FRENCH
Canterbury
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND INSPIRATIONAL TEACHING

Kent is one of the UK’s leading universities. All of our academic schools produce world-class research, and Kent is rated as internationally excellent, leading the way in many fields of study. French at Kent is taught in the School of European Culture and Languages (SECL), one of the largest schools in the University. In the 2012 National Student Survey, SECL scored 90% for student satisfaction, with many of its subject areas ranking in the top 10 among UK universities.

French at Kent is highly rated and was ranked 9th in the UK in the Government’s most recent Research Assessment Exercise. French is the only language other than English to be spoken in all five continents and is used as the official language of business in organisations in Europe and across the world. Kent is close to mainland Europe, making regular trips to France or French-speaking countries easy.

World-leading research
Research in the French department is classed as world-leading or internationally excellent. Our research ranges from French literature and thought (18th-21st centuries) to contemporary francophone writing, critical theory and sociolinguistics. The department also takes a leading role in the Centre for Modern European Literature, which covers English, French, German, Italian and Spanish literature, and has a particular focus on the European avant-garde. The Centre puts on lectures, seminars and conferences to which all students are invited, giving you the opportunity to get involved with work at the cutting edge of your subject.

Excellent teaching
Our French programme combines French language with culture, literature and linguistics. As your command of the language grows, so does your knowledge of France – its history, its culture and its place in the modern world. Our lecturers’ research informs their teaching and ensures that your studies take place in a dynamic learning environment.

We pride ourselves on our broad range of courses – and on our flexibility. You can, of course, take a single honours degree or you can choose from a variety of joint honours degrees – combining French with anything from Film to Computing. You might also want to take advantage of the Erasmus study programme and gain a French qualification. How about a course combining a BA Hons degree in French with a French Licence?

We have a unique range of contacts with French, Canadian, Belgian and Swiss universities and give you the opportunity to study for a French Licence, something unavailable on any other university programme.

Business French
Kent is an accredited teaching and examination centre for the vocational qualifications of the Chambre de Commerce et d’Industrie de Paris (CCIP); therefore, you can take the Diplôme de Français des Affaires while studying for your degree. These qualifications are recognised across the world and will assist any student looking to work in a French-speaking business environment.

Supportive academic community
We want our students to feel that they are part of the academic community at Kent, and welcome the contributions they make. Each student has a specially assigned Academic Adviser, with whom they have regular meetings to discuss their academic progress, and whom they can consult at any time on academic aspects of their studies.

Our Student Support Coordinator is the central point of contact for SECL students and offers pastoral care. Student representatives take part in staff-student liaison meetings, which ensure that students’ views are heard. The School also houses German, Hispanic Studies and Italian, so, as a French student, you become part of a community of language students, sharing interests and experiences.

The UK’s European university
Kent is known as the UK’s European university because of its strong links with top-ranking continental
indeed unique, contacts with French, Swiss and Canadian universities, which means that you can benefit from a finely-tuned exchange programme. There is the possibility of working on a placement in a Francophone country – for example, Belgium, Canada or Mauritius. (See p15 for more information.)

A successful future
As well as providing a first-rate academic experience, we want you to be in a good position to face the demands of a tough economic environment.

The ability to speak another language is a real asset in the employment market and many employers value the fact that you have spent a year studying or working abroad. If you take the Diplôme de Français des Affaires during your time at Kent, you will have the advantage of a respected business qualification to sit alongside your honours degree.

In addition to your language skills, you develop the key transferable skills considered essential for a successful graduate career. For more information on the careers help we provide at Kent, please go to p8 or visit our employability webpage at www.kent.ac.uk/employability

The University of Kent, Paris
The University of Kent at Paris has a range of unique and innovative cross-disciplinary postgraduate programmes in the Humanities, including Modern French Studies and Comparative Literature. Students share their year between Canterbury and Paris. Kent at Paris is based in Reid Hall, in the historic heart of Montparnasse, just a few minutes walk from the Luxembourg Gardens, an expansive, classically designed park, much frequented by students from the Sorbonne and other universities. Kent postgraduates share the facilities at Reid Hall with staff and students from Columbia University and other prestigious academic institutions.

For more information, see www.kent.ac.uk/paris

European institutions, our UK locations close to the European mainland and our postgraduate centres in Paris and Brussels. We have students from some 30 European countries (about 11% of the student population), and in addition, a high proportion of our teaching staff are from the European mainland. All of which gives you numerous opportunities to practise your language with native speakers and discover more about the cultures of other European countries.

Francophone Society
The Francophone Society, run by students, puts on a variety of activities, from trips to France to cinema evenings, conferences and social events.

