

**Graduate Program in French**  
**M.A. and Ph.D. Degree Requirements**  
**Ph.D. Revised: May 2012**  
**Graduate Council approval: Ph.D. and M.A. May 18, 2012**

**Ph.D. Degree Requirements**

**1) Admission requirements**

The Graduate Program in French has both Ph.D. and M.A. “tracks.” Students who do not aim to complete a Ph.D. in French at UC Davis may apply for admission to the M.A. track. Ph.D. students may earn the M.A. in the course of working toward the Ph.D. Students who aim to complete a Ph.D. in French and already hold the M.A. degree should apply directly to the Ph.D. track. (For information, see below, Ph.D. Degree Requirements.) Students in the M.A. track may petition to the Office of Graduate Studies to switch to the Ph.D. track during their second year of study.

(Students who petition successfully for transfer to the Ph.D. track will be required to satisfy all the requirements for the Ph.D. that are listed below under Ph.D. Degree Requirements, with the exception of requirements they have satisfied while in the M.A. track. Deadlines for such students will be the same as they would have been if the students had been admitted directly into the Ph.D. track.)

Admission to the M.A. track in French requires a B.A. in French or a related field from an accredited college or university. Students who already have an M.A. in French or a Ph.D. in French will not be admitted to the M.A. track in French. However, students who have an M.A. or Ph.D. in an area other than French are eligible for admission to the M.A. track. Applications for admission must include a completed Office of Graduate Studies application, transcripts from all universities attended, a personal statement, three letters of recommendation, a writing sample, and a sample of spoken French. Admission to the program is based upon the applicant's potential for scholarship, research, and teaching, along with evidence of a commitment to the advanced study of literature, linguistics, and/or culture. Meeting some or all of these criteria does not guarantee admission, but merely eligibility. The decision to recommend admission to the Dean of Graduate Studies will be made by the Program Admissions Committee on the basis of available space and the competitiveness of applicants compared to the eligible pool.

**2) Required Courses**

12 Graduate seminars, minimum, are required. These are to be selected in concert with the Graduate Adviser or the student's mentor. (“Mentor” refers to the faculty member chosen by the student to serve as an adviser until the major professor is chosen. The major professor will normally direct the dissertation. The mentor and the major professor may be the same person.)

Students are encouraged to take courses outside of the department, relevant to their course of study, chosen in consultation with their mentor or the Graduate Adviser. There is no specific limit to the number of courses that may be taken outside the department. However, students should be mindful of the necessity of acquiring significant breadth of knowledge in the field of French Studies.

### **3) Language Requirement**

Over and above the necessary advanced skills in French and English, doctoral candidates are required to show competence in at least one further significant literary language. The department believes that it is in the students' best interest to study formally an additional language for a number of reasons. The knowledge of another language develops research abilities beyond French and English, adds a comparative component to research in both linguistics and literature, and provides an opportunity to gain further insight into the language-learning process. In addition, the student should also consider that, to obtain a teaching position in today's competitive market, the ability to teach more than one language is a valuable asset. Finally, candidates should be aware that, depending on the subject chosen for the dissertation, further language skills (beyond French, English and a third language) may be needed as a research tool. For example, knowledge of Arabic or Vietnamese may be relevant for some research endeavors.

The language requirement may be satisfied in one of several ways:

- a) By passing reading examinations (with dictionary) in two of the following languages: Italian, Spanish, German, Russian, Arabic, Vietnamese, Latin, Ancient Greek or other approved language.
- b) By passing with at least a B+ the highest intermediate language course in one of the following languages: Italian (ITA 5), Spanish (SPA 22), German (GER 21), Russian (RUS 6), Latin (LAT 3), or Greek (GRK 3), or, with at least a B, any higher language course (except conversation courses) or a literature course in the original language. Courses in the elementary sequence need not be taken for a grade.
- c) By passing an examination (without dictionary) corresponding to the level of the last intermediate course in one of the following languages: Italian, Spanish, German, Russian, Arabic, Vietnamese, Latin, Greek, or other approved language with a grade of at least a B+.

### **4) Evaluation**

Upon the completion of every graduate seminar in the French department, faculty will provide a one-paragraph summary of the strengths and weaknesses of each student's performance in the seminar, in particular with reference to the research project completed. These summary paragraphs will be made available to the student and will become part of the student's permanent internal record.

