French
Modern Languages Department

Faculty
Nicole Kaplan, Maria Snyder

Departmental statement of philosophy
The department of modern languages believes that the ability to communicate (listen, speak, read and write) in another language is fundamental for attaining an understanding of the many cultures that make up the world. For significant intercultural understanding, students must also learn what members of other cultures consider worth talking about: their historical, artistic and literary heritage; their contemporary political, social and economic problems; and their basic customs and values.

Modern language course offerings are intended to build basic communication skills and insight into important topics in literature and culture. All on-campus courses include laboratory sessions with native-speakers or advanced speakers of the target language and are supported by co-curricular activities in the language, including the language house program and social activities. All courses aim to increase language proficiency and cultural awareness as well as to prepare students for an extended, off-campus immersion in a culture where the target language is spoken.

Teaching licensure
Students seeking teaching licensure must secure information from the department of modern languages and the department of education concerning departmental and state requirements. Requirements for students seeking teaching licensure are not necessarily identical to those of the general major/minor.

Foreign language credit by proficiency
For information on earning credit by proficiency in a foreign language, please see the “Credit by Proficiency” section of this catalog.

French major statement of philosophy
Classes are taught exclusively in French in order to maximize the opportunity for students to master the language. Distinct courses are offered in language, literature, civilization, translation and business. However, because a language and its culture are inextricably linked, the French department sees the study of language as encompassing much more than course work. The French program at Central College also involves the opportunity to live in the French House, to have frequent contact with native French assistants and to live and study in Paris. Taking full advantage of the program prepares students for a broad range of options after graduation, among which are education, graduate school, and the world of international business.

Study abroad opportunities
It is strongly recommended that majors and students planning to teach French spend at least one semester’s study in Paris in the IES Abroad Paris French Studies program. All courses offered in the IES Abroad Paris French Studies program at the 300-400 level apply toward the French major.

Major Communication Skills
All French majors will successfully complete significant written and oral work in one (or more) 300-400 level course.

French Major Requirements (29 credits at 300-level or above):
1. Complete all of the following:
   - FREN 323 Introduction to French/Francophone Literature (3)
   - A minimum of 3 credits in French or Francophone literature (FREN 343, 344, 345, 346 or class abroad)
   - A minimum of 3 credits in civilization or culture (FREN 333 or class abroad)
   - A minimum of 3 credits in another language (Spanish, German, Chinese, or approved language) at the appropriate level
   - FREN 489 Senior Capstone in French (2)
   - A minimum of 15 credits of electives (language, literature, culture, or classes taken in the language abroad) at the 300-level or above (321 and 322 apply)
   - 1 semester of study abroad in Paris (or department chair approval)

   At least 3 credits must be taken after studying in Paris

French Minor Requirements
1. A minimum of 3 credits of French or Francophone literature or culture (course to be approved by the French faculty)
2. A total of at least 6 credits at the 300-level or above.