

French

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- *Is our image of romantic Paris and France a real, up-to-date one?*
- *What are the issues in a secular society proclaiming 'Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité'?*
- *What do you know about 'Francophonie' (the French-speaking world)?*
- *Do you enjoy really getting to grips with language, grammar and syntax?*

If you are interested in language and want to join the minority in England who can communicate in a foreign language, this is the course which will open doors to both university and to better employment prospects.

Qualifications and Qualities Needed

An interest in French language and culture, a love of language generally and good literacy skills. The ability to work independently to learn the grammar and vocabulary necessary to be successful. An interest in current affairs as you will need to give and defend your opinion on a number of issues. Students should have achieved a minimum of a grade 6 in GCSE French.

Course Structure

Exam board: AQA (www.aqa.org.uk)

Core content

Social issues and trends, Political and artistic culture, Grammar.

Assessment

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing

Exam: 2 hours 30 minutes. 100 marks in total, worth 50% of the A-level

Listening, reading, translation and summary skills

Paper 2: Written exam

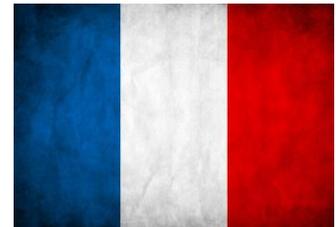
Exam: 2 hours. 80 marks, worth 20% of the A-Level

Two essays on one text and one film or two texts

Paper 3: Oral exam

20 minutes (including 5 minutes' preparation time). 60 marks in total, worth 30% of the A-level.

Card, presentation and discussion of Independent Research Project



Complementary Subjects and Future Pathways

Alongside an increased knowledge of another language, studying French develops important, transferable skills as well as knowledge and understanding of current affairs. It is highly regarded by universities as an indicator of linguistic skills, thinking skills, and attention to detail. It is studied alongside many other subjects as well as on its own – for example with another language, sometimes from scratch, linguistics, business, economics, history, English, and can be the decider for other university departments when choosing between equally well-qualified candidates.

Improving language and independent study skills

Students have access to a range of online resources linked to the textbook for independent study and are guided in how to extend their knowledge of French and French-speaking culture independently. Our French assistant works with students in small groups to develop spoken language skills. In addition, students have the opportunity to spend time in France through our exchange programme.