The department strongly discourages Incompletes. For this reason, departmental policy requires that Incomplete grades incurred during any part of the academic year be removed by the following September 1, if the student wants to continue to serve as a Teaching Assistant in the department. At the end of the spring quarter, graduate students with Incompletes are required to inform the Graduate Adviser in writing about their plans to remove the Incomplete.

Once a year, at the end of the Spring Quarter, the Graduate Adviser will chair a meeting of the Faculty for an evaluation of each graduate student. The student's performance in courses, general intellectual ability and promise will be discussed by all concerned, with specific references to the summary paragraphs generated by the work in seminars. The consensus of opinion will be communicated in writing by the Graduate Adviser to the student as a "progress" report.

It must be stressed that this evaluation process is advisory and is intended to inform the graduate student early in his/her career (and periodically thereafter) of strengths and weaknesses and, optimally, of ways in which such weaknesses may be remedied. In addition, the evaluation will serve as a reminder of any remaining unfulfilled degree requirements. The student would also know how he/she stands in the collective opinion of the Faculty.

Any student who feels that his/her evaluation has been premature and/or unfair may request to be evaluated again at the beginning of the Fall Quarter.

### **5) Professional Development**

In order to prepare for the exigencies of a college teaching career, students are required to enroll in a teaching practicum, related to the specific course in which they are serving as a teaching assistant.

390A (2 units) and 390B (2 units): "Teaching of French in College," in conjunction with one year of teaching as Teaching Assistant.

### **6) Choosing a Mentor**

Students are asked to choose, however tentatively, an area of research specialization by the end of the first year in the program. Once this selection has been made, the student, in concert with the Graduate Adviser, chooses a faculty member to serve as mentor. The student and mentor work closely together in designing a program of studies leading to a broad preparation not only for the Qualifying Examination and the doctoral dissertation and eventual research, but also for a professional career in which one is often required to teach in many areas outside one's specialization.

### **7) Course of Study: Literature**

In addition to the common required courses herein, students in the literature track must take Critical Theory 200A Approaches to Critical Theory and at least one seminar in French linguistics.

In conjunction with the Graduate Adviser, and later with the mentor, students choose a course of study that will enable both a general knowledge of the history of French literature and specialization in one of the literary sub-fields. Thus, the course of study should balance the student's specific interests in a particular area with the attempt to gain a broad and comprehensive knowledge of the history of French literature.

The example below illustrates a possible plan of study. (Because course offerings and areas of interest vary, individual students' choices may differ). A worksheet, indicating all Ph.D. requirements, is provided at the end of the handbook, on which you may plan your course of study.

#### First Year

Fall Quarter            205A Sixteenth-Century Literature: The Humanists  
                                 208A Nineteenth-Century Literature: Fiction  
                                 390A Teaching Practicum

Winter Quarter        251 Trends in French Contemporary Linguistics  
                                 204 Topics in Medieval Literature  
                                 390B Teaching Practicum

Spring Quarter        207A Eighteenth-Century Literature: Philosophies  
                                 Critical Theory 200A Approaches to Critical Theory  
                                 SPA 002 (begin studying another language)

#### Second Year

Fall Quarter            211 Studies in Criticism  
                                 209A Twentieth-Century: Prose  
                                 SPA 003

Winter Quarter      210 Studies in Narrative Fiction  
Course outside the department in related field—possibly a DE requirement  
SPA 21

Spring Quarter      208B Nineteenth-Century Literature: Poetry  
206B Seventeenth-Century Literature: Prose  
SPAN 22 (for grade to satisfy language requirement)

#### Third Year

Some students may require additional seminars during a third year of course work. This may include courses for completion of DE requirements (see below), further specialization in a chosen sub-field and/or the filling in of gaps with respect to the history of French literature.

### 8) Course of Study in Language and Linguistics

Students who wish to specialize in French language and linguistics are offered a variety of basic and advanced courses in both the French and Linguistics Programs. In addition, if necessary, students may take classes in the Philosophy of Language and Formal Logic offered by the Department of Philosophy.

The program of study is comprised of 4 required courses and at least 8 courses that may be chosen according to the focus of the student's interest in pursuing research for the completion of her/his doctoral dissertation.

