The Bi-College (Bi-Co) French and Francophone Studies program at Haverford and Bryn Mawr is recognized as one of the top undergraduate French programs in the country. It offers a variety of courses and two options for the major. The major in French lays the foundation for an understanding and appreciation of French language and of French and Francophone cultures through their literatures and the history of their arts, thought, and institutions.

Course offerings serve those with particular interest in French and Francophone literature, literary theory, and criticism, as well as those with particular interest in studying France and French-speaking countries from an interdisciplinary perspective. A thorough knowledge of French is a common goal for both options, and texts and discussion in French are central to the program. The faculty teaches all courses in the program exclusively in French. Our courses adopt a variety of approaches, including literary studies, film and media studies, social history of ideas, and the study of politics and popular culture.

Our program is known for its rigor. Unlike at universities and Ivy League institutions, faculty rather than graduate students teach our undergraduates in French. Study abroad in France or in another Francophone country is an integral part of our students’ training. Virtually all majors spend one semester or a full year abroad (see below).

Often our graduates have chosen to double major, in political science, economics, anthropology, comparative literature, or in the natural sciences (chemistry, physics, and mathematics, most recently); some opt to minor or concentrate in a related field, such as art history or international economic relations.

**LEARNING GOALS**

The purpose of the academic program in French and Francophone Studies is foremost to lay the foundation for an understanding and appreciation of French and Francophone cultures as well as enable students to achieve an advanced level of linguistic and cultural fluency in French. These goals are achieved through a rigorous training in French language and a comprehensive study of French and Francophone literatures and cultures in courses where students sharpen their analytical skills, hone their ability to critique primary texts and engage scholarship pertinent to the field of French and Francophone Studies.

**CURRICULUM**

Majors and minors choose between:

- a literature concentration, with courses in periods, genres, thematic clusters, and individual authors, ranging from the Middle Ages to the most recent 21st-century texts; and
- an interdisciplinary concentration, with courses that cover the history of French civilization and particular problems of French and Francophone cultures, such as environmental issues and questions of identity.

Unless they have not previously studied French, all entering students (first-year and transfers) who wish to pursue their study of French must take a placement examination upon entrance to Haverford and Bryn Mawr. Those students who begin French have two options. They may study the language:

- In the intensive sections (the sequence FREN 001–002 of Intensive Elementary French, only at Bryn Mawr); or
- In the non-intensive sections (the sequence FREN 001–002 of Non-Intensive Elementary French, on both campuses).

At the intermediate level students also have the choice to study the language non-intensively (the sequence FREN 003–004), or intensively (FREN 005):

- FREN 003–004 (Non-Intensive Intermediate French) is a year-long course, requiring both semesters for credit. It is open to students who have taken FREN 001–002 or been placed by departmental examination.
- FREN 005 (Intensive Intermediate French):
  - Is open only to students who have been specially placed by the departmental placement exam or to students who have taken the year-long Intensive Elementary course (at Bryn Mawr only).
  - Requires its graduates to take FREN 102 (Introduction à l’analyse littéraire et
FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE STUDIES

culturelle II), or FREN 105 (Directions de la France contemporaine) in semester II for credit.

- FREN 003 and FREN 005 are only offered in the fall semester.

Although it is possible to major in French using either of the two sequences, we encourage students placed at the 001 level who are considering doing so to take the intensive option.

The 100-level courses introduce students to the study of French and Francophone literatures and cultures, and give special attention to the speaking and writing of French.

Courses at the 200 level treat French and Francophone literatures and civilizations from the beginning to the present day. Two 200-level courses are devoted to advanced language training, and one to the study of theory (FREN 213). Students who pursue French to the 200 level often find it useful to take as their first 200-level course, either FREN 212 (Grammaire avancée) or FREN 260 (Atelier d’écriture). You may not take both 212 and 260.

Advanced (300-level) courses offer detailed study either of individual authors, genres, and movements or of particular periods, themes, and problems in French and Francophone cultures. For both options, the departments admit students to advanced courses after satisfactory completion of two semesters of 200-level courses in French.

The Department of French and Francophone Studies also cooperates with the departments of Italian (only at Bryn Mawr) and Spanish in the Romance Languages Major at Bryn Mawr.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Majors may choose a concentration in French and Francophone literature or interdisciplinary studies in French. Majors must acquire fluency in the French language, both written and oral. All majors must take FREN 212 or 260, or their equivalent, unless specifically exempted by the department.

French and Francophone Literature

- FREN 005–102 or 005–105; or FREN 101–102 or 101–105.
- FREN 212 or 260 (you may not take both).
- FREN 213 (Approches théoriques/Theory in Practice).

