French

Degree conferred
Master of Arts in Languages and Literatures: French

Languages of study
Study in French

Commencement of studies
Commencement of studies in the Autumn Semester (September) or in the Spring Semester (February)

Access to further studies
This master programme qualifies students also for the doctoral programme Language Sciences

The master's degree in French covers French linguistics and literature from the mediaeval period to the present day. It focuses first on the forms of the imaginary, manuscript culture, theatre and dramaturgy, as well as cultural mediation, and second on the syntactic, semantic and pragmatic levels of linguistic analysis of spoken and written French.

The study programme is designed to allow students to freely combine the modules they wish to pursue to deepen their knowledge.

Profile of the study programme

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The study programme French is worth 90 ECTS credits and is designed to allow students to freely combine the modules they wish to pursue to deepen their knowledge (they choose four modules out of the ten listed below). It offers them the possibility of choosing either a relative specialisation in any of the four disciplines covered by the course (linguistics, literature, the mediaeval period, theatre), or a more general course of study consisting of a combination of these four disciplines.

- Module 1: Linguistic system, usage and variations
- Module 2: Meaning and interpretation
- Module 3: Manuscripts
- Module 4: Dramaturgy
- Module 5: Theatrical experience
- Module 6: Self-narratives
- Module 7: Literature in context
- Module 8: Otherness in literature
- Module 9: Cultural mediation and discourse analysis
- Module 10: Literature laboratory

Fribourg profile

Teaching in the context of the master’s degree in French encourages students to develop their analytical and communication skills and cultivate innovative and independent ways of thinking with the aim of acquiring autonomy in their research. Thanks to its scientific network and partnerships with other institutions in the cultural life of Fribourg, the Department of French organises numerous cultural and scientific events in which students are invited to actively participate, including meetings with writers, international conferences, publishing workshops and exhibitions. Master’s students can also take advantage of the numerous partnerships with other universities (for Erasmus exchanges, for example), or try their hand at journalism or theatre.

Learning outcomes and career openings

The master’s degree in French allows students to deepen the knowledge and skills they acquired during their bachelor's degree in French language and literature in their complete geographical and historical context (worldwide, 11th to 21st century). In particular, the degree helps students to develop the following skills:

- Ability to analyse written and oral texts in French by submitting them to procedures based on various paradigms (historical, theoretical, aesthetic, ideological, material, etc.) and to develop research methods suited to the singularity of each text as an object;
- Ability to produce written and oral analyses or syntheses of the phenomena constituting French language and literature;
- Ability to propose original ways of presenting and promoting the components of French language and literature in the form of written or oral presentations, or cultural events (shows, exhibitions, websites, podcasts, etc.).

On a general level, students acquire or develop not only analytical and synthetical skills, critical judgement and the ability to interpret complex human phenomena, but also expertise relating to documentary resources and cultural mediation, as well as essay writing, oral expression and linguistic creativity.

Students who have successfully completed a master’s degree in French will have acquired full maturity as researchers and critics. They will then be able to opt for the teacher education for academic upper secondary schools (DEEM) or a doctorate. However, many other careers are also open to them as publishers, booksellers, journalists, press officers, librarians and library curators, archivists, museum curators, event organisers, translators, interpreters, diplomats, advertising directors, communication planners, public relations specialists, etc.

Studies organisation

Structure of studies

90 ECTS credits + 30 ECTS credits as an option in a minor study programme freely chosen, 3 to 4 semesters
Curriculum

http://studies.unifr.ch/go/a3eVa (French)

Comments

The master programme in French may also be followed by students for whom French is not their mother tongue, provided they have sufficient command of spoken and written French.

The master programme French: Foundational Curriculum is offered as a minor study programme (30 ECTS credits).

Admission

Master’s degree programmes are built on the knowledge and abilities that were acquired when obtaining a bachelor’s degree.

Holders of a bachelor’s degree awarded by a Swiss university are admitted to a master’s degree programme without any preconditions if they have earned 60 or 90 ECTS credits – depending on the chosen master’s degree programme – within the corresponding discipline. However, additional requirements can be required. The same applies to holders of a bachelor’s degree awarded by a foreign university, provided that the bachelor’s degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg.

Holders of a bachelor’s degree awarded by a Swiss or a foreign university, provided that the bachelor’s degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg, who do not fulfil this condition can be admitted to a master’s degree programme with preconditions (which must be successfully completed before starting the master’s degree programme) and/or additional requirements (which can be completed during the master’s degree programme). The preconditions and/or additional requirements may not exceed 60 ECTS credits in total. The same applies to holders of a bachelor’s degree awarded by a Swiss university of applied sciences, according to existing agreements.

The respective conditions of admission for each master’s degree programme are reserved.

Contact

Faculty of Humanities
Department of French
Dr Sophie Jaussi
sophie.jaussi@unifr.ch
Dr Nina Mueggler
nina.mueggler@unifr.ch
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/fr-french