#### Required courses:

FRE 201: History of French language  
LIN 203A Modern Linguistic Theory: Structuralism  
LIN 203B Modern Linguistic Theory: Generative Grammar  
FRE 251. Topics in French Linguistics (in alternate years): French Morphosyntax; and/or Linguistics for Students of Literature

#### Choose at least four of the following courses:

LIN 220. Romance Linguistics  
LIN 205A-205B-205C-205D. Topics in Linguistic Theory and Methods; Pragmatics; Discourse Analysis; Teaching Methods  
LIN 131. Introduction to Syntactic Theory  
LIN 141. Semantics  
LIN 211. Advanced Phonological Theory and Analysis  
LIN 231. Advanced Syntactic Theory and Analysis

#### Choose at least 3 from the following courses:

LIN 212. Advanced Phonetics  
LIN 231. Advanced Syntactic Theory and Analysis  
LIN 241. Advanced Semantic Theory and Analysis  
LIN 163. Language, Gender, and Society  
LIN 165. Introduction to Applied Linguistics  
LIN 175. Biological Basis of Language  
FRE 151. Topics in French Linguistics

#### Choose at least one of the following courses:

FRE 204 Topics in French Medieval Literature  
FRE 205A Sixteenth-Century Literature: The Humanists  
FRE 206B Seventeenth-Century Literature: Prose  
FRE 207A Eighteenth-Century Literature: Philosophies  
FRE 208A Nineteenth-Century Literature: Fiction  
FRE 208B Nineteenth-Century Literature: Poetry  
FRE 209B Twentieth-Century Theatre  
FRE 224 Francophone Literature

## **9) First-Year Examination**

During the spring quarter of the first year of study, all students are required to take a preliminary exam focused on analytical abilities. This exam is designed to assess the student's strengths and weaknesses after one year of study in order to facilitate course selection and advising for the remainder of the course work for the Ph.D.

### **Literature**

Students in literature will be asked to choose one canonical literary text to prepare for the examination. Students should submit their choice of literary text to the Graduate Adviser by the second week of the winter quarter for approval by the graduate committee. In addition to the literary text, students will also read and prepare a selection of short theoretical texts on which they will be examined.

Two weeks prior to the planned examination, the student will suggest names of three faculty examiners, including one person designated as chair, to the Graduate Adviser in literature who will appoint three faculty members to serve as the examination committee. On the day of the examination, the student will receive a selection of questions, tailored to the texts prepared, and be given one hour to prepare notes. After this preparation period, the oral exam (one to two hours) will be held, in which the student will respond to the written questions. The exam will be conducted in both French and English.

The exam is graded on a pass/fail basis. If the student does not perform in a satisfactory manner, demonstrating an understanding of the literary text and applications of theoretical methods in literary analysis, the committee will require that the student repeat the exam in fall quarter of the following year. The First Year Examination may only be taken twice. Failure to pass the examination on a second try will result in termination of the program.

### **Linguistics**

Students in language and linguistics will be asked to choose a selection of short theoretical texts to prepare for the examination. Students should submit their choice of texts to the Graduate Adviser by the second week of the winter quarter for approval by the graduate committee.

Two weeks prior to the planned examination, the student will suggest names of three faculty examiners, including one person designated as chair, to the Graduate Advisor in linguistics, who will appoint three faculty members to serve as the examination committee. On the day of the examination, the student will receive a selection of questions or analytical problems, tailored to the texts prepared, and be given one hour to prepare notes. After this preparation period, the oral exam (one to two hours) will be held, in which the student will respond to the written questions. The exam will be conducted in both French and English.

The exam is graded on a pass/fail basis. If the student does not perform in a satisfactory manner, demonstrating an understanding of the application of theoretical methods in linguistic analysis, the committee will require that

the student repeat the exam in fall quarter of the following year. The First Year Examination may only be taken twice. Failure to pass the examination on a second try will result in termination of the program.

### **10) Designated Emphases**

The French Department is affiliated with six Designated Emphases. Completion of a DE greatly enhances both graduate studies in general and the candidate's marketability upon completion of the Ph.D. For these reasons, the department encourages students to pursue a DE in a field related to her/his area of interest. In many cases, some of the 12 units required of the DE may count toward the Ph.D. in French. For further information concerning specific program requirements, please consult the director or graduate staff assistant of the DE.