- Three semesters of 200-level literature courses.
- Two semesters of 300-level literature courses.
- The two-semester Senior Experience, comprised of:
  - Senior Conference in the fall semester.
  - In the spring semester, either a senior essay, written in the context of a third 300-level course, or a senior thesis. Both the senior thesis and essay include a final oral defense. (For details, see The Senior Project section.)

Interdisciplinary Studies in French

- FREN 005–102 or FREN 005–105; or FREN 101–102 or FREN 101–105.
- FREN 212 or 260 (you may not take both).
- Two 200-level courses within the French departments: e.g., FREN 255, 291, or 299.
- Two 200-level courses chosen by the student outside the French departments (at Haverford/Bryn Mawr or Junior Year Abroad) that contribute coherently to his/her independent program of study.
- FREN 325 or 326 (Études avancées de civilisation).
- Two 300-level courses outside the French departments.
- A thesis of one semester in French or English. (For details, see The Senior Project section.) Students interested in this option must present the rationale and the projected content of their program for departmental approval during their sophomore year; they should have strong records in French and the other subjects involved in their proposed program.

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

- FREN 005–102 or 005–105; or FREN 101–102 or 101–105.
- FREN 212 or 260 (you may not take both).
- Four courses at the 200 and 300 levels. At least one course must be at the 300 level.

SENIOR PROJECT

The Department of French and Francophone Studies offers two tracks in the major: the French and Francophone Literature track and the Interdisciplinary Studies in French track.

Literature Track:
In the fall semester of the senior year, students majoring in the literature track take FREN 398 (Senior Conference). Senior Conference usually focuses on three texts, one theoretical and two
primary texts. Particular attention is paid to research techniques, the assembling of a bibliography, and the types of resources and critical perspectives that constitute and legitimate an advanced research project.

After taking Senior Conference students have two options for the spring semester: they may write a thesis (30-40 pages) under the direction of a faculty member, or they may write an essay (15-20 pages) in the context of a 300-level course. The first option allows students who have already developed a clearly defined subject in the fall semester to pursue independent research and the writing of a thesis with a faculty supervisor.

The second option offers students the opportunity to produce a substantial, but shorter, piece of research within the structure of their 300-level course in the spring semester. Those writing a senior essay do all the readings assigned in the course plus additional readings (identified during research and specifically attached to the individual project). They do not complete the regular written assignments for the course. Instead, the final 15-20 page paper constitutes the writing portion of the grade for the course, as well as the senior project. In order to move research along, students are expected to have done all the assigned reading for the course by spring break.

Interdisciplinary Track:
Students working in the interdisciplinary track are exempt from taking the Senior Conference but may find it useful to do so to help with the writing process of the mandatory spring semester thesis. In this track the student generally combines a discipline from outside of French with an issue relevant to the French or Francophone world. The thesis, which can be written in English or French, is followed by an oral exam.

The thesis advisers are from a) French and b) from the other discipline chosen. Ideally, the student chooses her subject in the second semester of junior year, identifies her advisers and start discussing her project with them. Discussion continues in the fall of senior year with the expectation that the student submit a thesis proposal by the end of the term. Students in this track follow a similar timeline as the ones in the literature track.

Senior Project Learning Goals
At the end of their career at Haverford, we expect our students to have achieved an extensive appreciation of French and Francophone literatures and cultures as well as an advanced level of linguistic and cultural fluency in French. We also require that they demonstrate the capacity to analyze a text and critically engage it in a sustained fashion, formulate an argument and present it intelligibly in both oral and written form. Whether writing a thesis or a senior paper they must show that they can conduct research efficiently.

Senior Project Assessment
Both Senior Thesis and Senior Essay include a final oral defense lasting thirty minutes. At this time, the student is expected to speak with authority about the research, the writing process, and some of the intellectual ramifications of the work accomplished.

Students receive a single grade for the Senior Project. The grade for both options is calculated according to the following formula: FREN 398 [Senior Conference] (40%)+spring 300-level course or spring thesis +oral defense (60%). Assessment of students’ work in 398 (fall semester) is the sole responsibility of the instructor whereas students’ spring work (thesis or essay) is assessed by the first and second readers.

REQUIREMENTS FOR HONORS
Students with a GPA of 3.7 or above are usually recommended for departmental honors.

RELATED PROGRAMS
French Teacher Certification
The Department of French and Francophone Studies offers a certification program in secondary teacher education. For more information, see the description of the Education Program.