A year abroad
All students spend a year abroad either studying at a university or working on a placement (possibly as an assistant teacher of English). We have built up some great, and

DID YOU KNOW?
Modern languages at Kent were ranked 9th in the UK in The Guardian University Guide 2013.
SUPERB STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Our campus at Canterbury provides a stunning location for your studies and offers first-class academic and leisure facilities. The campus is within easy reach of London and mainland Europe, and has an excellent research library, well-equipped language laboratories and a state-of-the-art multimedia lab.

Top-class facilities
We have extensive technical facilities, including satellite TV channels and computer-assisted language learning equipment. The School’s multimedia laboratories offer a variety of interactive language learning programs and dictionaries, as well as access to foreign-language television services. Our media library also provides a selection of audio and video recordings, which can be accessed via the School’s streaming service, which is available across the campus, including in study bedrooms.

International community
Kent offers an incredibly diverse and cosmopolitan campus – 140 nationalities are represented here. We also have strong links with universities and research centres in Europe.

A gateway to France
Canterbury is the closest university city to France. The campus is less than 20 miles from the English coastline and about 40 miles from France. You can get to Dover by road in under 30 minutes, and from there the ferry to Calais takes just over an hour. Or there is the Eurostar terminal in nearby Ashford (10 minutes from Canterbury by train) and the Channel Tunnel at Folkestone, which allow you to travel to Paris or Lille in just two hours. Our students often nip over to France for the day – or longer – and one of our students even took a Saturday job in a Calais boutique.

Beautiful green campus
Our campus has plenty of green and tranquil spaces, both lawns and wooded areas, and is set on a hill with a view of the city and Canterbury Cathedral.

Kent has a reputation for being a very friendly university with a lively atmosphere on campus. The campus has its own cinema, theatre and a student nightclub. There are many restaurants, cafés and bars on campus, as well as a sports centre and gym.

Excellent study resources
The study resources on campus are excellent. The Templeman Library has extensive print and electronic collections specifically aimed at supporting the courses and subject areas taught at Kent. There are also over a thousand PCs on campus and a range of support services for help or advice.

Kent’s Student Learning Advisory Service provides information and advice on all aspects of effective learning and study skills, and is available to all students from the time they arrive at the University.

See www.kent.ac.uk/learning for more information.

Attractive location
Canterbury is a lovely city with medieval buildings, lively bars and atmospheric pubs, as well as a wide range of shops. The attractive coastal town of Whitstable is close by and there are sandy beaches further down the coast. London is just under an hour away by high-speed train.

DID YOU KNOW?
Canterbury is consistently rated as one of the safest university cities in England and Wales in The Complete University Guide.
Zara Brazil is in the final year of her English and American Literature and French degree.

Why did you choose Kent? Mainly because of the course. I wanted to study French and was impressed by the number of French literature modules on offer. I also enjoy English literature and thought that it would be good to combine the two and give myself more options later. It was definitely the right decision because I have really enjoyed the course.

I also loved the campus. It’s like a little town in its own right and the facilities are excellent.

Which modules have you particularly enjoyed? I have enjoyed studying contemporary French novelists; the language is modern, not archaic, and they write about current events and issues so they are good to read. I took a module on autobiography and another called Mothers and Daughters in Women’s Writing, which were excellent. I also took a module on Paris in the 20th century that was fascinating.

What do you think of your lecturers? The majority I love. There are native French speakers in the department, which is good. French is quite a small department and so everybody knows you, you feel that you are important and there is a lot of support. If you are having any problems you can email your lecturer and they are happy to meet; their feedback is always very useful.

In general, it is a very friendly department; we have get-togethers, where students and lecturers meet in a less formal environment, which gives everyone a chance to get to know each other.

And your fellow students? We all know each other well and get on. If we are doing a presentation, we work together in groups and bounce ideas off each other. It’s all good experience, you learn a lot about yourself by working with other people.

Tell us about your year abroad. I studied at the University of Nice Sophia Antipolis in the south of France. It was amazing, I loved it. I went to the same lectures as the French students so I had to study very hard. Certain lecturers do take into account that you are not French, but mostly you just have to adapt, you work hard but it is worth it because your French improves at an amazing rate. The teaching style in France is quite different to here, more similar to school, so you appreciate the learning environment at Kent when you return.

In Nice, I lived in university accommodation on campus, which was ideal because I met students from all over Europe. I made lots of friends, travelled to Germany, Italy, Switzerland and, of course, to Paris. Overall, it was a wonderful experience and one I would definitely recommend.