The six Designated Emphases are: African American and African Studies, Classics and Classical Receptions, Critical Theory, Feminist Theory and Research, Second Language Acquisition, and Studies in Performance and Practice.

### **11) Qualifying Examination**

Once a student has passed the First Year Examination and completed requisite course work, she/he is eligible to take the Qualifying Examination. The Qualifying Examination will be administered by a committee made up of five faculty members, with one member designated as Chair. The committee is to be appointed by the Office of Graduate Studies in accordance with Academic Senate regulations. At least one member of the committee shall normally be from outside the Department of French and Italian. It will also include the designated major professor, who may not act as chair; at least one faculty member from outside the Department of French and Italian; and, as required, a representative of the student's Designated Emphasis. The names of all five members will be selected by the major professor and the student and approved by the Graduate Adviser.

The Qualifying Examination is graded on a Pass/No Pass/Fail basis.

#### **Qualifying Examination in Literature**

The Qualifying Examination for the Ph.D. in literature has two distinct parts: a written examination and a prospectus for the dissertation. The written examination is structured around four distinct subject areas chosen and defined by the candidate in close consultation with her/his mentor. In each subject area, the candidate will construct a reading list, tailored to her/his specific research interests. Lists should contain approximately 10-15 primary texts and 10-15 secondary sources, knowledge of which should represent significant mastery of the specific field. The relation between these four areas and the field of prospective specialization should, however, not be conceived too narrowly or mechanically. While the student's selection should certainly not be arbitrary, the department encourages him/her to be creative and flexible, keeping in mind that, among the important goals of a graduate education in the humanities, an important one is the development of a broad historical perspective and the cultivation of well-informed critical impulses.

The purpose of the written examination portion of the Qualifying Examination is twofold: the examination provides sound grounding in the history of French literature and a means of making connections between texts and ideas, and it also provides an opportunity to gain an understanding of texts within an intellectual and critical history. We believe strongly that it is to the student's advantage to be innovative and flexible in selecting subject areas and texts for inclusion on reading lists, while bearing in mind the importance of both historical and generic coverage. The examination should provide an opportunity to reflect on course work, pursue new lines of inquiry and to prepare for the research involved with the dissertation. Ideally, the examination process will ground your post-doctoral research and teaching in the early years of your professional career. Thus, the process of studying for the qualifying exams should be as important as, if not more important than, the examination itself.

**Area One:** A Historical Period: All candidates in literature are required to choose one historical period as an area of specialization directly related to the proposed topic of the dissertation. Students are advised to choose an area that corresponds to the practices of the discipline in defining research areas, i.e., narrowly conceived historical periods or periods that cross the border between two traditional fields are discouraged for pragmatic reasons. In constructing a list of representative works from the historical period, candidates should be mindful of considerations of genre and breadth. Area One should provide the candidate with a solid grounding and competence in the social and cultural history of the proposed dissertation area. For example, a student who plans to write a dissertation on nineteenth-century literature would compile a list consisting of representative works from that period, including poetry, plays, and novels from the post-Revolutionary period through the end of the century.

**Area Two:** Genre with a Critical Focus: All candidates in literature should choose a genre, possibly related to their eventual dissertation topic, with special emphasis on a particular critical problem or focus. The focus may be conceived either formally, thematically or critically, but should serve as the organizing principle behind the genre list. The genre list is intended to be diachronic, but need not include all periods of French literature. Examples of a genre with a critical focus might include “the representation of violence in theatre,” or “self-representation in narrative” or “meter in poetry”

**Area Three:** Critical Theory: All candidates in literature are required to construct a critical theory reading list. While the list should include major works of literary theory, it may also reflect areas specific to the dissertation.

**Area Four:** Theme across 2-3 Historical Periods: Finally, candidates should choose a theme (not already encompassed by the critical focus in Area Two, nor too closely tied to the historical period in Area One) to be explored across 2 or 3 historical periods. For example, the theme of travel could be studied in the early modern period, roughly the sixteenth through eighteenth centuries. The historical periods in area four need not be continuous, for example, one could choose the sonnet form in the sixteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

N.B.: Students interested in combining interests in literature and linguistics, or one of the subject areas represented in the four DEs, should take advantage of the flexible structure of the Qualifying Examination areas in order to reflect those interests. Thus, a student might combine interests in pragmatics, for example, within the genre selection in Area Two or the theme in Area Four.