French A.B./M.A. Program
Particularly well-qualified students may undertake work toward the joint A.B./M.A. degree in French. Students may complete such a program in four or five years and undertake it with the approval of the department and of the dean of Bryn Mawr’s Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

STUDY ABROAD
Students minoring or majoring in French may, by a joint recommendation of the deans of the colleges and the department of French, be allowed to spend
one or two semesters of their junior year in France or in another Francophone country under one of the junior year programs approved by the College.

Most French majors either study abroad or apply to spend their sophomore or junior summer at the Institut d'Etudes Françaises d'Avignon, held under the auspices of Bryn Mawr. The Institute is designed for selected undergraduate and graduate students who anticipate professional careers requiring knowledge of the language and civilization of France and French-speaking countries. The curriculum includes general and advanced courses in French language, literature, social sciences, history, art, and economics (including the possibility of internships in Avignon). The program is open to students of high academic achievement who have completed a course in French at the third-year level or the equivalent.

**FACULTY**

At Haverford:

*Koffi Anyinefa (on leave Fall 2016)*
Professor

*Kathryne Corbin (on leave 2016-17)*
Lecturer

*David Sedley*
Associate Professor and Chair

*Monique Laird*
Visiting Lecturer

*Christophe Corbin*
Visiting Assistant Professor

*Corine Ragueneau Wells*
Visiting Lecturer

At Bryn Mawr:

*Grace M. Armstrong*
Eunice Morgan Schenck 1907 Professor; Professor and major adviser

*Brigitte Mahuzier*
Chair and Professor

*Rudy Le Mentheour*
Associate Professor and Director of the Avignon Institute

**Agnès Peysson-Zeiss**
Lecturer

**Julien Suaudeau**
Lecturer

**Marie Sanquer**
Visiting Lecturer

**COURSES**

**FRENH001 ELEMENTARY FRENCH**

*Staff*

The speaking and understanding of French are emphasized particularly during the first semester. The work includes regular use of the Language Learning Center and is supplemented by intensive oral practice sessions. The course meets in intensive (nine hours each week) and non-intensive (five hours each week) sections. This is a year-long course; both semesters (001 and 002) are required for credit. Humanities (HU)

**FRENH002 ELEMENTARY FRENCH NON INTENSIVE**

*Corine Ragueneau Wells*

The speaking and understanding of French are emphasized particularly during the first semester. The work includes regular use of the Language Learning Center and is supplemented by intensive oral practice sessions. The course meets in intensive (nine hours each week) and non-intensive (five hours each week) sections. This is a year-long course; both semesters (001 and 002) are required for credit. Humanities (HU)

**FRENH003 INTERMEDIATE FRENCH NON INTENSIVE**

*Staff*

The emphasis on speaking and understanding French is continued, texts from French literature and cultural media are read, and short papers are written in French. Students use the Language Learning Center regularly and attend supplementary oral practice sessions. The course meets in non-intensive (three hours each week) sections that are supplemented by an extra hour per week with an assistant. This is a year-long course; both semesters (003 and 004) are required for credit. Humanities (HU)

**FRENH004 INTERMEDIATE FRENCH**

*Staff*

The emphasis on speaking and understanding
French and Francophone Studies

French is continued, texts from French literature and cultural media are read, and short papers are written in French. Students use the Language Learning Center regularly and attend supplementary oral practice sessions. The course meets in non-intensive (three hours each week) sections that are supplemented by an extra hour per week with an assistant. This is a year-long course; both semesters (003 and 004) are required for credit. Humanities (HU)

**FRENH005 INTENSIVE INTERMEDIATE FRENCH**

*Koffi Anyénefa*

The emphasis on speaking and understanding French is continued, literary and cultural texts are read, and increasingly longer papers are written in French. In addition to the three class meetings each week, students develop their skills in an additional group session with the professors and in oral practice hours with assistants. Students use the Language Learning Center regularly. This course prepares students to take 102 or 105 in the second semester. Open only to graduates of Intensive Elementary French or to students specially placed by the department. Students who are not graduates of Intensive Elementary must take either 102 or 105 in Semester II to receive credit. Humanities (HU)

**FRENH101 INTRODUCTION A L'ANALYSE LITTERAIRE ET CULTURELLE I**

*Staff*

Presentation of essential problems in literary and cultural analysis by close reading of works selected from various periods and genres and by analysis of voice and image in French writing and film. Participation in discussion and practice in written and oral expression are emphasized, as are grammar review and laboratory exercises. Open only to graduates of Intermediate French or to students specially placed by the department. Humanities (HU)

