

FRENCH DEPARTMENT
STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES
AND ASSESSMENT PLAN

Departmental Mission Statement:

In acknowledging the privileged role in the created world which language and culture play in achieving God's purposes and in recognizing the responsibilities of Christians to serve God and others in every aspect of life, the Department of French is committed to teaching language, literature, and culture; to providing appropriate service related to such teaching; and to engaging in scholarly exploration of the French language and francophone literatures and cultures.

I. French Major requirement

Objectives	Method of assessment	Criterion
<p>Listening Proficiency (skill): Students seeking a French major will develop listening proficiency so as to enable them to sustain understanding of main ideas and most details of connected discourse on a variety of topics, texts frequently involving description and narration in different time frames or aspects (such as present, past, future), including interview, short lectures, news items and reports dealing primarily with factual information.</p>	<p>a) Students will be assessed in French 215 Advanced Conversation, a required course for all majors and a prerequisite for advanced literature and culture courses. Normally through a portion of the final exam or an assignment, students will be assessed according to the goals described in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.</p> <p>b) During their junior or senior year, students will be required to pass a proficiency exam that includes a listening comprehension component.</p>	<p>a) In French 215, students will achieve an <u>intermediate-high</u> level of listening proficiency.</p> <p>b) By the conclusion of the French major, students will attain an <u>advanced level</u> of listening proficiency.</p>

<p>Oral Proficiency (skill): Students seeking a French major will develop oral proficiency so as to function consistently at the intermediate-high level (i.e. basic intermediate level functions) though at least half the time at the advanced level: i.e., can narrate and describe in past, present and future time/aspect, and handle a complicated situation or transaction.</p>	<p>a) Students will be initially assessed in French 215 Advanced Conversation, a required course for all majors and a prerequisite for advanced literature and culture courses. Through a portion of the final exam, students will be assessed according to the goals described in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.</p> <p>b) During their junior or senior year, students will be required to pass a proficiency exam that includes an oral interview.</p>	<p>a) In French 215, students will attain oral proficiency at the <u>intermediate-mid</u> level.</p> <p>b) By the conclusion of the French major program, students will attain oral proficiency at the <u>intermediate-high to advanced-low</u> level prior to graduation.</p> <p>It is expected that some students, especially those that travel and/or study abroad will attain oral proficiency in the <u>advanced-mid to high level</u>.</p>
<p>Reading Proficiency (skill): Students seeking a French major will develop reading proficiency enabling them to follow essential points of written discourse at the <u>advanced to advanced-plus</u> level in areas of special interest or knowledge; to comprehend parts of texts which are conceptually abstract and linguistically complex; and to be able to make inferences, with an emerging awareness of the aesthetic properties of language and its literary styles, though misunderstandings may occur.</p>	<p>a) Students will be first assessed in French 217 Introduction to French literature, a required course for all majors and a prerequisite for advanced literature and culture courses. Through an assignment, a mid-term or a portion of the final exam, students will be assessed according to the goals described in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.</p> <p>b) During their junior or senior year, students will be required to pass a proficiency exam, that includes a section testing reading comprehension.</p>	<p>a) In French 217, students will attain oral proficiency at the <u>intermediate-high</u> level.</p> <p>b) By the conclusion of the French major, students will be expected to attain <u>minimally the advanced</u> reading proficiency level. It is expected that some students will attain sustained <u>advanced-plus level</u> proficiency.</p>