Candidates are required to provide a short written justification of the choices made in the four areas. That justification must be submitted to and approved by the members of the Qualifying Examination committee at least two months prior to the scheduled exam. The examination committee will review the justification to ensure broad historical coverage, as well as considerations of multiple genres and appropriate critical awareness. In some cases, students may be asked to redefine subject areas. All committee members will signal their approval of the examination reading lists by initialing a copy of the lists that will then be placed in the student's examination dossier.

### **Qualifying Examination in French Language and Linguistics**

The Qualifying Examination for the Ph.D. in linguistics has two distinct parts: a written examination and a prospectus for the dissertation. The written examination for the Ph.D. in French language and linguistics is structured around five distinct subject areas chosen and defined by the candidate in close consultation with her/his mentor. In each subject area, the candidate will construct a reading list, tailored to her/his specific research interests. Lists should be divided into two parts: (i) Basic readings, which will contain approximately 20-25 major books, representing the most important works on French language (history, morpho-syntax, semantics, discourse analysis) and linguistic theory and models developed within the American and European traditions; (ii) a Reference list including books or articles related to the field of research and the four areas chosen for the Ph.D. Qualifying Examination.

The area of research must include two domains: (i) History of French; (ii) French Morpho-syntax. The other three areas may be chosen, according to the student's research interests, from the following disciplines: semantics, phonology, pragmatics, discourse analysis, language acquisition, and linguistics and literary analysis.

The relation between these five areas and the field of prospective specialization should, however, not be conceived too narrowly or mechanically. While the student's selection should certainly not be arbitrary, the department encourages him/her to be creative and flexible, keeping in mind that among the important goals of a graduate education in the humanities, an important one is the development of a broad perspective on the contemporary models and theories and the cultivation of well-informed critical skills.

The purpose of the Qualifying Examination is to provide sound grounding in linguistic theories and methods and their evolution in the 20th century, especially as applied to French language. The examination is an opportunity to reflect on course work, pursue new lines of inquiry and to prepare for the research involved with the dissertation. Ideally, the process of studying for the qualifying exams should be as important as, if not more important than the examination itself.

### **Structure of the Qualifying Exam** (all students)

Prospectus: The candidate is required to draw up a prospectus of the planned dissertation, which should contain a brief justification of the project, a description of the critical context, a review of existing scholarship and a discussion of goals and methodology (20-30 pages, in most cases in literature; 10-15 pages, in most cases in language and linguistics). He or she must submit the prospectus to the five members of the committee for their approval in advance of the Qualifying Exam. Preparation of the prospectus usually entails close consultation with the major professor, as well as members of the committee, and may require numerous drafts and revisions. The final version of the dissertation prospectus must be turned in 14 days before the written examination begins.

The Qualifying Examination consists of two parts, one written and one oral. The written examination is taken on two separate days, in no case more than seven days apart. The oral examination will be scheduled no more than fourteen days following the second half of the written exam.

The oral examination, which will be conducted in French and English, will last a maximum of three hours. The exam will cover the four selected areas in literature or the five selected areas in linguistics and will serve as supplement to the written examination. In addition, the student will be asked to discuss the dissertation prospectus. Immediately after the examination, the committee members will briefly consult with each other and announce their assessment of the candidate's performance to him/her. The grading options for the Qualifying Examination are Pass, No Pass, and Fail.

The chair of the examination committee will provide a written summary of the comments and evaluations made by the examining committee shortly following the exam. Candidates are also encouraged to have follow-up conversations with all members of the examining committee.

N.B.: All "Incomplete" grades must be removed before the candidate may take the Qualifying Examination. (See Regulations of Graduate Studies concerning "I" grades.)

## **12) Optional M.A.**



Ph.D. students who have successfully completed the requirements to this point and passed the Qualifying Examination may file for the optional M.A. In this context, the qualifying exam serves as the capstone requirement.

### **13) Dissertation**

The Ph.D. dissertation must be an original and substantial contribution to French studies. Upon passing the Qualifying Examination, the previously designated major professor assumes responsibility for the candidate's further progress. The Dissertation Committee (approved by the Graduate Program Committee and submitted to Graduate Studies for approval in accordance with Academic Senate regulations) is composed of at least three faculty members. Students enrolled in one of the four Designated Emphases should consult with either the chair or the graduate staff assistant of the DE to ensure that they have fulfilled the requirements of the DE and are in compliance with Graduate Studies policies related to DE. During the preparation of the dissertation, the committee should meet regularly with the candidate to discuss progress and provide guidance. At the very least, the committee should be convened once every academic year.