What are your plans for the future? Eventually, I would like to go into translation, but to do that, ideally you need a Master’s in translation, so I am going to leave it for a year or two. At the moment, I am looking at jobs in London where I can use my French. In the future, I may think about teaching, but not yet. I’d also like to travel.

What advice would you give to someone coming to Kent? Throw yourself into everything. If you are thinking of studying French but the thought of the year abroad scares you, don’t let it put you off – I was scared but it was fantastic. University is great because everybody’s experience is unique. At school you do the same as everybody else on your course but at university you do what you are interested in and discover new interests and ways of learning.

I have learnt a lot about myself and have met people from all over the world, from different backgrounds and cultures, which is something you don’t get at every university. University is a great opportunity and I wouldn’t change my experience for the world.
A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

Kent equips you with essential skills to give you a real advantage when it comes to getting a job. We are consistently in the top 20 for graduate starting salaries and, six months after graduation in 2011, only 7% of Kent graduates were without a job or further study opportunity.

Wide-ranging professions
There are many career options for a linguist – the ability to speak a major European language is increasingly useful in many professions. When asked about the vocational relevance of their courses, recent graduates singled out the year abroad (especially those who were working in France), IT skills and seminar presentation skills. The communication skills, self-confidence and creativity developed by our students are relevant to all professions and are highly valued by employers.

Within the commercial sector, the most popular destinations are sales and export, international marketing, the travel industry (where languages are clearly at a premium), banking and financial services (including insurance, tax consultancy and investment analysis). There are also more exotic career destinations – one of our recent joint honours graduates became a film publicist and another joined Vogue as a fashion manager.

Postgraduate study
Many of our language graduates continue with their studies by enrolling for MA’s in academic or vocational disciplines or preparing for professional qualifications in subjects such as law, accountancy, personnel and human resources, finance, librarianship or business administration. Another popular career is teaching, either in the UK or abroad.

Classroom modules
The School of European Culture and Languages (SECL) has developed unique classroom-based modules. These modules provide you with the opportunity to combine study with work experience in a school, so you gain credit towards your degree while working. The modules offer an insight into teaching as a career option. Even if teaching is not your chosen career path, the module extends your experience, and so broadens your career options.

SECL employability
SECL has its own programme of employability events to enhance your job skills and vocational awareness during your study. A large number of our students develop professional skills and gain hands-on experience through our wide range of paid and voluntary work opportunities. For more information on the employability support available within the School, see www.kent.ac.uk/secl/employability

Careers advice
Kent’s Careers and Employability Service can give you advice on how to choose your future career, apply for jobs, write a good CV and perform well in interviews and aptitude tests. The Service also provides up-to-date information on graduate opportunities before and after you graduate. For more information on what the Service offers go to: www.kent.ac.uk/employability
Adina Stroia graduated from Kent with a degree in French in 2012. After graduation, she chose to remain at Kent to study for an MA in French and Comparative Literature.

Why did you choose Kent for your postgraduate study?
I obtained my French BA at Kent and I had been so supported and happy here that leaving was never an option. The School has a very strong research culture and is keen on expanding the area of my research, women's writing. The location was one of the main factors, since it is so close to both Paris and London and also provides a quiet learning environment, which for me was a vital factor, as I was preparing for a PhD.

What were your first impressions?
As an undergraduate at Kent, I valued the lecturers’ dedication and involvement and most importantly the amount of support I got. This has continued throughout my Master’s where I am being taught by academics whose research is internationally recognised – knowing that I am learning from the best is thrilling!

How is your postgraduate course going?
The course has opened up new areas of knowledge, providing me with modules beyond the area of research I have chosen to focus on. The Comparative Literature element I added to my course has been very beneficial, allowing me to explore literatures beyond French and to engage freely with texts I chose myself for the written assignments. The School encourages you to acquire new skills and think independently and creates lots of opportunities for you to shape ideas.

The lecturers are very dedicated to their areas of interest and transmit this sense of excitement to their students. The fact that we all come from different backgrounds academically and otherwise, has made for some lively seminars and I can honestly say this year has given us some of the most academic fun we have ever had!

What about social activities at Kent?
There is plenty to do, there are lots of places to eat and there is always something on at the Gulbenkian Theatre or Cinema. Kent now has a new state-of-the-art music building, which is bound to attract new events for music lovers and it is possible to play in an orchestra or sing in the choir. At postgraduate level, there are a number of open lectures organised, where you can meet your peers and lecturers outside of the seminar. The campus has a very relaxed atmosphere and the city of Canterbury – a lovely, picturesque city with a very safe environment – is within walking distance.