<p>Writing Proficiency (skill): Students seeking a French major will develop the ability to perform the following tasks in writing: routine social correspondence, paragraph-length discourse (several paragraphs in length) , respond in writing to personal questions, simple letters, brief synopses and paraphrases, summaries, descriptions and narrations in paragraphs in three major tenses (i.e. , present, past, future). Over the course of their program, they will develop the ability to write with more significant precision and detail, social and informal business correspondence, descriptions and narrations, concrete aspects of topics of particular interest and special fields of competence, though under time constraints and pressure writing may be inaccurate.</p>	<p>a) Students will be initially assessed in French 216 Advanced Grammar and Composition, a required course for all majors and a prerequisite for advanced literature and culture courses. Through a portion of the final exam, students will be assessed according to the goals described in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.</p> <p>b) During their junior or senior year, students will be required to pass a proficiency exam that includes a composition.</p>	<p>a) In French 216, students will attain writing proficiency at the <u>intermediate-high</u> level.</p> <p>b) By the conclusion of the French major, students will be expected to demonstrate <u>advanced-low to mid</u> level writing proficiency. It is expected that some students will attain writing proficiency at the <u>advanced-high</u> level, due to study abroad or in immersion programs in North America.</p>
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<p>Cultural Proficiency (knowledge/value): Students seeking a French major will develop an advanced, maturing attitude toward and knowledge of a variety of francophone cultures and their various contributions to the created world, as they intersect with the Reformed and Christian worldview. This would include more advanced knowledge of the cultural intricacies of French life and language—gained through study of language and literature, as well as travel/ study abroad--including a good knowledge of French social structure (for example, the educational system, the media), basic political structure, basic economic activity and structure, as well as selected aspects of the history of intellectual thought.</p>	<p>a) Students will be assessed in the two courses that students are required to take from a group of five courses studying francophone culture: -French 219 Francophone Literature of Africa and the African Diaspora, -French 220 French Culture and Society Through the Media Arts, -French 221 French for the Professions, -French 280 Francophone Culture and Society in North America, and -French 230 Contemporary France. Assessment will take the form of either a take-home assignment such as a journal or a reflective essay written at the time of the final exam.</p> <p>b) During their junior or senior year, students will be required to pass a proficiency exam that includes a reflective essay.</p>	<p>a) In the courses, students will demonstrate familiarity with various aspects of francophone culture across the world.</p> <p>b) By the conclusion of the French major, students will be to demonstrate a mature understanding of the French Department’s mission (see initial statement). They will show particularly the ability to express an understanding of a foreign culture and empathy for the foreigner/stranger.</p>
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II. French Elementary/Secondary Education Major requirement

Objectives	Method of assessment	Criterion
<p>Listening Proficiency (skill): Students seeking a French major will develop listening proficiency so as to enable them to sustain understanding of main ideas and most details of connected discourse on a variety of topics, texts frequently involving description and narration in different time frames or aspects (such as present, past, future), including interview, short lectures, news items and reports dealing primarily with factual information.</p>	<p>a) Students will be initially assessed in French 215 Advanced Conversation, a required course for all majors and a prerequisite for advanced literature and culture courses. Normally through a portion of the final exam, students will be assessed according to the goals described in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.</p> <p>b) During their junior or senior year, students will be required to pass a proficiency exam that includes a listening comprehension component.</p>	<p>a) In French 215, students will achieve an <u>intermediate-high to advanced low</u> level of listening proficiency.</p> <p>b) By the conclusion of the program, students will attain an <u>advanced level</u> of listening proficiency.</p>
<p>Oral Proficiency (skill): Students seeking a French major will develop oral proficiency so as to function consistently at the intermediate-high level (i.e. basic intermediate level functions) though at least half the time at the advanced level: i.e., can narrate and describe in past, present and future time/aspect, and handle a complicated situation or transaction.</p> <p>Reading Proficiency (skill): Students seeking a French major will develop reading proficiency enabling them to follow essential points of written discourse at the <u>advanced to</u></p>	<p>a) Students will be initially assessed in French 215 Advanced Conversation, a required course for all majors and a prerequisite for advanced literature and culture courses. Through a portion of the final exam, students will be assessed according to the goals described in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.</p> <p>b) During their junior or senior year, student will be required to pass a proficiency exam that includes an oral interview.</p> <p>a) Students will be first assessed in French 217 Introduction to French literature, a required course for all majors and a prerequisite for advanced literature and culture</p>	<p>a) In French 215, students will attain oral proficiency at the <u>intermediate-mid</u> level.</p> <p>b) By the conclusion of the program, students will attain oral proficiency at the <u>intermediate-high to advanced-low</u> level prior to graduation.</p> <p>It is expected that some students, especially those that travel and/or study abroad will attain oral proficiency in the <u>advanced-mid to high level</u>.</p> <p>a) In French 217, students will attain oral proficiency at the <u>intermediate-high</u> level.</p> <p>b) By the conclusion of the French major, students will be</p>