A revised and amplified plan for the dissertation will be submitted to the Dissertation Committee for consideration and approval, and should include a description of the project and a critical bibliography. After a candidate's Committee has approved such a plan, any fundamental change must be declared in writing and approved by the entire committee. It is expected that the dissertation will be completed and filed within three (3) years after the candidate has successfully taken and passed his/her qualifying exam. Should the candidate fail to complete a dissertation within this time, he/she will be required to take and pass the qualifying exam a second time. Exceptions for severe hardship may be granted by special request to the Graduate Program Committee of the Department.

When the dissertation is completed, the three committee members sign on the title page to indicate their approval. After its approval, the candidate is required to deposit one copy of the dissertation with Graduate Studies and one copy with the Department of French and Italian.

N.B.: While the work on the dissertation is supervised by a committee of three professors, primary responsibility for close supervision and guidance of the project rests with the major professor. Individual chapters or parts of the dissertation should be submitted to the two or three readers only after they have been reviewed, corrected, and annotated by the major professor. The same holds true for the submission of the final version. Any deviation from this arrangement needs the approval of all three committee members.

### **14) Miscellaneous**

#### Ph.D. credit granted for Upper-Division courses outside the Department

With the approval of the Graduate Advisor, a Ph.D. student may be permitted to take Upper-Division courses outside the Department for credit towards the Ph.D., on the following conditions:

- a) The subject-matter shall be positively germane to the student's area of research;
- b) It shall be ascertained that no graduate course in the subject is available;
- c) The instructor of the course shall agree in advance to require graduate-level work from the student;
- d) The student shall be graded on a scale appropriate to graduate performance.

#### Ph.D. Students and "297/299" courses

Normally, no student may take a 297 or 299 in his/her first year of graduate study at UCD.

Prior to passing the Ph.D. Qualifying Examination, a candidate preparing for the Doctorate may take no more than ONE course (maximum of 4 units) in the 297 or 299 series in a given year, and 297 may be taken only in a topic which has not recently been offered in a formal seminar.

If a candidate has already proposed a Ph.D. Dissertation Topic to the Graduate Curriculum Committee, and if this topic has been approved, s/he may take one additional course in the 299 series on the recommendation of the faculty member who has agreed to direct her/his dissertation.

297 and 299 courses cannot be used for the satisfaction of the minimum requirement of twelve graduate seminars.

After a student has passed the Ph.D. Qualifying Examination, s/he may take an unlimited number of courses in the 299 series.

N.B.: It is a department policy NOT to give 297 or 299 courses in those fields in which regular Graduate Seminars have been held during the period of a student's program of study in the Department. The exception to this would relate to Graduate Seminars held during the first quarter of the student's residence as a Teaching Assistant.

## **Graduate Program in French Requirements for the M.A. Track**

### **1) Admission Requirements**

Admission to the M.A. track in French requires a B.A. in French or a related field from an accredited college or university. Students who already have an M.A. in French or a Ph.D. in French will not be admitted to the M.A. track in French. However, students who have an M.A. or Ph.D. in an area other than French are eligible for admission to the M.A. track. Applications for admission must include a completed Office of Graduate Studies application, transcripts from all universities attended, a personal statement, three letters of recommendation, a writing sample, and a sample of spoken French. Admission to the program is based upon the applicant's potential for scholarship, research, and teaching, along with evidence of a commitment to the advanced study of literature, linguistics, and/or culture. Meeting some or all of these criteria does not guarantee admission, but merely eligibility. The decision to recommend admission to the Dean of Graduate Studies will be made by the Program Admissions Committee on the basis of available space and the competitiveness of applicants compared to the eligible pool.

**2) Plan II.** This plan requires 40 units of graduate and upper division courses, of which at least 32 units must be graduate courses in the major field. Not more than 8 units of research (299 or equivalent) may be used to satisfy the 40-unit requirement. A comprehensive final examination in the major subject is required of each candidate. No thesis is required.