What are your plans for the future?
I will be starting my PhD in September here at Kent, which will be generously supported by Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) funding. I will be exploring contemporary French women’s writing and autofiction in the context of memorialisation. In my second year, I will be studying at the prestigious École Nationale Supérieure in Paris, an opportunity which is extremely rare among PhD programmes in the UK. I plan to follow up with post-doctoral work to then become a lecturer in French literature and culture.

What advice would you give to someone thinking of coming to Kent?
I never had any second thoughts about coming to Kent, the first, the second or the third time! Besides being academically vibrant and stimulating, it also offers a wide range of funding opportunities. I would definitely encourage them to join our academic community and, if they can, visit the University themselves. I did not have this opportunity and the first time I set foot here was when I enrolled as a student. And let me tell you, it is as good as it says in the brochure!
Choosing Your Programme

Not sure which programme to choose? Here’s a quick guide to the degrees on offer.

Single honours
Taking single honours enables you to focus in great depth on your chosen subject. Our French programme is a mix of language and culture, literature and linguistics.

BA/Licence de Lettres
This programme is unique to Kent, allowing you to gain two degrees in three years (from Kent and Grenoble 3) and is supported by funds from the Erasmus scheme.

It lasts three years, with the second year in France counting fully as part of your BA. The Université Stendhal/Grenoble 3 awards its Licence de Lettres on the basis of BA results, if your second-year studies have been successful. This is an excellent option for swift progress to a higher degree (such as an MA) in French and is particularly suitable for those who are expecting high passes at A level.

European Studies (Humanities – French)
In this programme, you study European society and politics, and European culture with literature or history, plus French. You spend your third year studying or working abroad.

Joint honours
Joint honours are available with a wide range of subjects including:
- Business Administration (NR21)
- Classical & Archaeological Studies (QR81)
- Comparative Literature (RQ12)
- Computing (RG14)
- Drama (RW14)
- English and American Literature (QR31)
- English Language and Linguistics (RQ13)
- Film (RW16)
- German (RR12)
- Hispanic Studies (RR14)
- History (RV11)
- History & Philosophy of Art (VR31)
- Italian (RR13)
- Philosophy (RVC5)
- Religious Studies (RV16).

Study is normally divided 50:50 between your two honours subjects. For more information about your other subject, please order the relevant subject leaflet from the Information and Guidance Unit (see below).

Part-time degree
Part-time study gives you the opportunity to achieve the same academic standards and to study the same subject matter as those on the full-time degree course, while allowing an extended period of study – up to six years for a full degree. Students using the part-time route usually take half the modules each year that a full-time student would take, although other options are available.

Need more information?
For more information on the degrees we offer, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug

To order a subject leaflet for another subject, call the Information and Guidance Unit: 01227 827272 or email: information@kent.ac.uk

For further information about our French degree programmes, please contact the School of European Culture and Languages, email: secl@kent.ac.uk
STUDYING AT STAGE 1

Stage 1 covers your first year of study.

There is a wide range of modules in French language and culture, including options on literature, linguistics, film and politics.

Teaching and assessment

Core language modules involve three to four hours each week, including one hour with a native speaker. Culture, literature and cinema modules involve a weekly seminar of two hours or a lecture and a seminar, as well as essay supervision and feedback sessions. The emphasis is always on student participation. Most of the modules are taught in French and we have instant access to French TV and radio. We also make extensive use of computer-assisted language learning.

Stage 1 modules are normally assessed by 100% coursework (essays, class participation) in the first half of the year, and by a 50:50 combination of coursework and examination in the second half of the year.

All students take one of the following modules:
- Learning French 1: Beginners
- Learning French 2A and 2B: Post-GCSE
- Learning French 3: Post-A Level.

Single honours students also take at least two of the following:
- French Drama: Love, Marriage and Politics
- French and Francophone Texts and Contexts 1
- French and Francophone Texts and Contexts 2
- French Narratives: Love, Marriage and Politics
- Questions of French Cinema
- 20th-Century France in Crisis
- Writer and Genre in France 1
- Writer and Genre in France 2.

Joint honours students take at least one of the above in addition to modules in their other subject.

Other modules can be chosen from a wide range on offer in the Faculty of Humanities.

Modules: Stage 1

Learning French 1: Beginners

This module concentrates on basic listening, reading and speaking, and on essential grammatical principles. Three main topics are considered each week: grammar, vocabulary and civilisation.

Learning French 2A: Post-GCSE

Here, you are taught grammatical principles, use spoken French and learn about French regional culture. In addition, you undertake computer-assisted language learning.