**FRENH102 INTRODUCTION A L'ANALYSE LITTERAIRE ET CULTURELLE II**

*David Sedley*

Continued development of students' expertise in literary and cultural analysis by emphasizing close reading as well as oral and written analyses of works chosen from various genres and periods of French/Francophone works in their written and visual modes. Readings begin with comic theatre of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and build to increasingly complex nouvelles, poetry, and novels of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Participation in guided discussion and practice in oral/written expression continue to be emphasized, as are grammar review and laboratory exercises. Offered in second semester. Prerequisite(s): FREN 005, 101, or 103; Humanities (HU)

**FRENH105 DIRECTIONS DE LA FRANCE CONTEMPORAINE**

*Koffi Anyénefa*

An examination of contemporary society in France and Francophone cultures as portrayed in recent documents and film. Emphasizing the tension in contemporary French-speaking societies between tradition and change, the course focuses on subjects such as family structures and the changing role of women, cultural and linguistic identity, an increasingly multiracial society, the individual and institutions (religious, political, educational), and les loisirs. In addition to the basic text and review of grammar, readings are chosen from newspapers, contemporary literary texts, magazines, and they are complemented by video materials. Offered in the second semester. Prerequisite(s): FREN 005, 101, or 103; Humanities (HU)

**FRENH202 CULTURE, FRANCE, RENAISSANCE**

*David Sedley*

The topic of this course is not only sixteenth-century French culture but also the development of the basic elements that the idea of “French culture” presupposes: that of culture and that of France. How did these notions come about, and how were they joined into one entity? We will study this peculiar process, fundamental to Western modernity, by taking into account a series of Renaissance masterpieces in various genres (novel, story, essay, poetry, painting, architecture) as well as critical perspectives of our own era. Through this exploration, we will attempt to understand how new senses of identity, on national as well as individual levels (France and the self), took shape in a context of political and religious fragmentation (civil war and Reformation). Humanities (HU)

**FRENH203 PASSION ET CULTURE: LE GRAND SIÈCLE**

*David Sedley*

Representative authors and literary movements placed within their cultural context, with special attention to development of the theater (Corneille, Molière, and Racine) and women writers of various genres. Humanities (HU)
FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE STUDIES

FRENH212 GRAMMAIRE AVANCEE: COMPOSITION ET CONVERSATION
Staff
A general review of the most common difficulties of the French language. Practice in composition, translation, and conversation. Humanities (HU)

FRENH250 INTRODUCTION A LA LITTERATURE FRANCOPHONE
Staff

FRENH255 CINEMA FRANCAIS/FRANCOPHONE ET COLONIALISME
Koffi Anyinefa
Fulfills Social Justice. A study of French and Francophone films dealing with the colonial and post-colonial experience. Crosslisted: Comparative Literature; Humanities (HU)

FRENH312 ADVANCED TOPICS IN FRENCH LITERATURE: MONTAIGNE, FAITS ET FICTIONS
David Sedley, Koffi Anyinefa
This seminar is dedicated to the study of Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592), an author whose importance in French compares to that of Shakespeare in English. Montaigne’s masterpiece, Les Essais, has special relevance today: as its title suggests, it originates an instrument by which we conduct inquiry in the humanities and social sciences as well as a organ of personal and literary expression—the “essay.” We will explore the meanings of those inventions, in addition to patterns of thought that Montaigne’s essays absorb, reform, and transmit to modern culture, in particular a cluster of diverse but interrelated distinctions between woman and man, words and things, life and death, self and other, war and civility, and fiction and fact. In French. Crosslisted: Comparative Literature; Humanities (HU)

FRENH312 PASCAL ENTRE LES DISCIPLINES
David Sedley, Koffi Anyinefa
Contrary to what one may think, the notion of “interdisciplinarity” has a long history. In this history, the career of Blaise Pascal represents a high point. This course examines the achievements of Pascal as mathematician, physicist, engineer, entrepreneur, theologian, philosopher, and literary genius through his works as well as criticism, theory, and film. This examination will illuminate why transgressing frontiers between disciplines matters so much—and why it has become so difficult to do. Taught in French. Prerequisite(s): a 200-level French course, excluding 212; Humanities (HU)

FRENH398 SENIOR CONFERENCE
David Sedley
A weekly seminar examining representative French and Francophone literary texts and cultural documents from all periods, and the interpretive problems they raise. Close reading and dissection of texts, complemented by extensive secondary readings from different schools of interpretation, prepare students to analyze others critical stances and to develop their own. In addition to short essays and oral presentations, students write a long paper each semester and end the year with Senior Comprehensives, which consist of an oral explication of a French literary text or cultural document and a four-hour written examination. Humanities (HU)

FRENH399 SENIOR THESIS
Koffi Anyinefa
Humanities (HU)