### **3) Required Courses: Core and Electives (4036 total units)**

#### Core Courses (total 12 units)

M.A. students are required to take at least one course in literature (204, 205A or B, 206 A, B or C, 207 A or B, 209 A, B, or C, 210, 212, 213, 214, 224), at least one course in linguistics (201, 250 A or B, 251) and at least one course in culture (202, 215). Some upper-division undergraduate courses may satisfy these requirements, in accordance with the approval process outlined above.

#### Elective Courses (total 28 units)

Twelve units of core coursework and 28 units of electives are required for a total of 40 units. Students are advised to take a judicious mix of courses in literature and linguistics. At least one course must focus on literature and/or culture prior to 1789. Full-time students must enroll for 12 units per quarter including research, academic and seminar units. Courses that fulfill any of the program course requirements may not be taken S/U unless the course is normally graded S/U. Once course requirements are completed, students can take additional classes as needed, although the 12 units per quarter are generally fulfilled with a research class (299) and perhaps seminars. Per UC regulations students cannot enroll in more than 12 units of graduate level courses (200) or more than 16 units of combined undergraduate and graduate level (100, 200, 300) courses per quarter.

### **4) Language Requirement**

Over and above the necessary advanced skills in French and English, MA students are required to show competence in at least one further significant literary language. The department believes that it is in the students' best interest to study formally an additional language for a number of reasons. The knowledge of another language develops research abilities beyond French and English, adds a comparative component to

research in both linguistics and literature, and provides an opportunity to gain further insight into the language-learning process. In addition, the student should also consider that to obtain a teaching position in today's competitive market, the ability to teach more than one language is a valuable asset. Finally, candidates should be aware that, depending on the subject chosen for the dissertation, further language skills (beyond French, English and a third language) may be needed as a research tool. For example, knowledge of Arabic or Vietnamese may be relevant for some research endeavors.

The language requirement may be satisfied in one of several ways:

- a) By passing reading examinations (with dictionary) in two of the following languages: Italian, Spanish, German, Russian, Arabic, Vietnamese, Latin, Ancient Greek or other approved language.
- b) By passing with at least a B+ the highest intermediate language course in one of the following languages: Italian (ITA 5), Spanish (SPA 22), German (GER 21), Russian (RUS 6), Latin (LAT 3), or Greek (GRK 3), or, with at least a B, any higher language course (except conversation courses) or a literature course in the original language. Courses in the elementary sequence need not be taken for a grade.
- c) By passing an examination (without dictionary) corresponding to the level of the last intermediate course in one of the following languages: Italian, Spanish, German, Russian, Arabic, Vietnamese, Latin, Greek, or other approved language with a grade of at least a B+.

## **5) Evaluation**

Upon the completion of every graduate seminar in the French department, faculty will provide a one-paragraph summary of the strengths and weaknesses of each student's performance in the seminar, in particular with reference to the research project completed. These summary paragraphs will be made available to the student and will become part of the student's permanent internal record.

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Once a year, at the beginning of the Winter Quarter, the Graduate Advisor will chair a meeting of the Faculty for an evaluation of each graduate student. The student's performance in courses, general intellectual ability and promise will be discussed by all concerned, with specific references to the summary paragraphs generated by the work in seminars. The consensus of opinion will be communicated in writing by the Graduate Advisor to the student as a "progress" report.

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Any student who feels that his/her evaluation has been premature and/or unfair may request to be evaluated again at the beginning of the Spring Quarter.

## **6) Professional Development**

In order to prepare for the exigencies of a college-teaching career, students are required to enroll in a teaching practicum, related to the specific course in which they are serving as a teaching assistant.

390A (2 units) and 390B (2 units): “Teaching of French in College,” in conjunction with one year of teaching as Teaching Assistant.

## **7) Advising Structure and Mentoring**

The Graduate Adviser, who is appointed by Graduate Studies, is a resource for information on academic requirements, policies and procedures, and registration information until the Comprehensive Examination Committee is formed. The Graduate Program Staff and Graduate Advisor assist students with identifying appropriate faculty to serve on the examination committee, and general university policies.

The Mentoring Guidelines can be found in the graduate student handbook and on the web at:

[http://frenchanditalian.ucdavis.edu/french/GraduateProgram/FRE\\_Handbook\\_2011.pdf](http://frenchanditalian.ucdavis.edu/french/GraduateProgram/FRE_Handbook_2011.pdf).