Learning French 2B: Post-GCSE

Following on from Learning French 2A, you further your skills through writing short compositions, and are introduced to French culture through appropriate texts. In addition, you undertake computer-assisted language learning.
Learning French 3: Post-A level
This module is for those who have advance-level knowledge of French, and consists of three main elements: a language-skills seminar which concentrates on the mastery of grammar, syntax and translation skills through the use of ‘assisted translation’, structured worksheets and up-to-date texts; a session, taught by a native speaker, devoted to listening and oral communication, and writing essays in French; and computer-assisted language learning.

French Drama: Love, Marriage and Politics
This module is for students starting at beginner’s level and covers famous plays from the golden age of French theatre to the present day.

French and Francophone Texts and Contexts 1
You explore the major historical, cultural, social, political and literary movements of France and its colonies from the 17th century to the First World War through the study of relevant literary and other texts. The module encourages you to analyse cultural artefacts – letters, drama, fiction, political texts, travel writing, paintings, and a graphic novel – in connection with the historical, social and cultural contexts and discourses within which they were created.

French and Francophone Texts and Contexts 2
Following on from French and Francophone Texts and Contexts 1, you analyse further cultural artefacts – fiction, political texts, cultural criticism, popular song, film – in connection with moments of major historical and cultural significance in the development of contemporary France.

French Narratives: Love, Marriage and Politics
This module is for students starting at beginner’s level and covers short stories by authors such as Hugo and Maupassant.

Questions of French Cinema
Through examination of films from the 1920s to the present day, you discover the scope and development of French cinema. You acquire a basic knowledge of the most important periods of French cinema (including poetic realism, the nouvelle vague, 1970s art cinema, the 1980s ‘cinema du look’) and key film concepts such as the ‘politique des auteurs’.

20th-Century France in Crisis
France underwent four major ‘crises’ in the 20th-century: the first and second world wars, the Algerian crisis, and the events of May 1968. Here, you discover how these events were explored through the country’s cinema. A dossier of textual materials provides you with background historical and cultural documents, and suggests further reading. Some films are almost contemporary with events, whereas others were made decades later. You explore themes such as realistic depiction, socio-political agendas, and collective or individual memory.

Writer and Genre in France 1
This module deals with drama from Molière to Sartre, examining questions such as dramatic illusion, ways in which character is portrayed on stage, the meaning of a play in its context, and the way that the production of a play can change its impact.

Writer and Genre in France 2
Providing a vital background with which to understand contemporary French literature, culture and life, this module introduces you to the range and variety of French fiction. By closely studying a number of sample texts from the 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st centuries, you make connections with literature in other European traditions, especially German and English.
STUDYING AT STAGE 2

Stage 2 covers the second year of your programme.

Assessment methods in Stages 2 and 3 vary – most commonly 100% coursework (extended essays or dissertation), or a combination of examination and coursework, usually in the ratio 50:50.

All students take:

Further modules are typically taken from the options listed below:
- Business French 1
- Extended Essay
- French Detective Fiction
- French Language: Descriptive and Narrative Skills
- Literary Trailblazers: Four Women Writers of the 20th Century
- Memory and Childhood in 20th-Century French Fiction
- Modern French Theatre 1
- Modern French Theatre 2
- Occupation and Resistance in the French Novel
- Paris: Myth and Reality 1
- Paris: Myth and Reality 2
- Short Narrative Fiction in French.

Joint honours students may take modules listed above in addition to modules in their other subject.

Modules: Stage 2

Learning French 4: Intermediate
This module includes grammar revision, translation, oral discussion of prepared texts and oral presentations of the French news. You spend one hour per week in the language laboratories.

Business French 1
This module is designed to meet the requirements of students wishing to increase their command of French in the cultural sphere and the world of business.

Extended Essay
You write 4,000-7,000 words on a theme relating to one of your other second-year French non-language modules. You must achieve an overall average of at least 60% at Stage 1 in order to register for this module.

French Detective Fiction
You gain an overview of French crime fiction as it has evolved from the mid-19th century to the early 21st century. Short crime fiction, crime novels, and a film are analysed. The texts include a classic ‘locked room’ mystery, a post-war roman à suspense, a politically engaged historical crime novel, and a 21st-century bestseller. Attention is paid to generic conventions, and how they alter over time. Questions of social order and disorder are discussed as well as the extent to which detective novels critique contemporary society.