<p><u>advanced plus</u> level in areas of special interest or knowledge; to comprehend parts of texts which are conceptually abstract and linguistically complex; and to be able to make inferences, with an emerging awareness of the aesthetic properties of language and its literary styles, though misunderstandings may occur.</p>	<p>courses. Through an assignment, mid-term or portion of the final exam, students will be assessed according to the goals described in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.</p> <p>b) During their junior or senior year, students will be required to pass a proficiency exam that includes a section testing reading comprehension.</p>	<p>expected to attain <u>minimally the advanced</u> reading proficiency level. It is expected that some students will attain proficiency at an <u>advanced plus</u> level.</p> <p>c) Students must take and pass the State of Michigan Tests for Certification: French Subject-Area Test.</p>
<p>Writing Proficiency (skill): Students seeking a French major will develop the ability to perform the following tasks in writing: routine social correspondence, paragraph-length discourse (several paragraphs in length) , respond in writing to personal questions, simple letters, brief synopses and paraphrases, summaries, descriptions and narrations in paragraphs in three major tenses (i.e. , present, past, future). Over the course of their program, they will develop the ability to write with more significant precision and detail, social and informal business correspondence, descriptions and narrations, concrete aspects of topics of particular interest and special fields of competence, though under time constraints and pressure writing may be inaccurate.</p>	<p>a) Students will be initially assessed in French 216 Advanced Grammar and Composition, a required course for all majors and a prerequisite for advanced literature and culture courses. Through a portion of the final exam, students will be assessed according to the goals described in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.</p> <p>b) During their junior or senior year, students will be required to pass a proficiency exam that includes two compositions.</p>	<p>a) In French 216, students will attain writing proficiency at the <u>intermediate-high</u> level.</p> <p>b) By the conclusion of the program, students will be expected to demonstrate <u>advanced-low to mid</u> level writing proficiency. It is expected that some students will attain writing proficiency at the <u>advanced-high</u> level, due to study abroad or in immersion programs in North America.</p> <p>c) Students must take and pass the State of Michigan Tests for Certification: French Subject-Area Test.</p>

<p>Cultural Proficiency (knowledge/value): Students seeking a French major will develop an advanced, maturing attitude toward and knowledge of a variety of francophone cultures and their various contributions to the created world, as they intersect with the Reformed and Christian world view. This would include more advanced knowledge of the cultural intricacies of French life and language—gained through study of language and literature, as well as travel/ study abroad--including a good knowledge of French social structure (for example, the educational system, the media) , basic political structure, basic economic activity and structure, as well as selected aspects of the history of intellectual thought.</p>	<p>a) Students will be assessed in the two courses that students are required to take from a group of five courses studying francophone culture: -French 219 Francophone Literature of Africa and the African Diaspora, -French 220 French Culture and Society Through the Media Arts, -French 221 French for the Professions, -French 280 Francophone Culture and Society in North America, and -French 230 Contemporary France. Assessment will take the form of either a take-home assignment such as a journal or a reflective essay written at the time of the final exam.</p> <p>b) During their junior or senior year, students will be required to pass a proficiency exam that includes a reflective essay.</p>	<p>a) In the courses, students will demonstrate familiarity with various aspects of francophone culture across the world.</p> <p>b) By the conclusion of the French major, students will be to demonstrate a mature understanding of the French Department’s mission (see initial statement). They will show particularly the ability to express an understanding of a foreign culture and empathy for the foreigner/stranger.</p> <p>c) Students must take and pass the State of Michigan Tests for Certification: French Subject-Area Test.</p>
<p>Pedagogical Proficiency (knowledge): Students seeking a French Education major will develop an advanced knowledge of foreign language teaching in the elementary/secondary school. Students will understand the link between a Christian approach to education and foreign language pedagogy as seen in the language learner’s personal growth. Students will also display a firm knowledge of the teaching of basic skills, issues in evaluation and assessment, and the use of technologies in the foreign language classroom.</p>	<p>According to their specialization (Elementary, Secondary, or K-12), students will be assessed in:</p> <p>-French 356 Foreign Language Education in the Elementary School, -French 357 Introduction to Foreign Language Pedagogy, -French 359 Seminar in Secondary Foreign Language Pedagogy. Assessment will take the form of either a take-home assignment such as a journal or an in-class, reflective essay written as part of the final exam.</p>	<p>a) Currently, no one in the French Department teaches French 356, 357, and 359 (courses that group together, under various titles, students studying languages and education.) Goals will of course reflect those set by the instructors of these courses.</p> <p>b) Students must take and pass the State of Michigan Tests for Certification: French Subject-Area Test.</p>