lecturer
slevet@mit.edu, 14N-423, 4-1473

Assessing your level:
Contact any member of the French group to assess your level and advise on course placement.