French Language: Descriptive and Narrative Skills
Through the study of a variety of types of texts and audiovisual materials, you improve your general proficiency in the French language and specifically your ability to engage in narrative and descriptive discourse. The module is taught in French and complements the core language progression for French. Rather than using a language-learning methodology with integrated grammar explanations, the module takes a task-based, diagnostic and analytical approach to language learning using mainly
narrative and descriptive passages from 19th- and 20th-century French fiction, as well as excerpts from recent French films.

**Literary Trailblazers: Four Women Writers of the 20th Century**

Simone de Beauvoir, Assia Djebar, Annie Ernaux and Marguerite Yourcenar are authors who broke new ground not just in the topics they chose to address, but also through the innovative style of their novels. Marguerite Yourcenar was the first woman to be elected to the French Academy; Algerian-born Assia Djebar was the second. Her texts deal with the complex relationship between France and its former colony, Algeria. Simone de Beauvoir’s texts are an open critique of the bourgeoisie in 1960s France; while Annie Ernaux’s work deals with issues relating to social class, identity and gender.

**Memory and Childhood in 20th-Century Fiction**

Identity, or a sense of self, is constructed by and through narrative – the stories we tell about our lives. This module explores the complex relationships that exist between memory, nostalgia, writing and identity in a range of autobiographical and first and third-person fictional works in French. These texts foreground issues of childhood, memory, history and trauma in the construction of identity.

**Modern French Theatre 1 and 2**

These modules include plays in French by authors such as Jarry, Apollinaire, Cocteau, Sartre, Anouilh and Ionesco. Taking the plays in broadly chronological order, with emphasis given to diversity and to continuing links and developments, such as the use and influence of popular culture, classical mythology, politics, warfare, existentialism and the Absurd.

**Occupation and Resistance in the French Novel**

You examine how the Nazi occupation of France is reflected in imaginative writing. Some texts are contemporaneous, others reflect across generations. Areas studied include: problems of realistic description and narrative technique; the individual’s relationship to events beyond his/her control; conflicting loyalties and responsibilities; the Resistance and occupation as metaphor; and the mode rétro in French fiction since the 1960s.

**Paris: Myth and Reality 1**

During the Second French Empire in the 19th century, Paris underwent major and controversial changes under the direction of Baron Haussmann. This module examines conditions in the city during this period, focusing on contemporary fiction (Balzac and Zola among others), poetry (Baudelaire) and painting (the Impressionists).

**Paris: Myth and Reality 2**

You explore Paris within the context of modernity and postmodernity, as mediated in poetry (Apollinaire), fiction (Breton, Aragon, Modiano, among others), and film (Clair, Duras, Godard).

**Short Narrative Fiction in French**

Studying fiction from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, you reflect on the techniques and forms used by authors and discover whether short fictions display common features. The authors studied use the form in various ways – to illustrate a philosophical position, dramatise an ethical dilemma, or even to question the conventions of fiction.
YOUR YEAR ABROAD

The year you spend studying or working abroad enriches your university experience. You not only improve your language skills and develop your cultural awareness, you also improve your future employment prospects.

By studying abroad, you gain confidence and independence and further develop many of the transferable skills employers are looking for, such as the ability to communicate effectively and to plan and organise your time. You also demonstrate that you are flexible in your outlook and have the enthusiasm and drive to succeed in a new environment.

For many French students, their year abroad is a life-changing and rewarding experience. Having risen to the challenge of living in another country, they have a renewed belief in their ability to succeed.

Many language students choose to live and work abroad after they graduate. If you are thinking of doing this, you can use your year abroad to discover more about your host country and to research possible career opportunities.

Partner universities
Your year abroad takes place between Stages 2 and 3 of your degree. If you choose to study at a French university we currently have exchange programmes with Avignon, Grenoble, Lille, Littoral, Lyon, Montpellier, Paris, Poitiers and Reims. We also have links with French-Canadian universities in Ottawa and Montréal, with Swiss universities in Geneva, Lausanne and Neuchâtel and with Namur University in Belgium. Academic staff routinely visit students on study exchanges.

International Development
Kent’s International Development team works with the School of European Culture and Languages to assist you in deciding what you want to do and where you want to go during your year abroad. It offers advice on all the practical issues you have to consider – such as destinations and finance – before you go away, keeps in touch with you while you are away and offers support when you return. It can also put you in touch with students who attended the university or location you are going to, so that you can get feedback from them.

If you spend your year abroad in France, Belgium or Switzerland, you may be eligible for an Erasmus grant. For more information, please visit www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad

Your time abroad contributes to your final degree – you are awarded marks if you are at university; if you are working, you write an essay under the guidance of a staff member.
STUDYING AT STAGE 3

Stage 3 covers your final year of study, following your year abroad.