The mentoring guidelines may also be found separately on the web at:

<http://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/gradcouncil/mentoring.pdf>.

## **8) Special Requirements**

N/A

## **9) Committees**

### a) Admissions Committee:

Once the completed application, all supporting material, and the application fee have been received, the application will be submitted to the Admissions Committee. The Admissions Committee consists of four graduate faculty. Based on a review of the entire application, a recommendation is made to accept or decline an applicant’s request for admission. That recommendation is forwarded to the Dean of Graduate Studies for final approval of admission. Notification of admissions decisions will be sent by Graduate Studies. Applications are accepted throughout the year.

### b) Course Guidance:

The Graduate Adviser develops the plan of study in consultation with the student.

### c) Comprehensive Examination Committee:

The student, in consultation with the Graduate Adviser, will nominate three faculty members to serve on the Comprehensive Examination Committee. Committee membership will be approved by the Graduate Committee.

## **10) Advancement to Candidacy**

Every student must file an official application for Candidacy for the Degree of Master of French after completing one-half of their course requirements and at least one quarter before completing all degree requirements; this is typically the fourth quarter. The Candidacy for the Degree of Master form can be found online at: <http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/forms/>. A completed form includes a list of courses the student will take to complete degree requirements. If changes must be made to the student’s course plan after he/she has advanced to candidacy, the Graduate Adviser must recommend these changes to Graduate Studies. Students must have their Graduate Adviser and committee Chair sign the candidacy form before it can be submitted to Graduate Studies. If the candidacy is approved, the Office of Graduate Studies will send a copy to the appropriate graduate staff person and the student. If the Office of Graduate Studies determines that a student is not eligible for advancement, the department and the student will be told the reasons for the application’s deferral. Some reasons for deferring an application include: grade point average below 3.0, outstanding “I” grades in required courses, or insufficient units.

## 11) Comprehensive Examination Requirement

### Comprehensive Examination (Plan II):

Students may take the comprehensive examination once they have advanced to candidacy. Most students will take the comprehensive examination in the sixth quarter of study.

The comprehensive examination requirement includes both a written and oral exam administered by the examination committee. The scope of the oral exam is the candidate's coursework as well as the answers from the written portion of the exam.

Students will be required to answer short questions related to the identification of texts and/or concepts and develop a sustained commentary on a specific text. All written and oral work for the examination will be in French.

The Comprehensive Exam will be graded on a Pass/No Pass/Fail basis. The Exam committee's unanimous vote is required to pass a student on the exam. If a student does not pass the exam, the committee may recommend that the student be reexamined one more time, but only if the Graduate Adviser concurs with the committee. The second exam must take place within one quarter of the first exam. The format of the second exam is the same as that of the first exam. The examination may not be repeated more than once. A student who does not pass on the second attempt is subject to disqualification from further graduate work in the program.

Once passed, the Master's Report Form is signed by the Graduate Adviser and then forwarded to the Office of Graduate Studies. The deadlines for completing this requirement are listed each quarter in the campus General Catalog (available online at the website of the Office of the Registrar or from the Bookstore). A candidate must be a registered student or in Filing Fee status at the time the program submits the form, with the exception of the summer period between the end of the Spring Quarter and the beginning of Fall Quarter. The program must file the report with Graduate Studies within one week of the end of the quarter in which the student's degree will be conferred.

## 12) Normative Time to Degree

Normative Time to Advancement to Candidacy is three quarters; normative time to complete the degree is six quarters.

## 13) Typical Time Line and Sequence of Events:

Year One	Fall	Winter	Spring
	200-level FRE literature 200-level FRE culture	291 Language Pedagogy 200-level FRE literature	200 level FRE linguistics 200 level FRE literature
Year Two	Fall (Advancement to MA candidacy)	Winter	Spring (Preliminary/Comprehensive Exam completed)
	200 level FRE literature 200 level CRI elective	200 level FRE literature 200 level FRE linguistics	299 FRE research

#### **14) Sources of Funding**

Most students will receive a teaching assistantship and be engaged in teaching the elementary sequence of French language courses: FRE 1, 2, 3

#### **15) PELP, In Absentia, and Filing Fee Status**

Information about PELP (Planned Educational Leave), In Absentia (reduced fees when researching out of state), and Filing Fee status can be found in the Graduate Student Guide:  
<http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/publications/>