All students must take:
• Learning French 5: Advanced.

Joint honours students may take either the Extended Essay in their second year, or the French Dissertation in their final year.

Further modules are typically taken from the options listed below:
• Business French 2
• Contemporary French Cinema
• French Dissertation
• Images of Monarchy in French Classical Tragedy
• Introduction to Interpreting
• Languages in the Classroom
• Libertine Literature in 18th-Century France
• Mothers and Daughters in Women’s Writing
• The Painting as Phantom: Diderot to Proust
• The Reader and the Text
• Trainspotting: Representations of Infrastructure in Modern French Culture
• Travels to Japan in Modern French Culture.

Modules: Stage 3
Learning French 5: Advanced
This module builds translation skills via texts which cover a range of registers and topics. It includes translation, preparation for oral exposé in small groups, and computer-assisted language learning activities to explore and reinforce various areas of grammar.

Business French 2
One scheduled contact hour is devoted to business French and one hour devoted to computer-assisted language learning. You can exploit the business-related materials in a wide variety of ways, including résumé and free composition.

Contemporary French Cinema
In French cinema made during the 1980s and 1990s themes such as race and national identity, changing perceptions of Paris and the banlieue, and symptoms of social crisis came to the forefront. Here, you discover how French film-makers invented new forms and styles to address the issues raised by life in contemporary France.

French Dissertation
You write a dissertation (5,000-9,000 words) on an author or theme relating to one of the other final-year French non-language modules. You must have achieved an overall average of at least 60% at Stage 2 in order to register for this module.

Images of Monarchy in French Classical Tragedy
French classical tragedy reflected the nature of royal power in the 17th and 18th centuries. You examine a number of French classical tragedies by Corneille and Racine against their historical background, and analyse their shifting response to the figure of the monarch.

Introduction to Interpreting
You attend a one-hour interpretation seminar each week, during which you interpret from French into English, materials related to the contemporary social and economic issues of the Francophone world.
Languages in the Classroom
Providing you with the opportunity to gain work experience in a secondary school classroom, this module offers you a taster for a teaching career. You spend a half day each week for one term in a local school under the supervision of a teacher who acts as a mentor. Generally, you work with individuals or small groups but may also have brief sessions addressing the whole class. Not only does this provide work experience, but the teaching also informs and shapes your written work.

Libertine Literature in 18th-Century France
In France, libertine literature refers to the erotic and pornographic work of the 17th and 18th centuries. However, this module reveals that these texts were more than plain and brutal pornography. Their authors sought to stimulate not only the senses of their readers but above all their minds. Indeed, libertine literature is in tune with the philosophical ambitions of the 18th-century revolution in thought known as the Enlightenment. Both libertinism and the Enlightenment promote emancipation from prejudices. Texts studied exemplify the dual nature of libertine literature by showcasing its erotic and intellectual ambitions.

Mothers and Daughters in Women’s Writing
Through such authors as Colette, Simone de Beauvoir, Marguerite Duras and Nathalie Sarraute, you are introduced to the work of French women writers of the 20th century, and in particular examine the way they represent their ambivalent relationships with their mothers. Each novel studied examines the often violent relationships between mothers and their daughters who turn to writing in a search for identity and liberation from the maternal presence of their youth.

The Painting as Phantom: Diderot to Proust
French writers of the late 18th, 19th and 20th centuries frequently populate their texts with works of art, particularly paintings. The Enlightenment philosopher Denis Diderot was the first major French author to write in depth about painting, and he founded a new literary genre, the ‘Salon’, later developed by writers such as Baudelaire. You explore these developments into the 21st century, where the mutual influence of literature and the visual arts continues to be a major theme of French culture.

The Reader and the Text
You examine literary texts from the point of view of the reader, using concepts such as the real reader, the implied reader and the explicit reader. By studying Michel Butor’s La Modification where he writes as if reader and character were not distinct, and looking at works by authors such as Gide and Robbe-Grillet, you discover the techniques used to explore the relationship between the reader and the text, and reflect on the conditions of fiction and its production.

Trainspotting: Representations of Infrastructure in Modern French Culture
Through examining transport and communications infrastructure in writing and cinema, you examine links between modern forms of cultural representation and the modernity which they represent. Taking as its starting point naturalist fiction of the late 19th century and concluding with the postmodern representation of virtual networks, this module identifies the infrastructural network as an enduring preoccupation in French literature, visual art and cinema.

Travels to Japan in Modern French Culture
Since Japan was opened to the West in the mid-19th century, there has been a tradition of French literary ‘Japanophilia’. This module examines the portrayal of Japan in French, Swiss and Belgian writing and culture from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries, permitting a critical evaluation of the evolution of French ‘japonisme’, from its beginnings in the work of Pierre Loti to the portrayal of contemporary Japan in Amélie Nothomb’s work. ‘Japoniste’ images by French Impressionist painters are also studied, and there may also be some incorporation of films. We explore themes such as: intercultural understanding (or the lack thereof); the idealisation or demonisation of the other; the way French writers turn to foreign culture in order to critique their own culture; and genre (what is travel writing and what are its limits?).
VISIT THE UNIVERSITY

Come along for an Open Day or a UCAS Visit Day and see what it is like to be a student at Kent.

Open Days
We run Open Days during the summer and autumn. These general Open Days provide an excellent opportunity for you to discover what it is like to live and study at the University. You can meet academic staff, find out about our courses and attend subject displays, workshops and informal lectures. We also offer guided tours around the campus, including University accommodation.

You can find further information about our Open Days, including dates and details of how to book your place, at www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

UCAS Visit Days
If you apply to study at Kent and we offer you a place (or invite you to attend an interview), you will usually be sent an invitation to one of our UCAS Visit Days. The Visit Day includes presentations in your subject area, guided tours of the campus, including University accommodation, and the opportunity to speak with academic staff about your chosen subject. See www.kent.ac.uk/visitdays for more information.

Informal visits
You are also welcome to make an informal visit to one of our campuses at any time. Our Information and Guidance Unit (see opposite) can provide you with a self-guided tour leaflet, which includes the main points of interest.

It may also be possible to arrange meetings with academic staff, although we cannot guarantee this. For more details and to download a self-guided tour, go to www.kent.ac.uk/informal

On the web
For regular updates and news stories from SECL, please see our main website and further social media sites:
www.kent.ac.uk/secl
www.facebook.com/unikentsecl
www.twitter.com/unikentsecl
www.youtube.com/unikentsecl
More information
If you have any further queries, the Information and Guidance Unit offers a friendly service with advice on how to choose your degree, admissions procedures, how to prepare for your studies, and information about the University of Kent’s facilities and services.

T: +44 (0)1227 827272
Freephone (UK only): 0800 975 3777
E: information@kent.ac.uk

You can also write to us at: Information and Guidance Unit, The Registry, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ

Terms and conditions: the University reserves the right to make variations to the content and delivery of courses and other services, or to discontinue courses and other services, if such action is reasonably considered to be necessary. If the University discontinues any course, it will endeavour to provide a suitable alternative. To register for a programme of study, all students must agree to abide by the University Regulations (available online at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations).

Data protection: for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons, the University needs to process information about its students. Full registration as a student of the University is subject to your consent to process such information.

Location
Canterbury.

Awards
BA (Hons), BA/Licence de Lettres.

Degree programme
Single honours
• French (R101)
• French BA/Licence de Lettres (R120)
• European Studies (Humanities – French) (R190)

Joint honours
For a full list of joint honours see p10.

Offer levels
Single honours: ABB at A level, IB Diploma 34 points inc 4 at HL or 5 at SL in a modern European language other than English or IB Diploma with 16 points at Higher inc 4 at HL or 5 at SL in a modern European language other than English.

French BA/Licence de Lettres requires ABB at A level including French at grade A or IB 5 or 6 at HL in French.

Joint honours: ABB-BBB at A level, IB Diploma 34 points inc 4 at HL or 5 at SL in a modern European language other than English, or IB Diploma with 16 points at Higher inc 4 at HL or 5 at SL in a modern European language other than English.

Required subjects
Post-A level: A level French grade B.
Post-GCSE level: GCSE French grade B.
Beginners’ level: some aptitude for modern languages including GCSE grade C in a modern European language other than English.
For dual foreign language degrees at least one language should be passed at A level grade B.

Year abroad
Single and joint honours BA students study in France, Belgium, Switzerland or Canada at one of our exchange universities, in places including Paris, Lille, Littoral, Lyon, Montpelier, Grenoble, Poitiers, Avignon, Nice, Rheims, Geneva, Neuchâtel, Lausanne, Namur, Ottawa and Montréal. Or you may work as a teaching assistant in a French or Canadian school, or in a work placement. Credits from your year abroad count towards your final degree result.

Offer levels and entry requirements are subject to change. For the latest information see www.kent.ac.uk/ug
COME AND VISIT US

We hold Open Days at our Canterbury and Medway campuses.
For more information, see: www.kent.ac.uk/opendays