

## UKC Programme Specifications

**Please note:** This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she passes the programme. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found [*either* by following the links provided *or* in the programme handbook]. The accuracy of the information contained in this specification is reviewed by the University and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

**Degree and Programme Title**  
**BA (Joint Honours) in French**  
**School of European Culture and Languages**

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Awarding Institution/Body</b></li> <li><b>2. Teaching Institution</b></li> <li><b>3. Teaching Site</b></li> <li><b>4. Programme accredited by:</b></li> <li><b>5. Final Award</b></li> <li><b>6. Programme</b></li>   <li><b>7. UCAS codes (or other code)</b></li>   <li><b>8. Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group/s</b></li> <li><b>9. Date of production/revision</b></li> <li><b>10. Applicable cohort/s</b></li> </ol>	<p>University of Kent  University of Kent at Canterbury  Canterbury Campus  Not applicable  BA (Joint Honours)  French and Business Studies or Classical &amp; Archaeological Studies or Comparative Literary Studies or Computing or Drama &amp; Theater Studies or English and American Literature or English, American and Postcolonial Literatures or Film Studies or German or History or History &amp; Theory of Art or History of Science or Italian or Philosophy or Religious Studies or Spanish  NR21, QR81, RQ12, RG14, RW 14, QR31, RQ1J  RW16, RV21, VR32, RV25, RR23, RVF5, RV26, RR24  Languages and related studies  February 2002  2002 entry onwards</p>
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## 11. Educational Aims of the Programme

### 1. The specific aims of French as a subject are:

- To provide a sound grounding in the French language in all its aspects, through extensive reading in French and through the use of French as spoken and written medium.
- To immerse you in Francophone Culture by enabling you to spend one year in a Francophone Country. In most cases you will go abroad to participate in an Exchange in France or Switzerland, to work as a language assistant in a French School or in the Kent Regional Office in Brussels.
- To develop a critical awareness of the broad canon of French Literature from the 17<sup>th</sup> century to the 21<sup>st</sup> century as well as of the role of French Cinema and French Linguistics in the development of Contemporary French Culture.
- To train you in the field of translation from and into the target language.
- To provide a gateway to related thematic studies comprising various bodies of knowledge and methodological approaches.
- To provide teaching which is informed by current research and scholarship and which requires students to engage with aspects of work at the frontiers of knowledge.
- To provide a means of access to intercultural awareness and understanding.
- To recognize and reward excellence at different stages through the award of prizes.
- To prepare those who choose to take the French Business Language courses for the *Chambre de Commerce de Paris* Examinations.
- To contribute to widening participation in higher education by offering a wide variety of entry routes.
- To provide opportunities for the development of personal, communication, research and other key skills appropriate for graduate employment both in industry and in the public sector.
- To develop general critical, analytical and problem solving skills which can be applied in a wide range of situations.

## 12. Programme Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas.

### Teaching/learning and assessment methods and strategies used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated

#### Knowledge and Understanding

##### A. Knowledge and understanding of:

1. French Language
2. French Literature from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> century
3. French Linguistics
4. French Cinema
5. French Theatre
6. Francophone Autobiography
7. French Postcolonial Studies
8. Francophone Presence in the World
9. French History
10. Critical Theory

##### Teaching/learning:

Acquisition of points 1-10 is achieved through a combination of research seminars, tutor-led seminars, student and tutor-led seminars, self-directed learning facilitated by course handbooks and the use of research based teaching materials and methods, informal oral classes (*Table ronde*) and use of Computer assisted language learning in years 1 2 and 4 and by studying or working in a Francophone country in year 3.

##### Assessment:

Assessed through a combination of coursework (essays, translations, presentations), written examinations, oral examinations; dissertation, extended essay, Computer assisted language learning tests and linguistic transcriptions. Progress is monitored throughout the 4 years.

#### Skills and Other Attributes

##### B. Intellectual skills:

1. Apply the skills needed for academic study and enquiry
2. Evaluate information critically
3. Synthesise information from a number of sources in order to gain a coherent understanding of the subject
4. Utilise problem solving skills
5. Utilise communication skills for the coherent expression and transfer of knowledge
6. Analyse, evaluate and interpret a variety of types of evidence in a critical manner
7. Study and reach conclusions independently

##### Teaching/learning:

Intellectual skills are developed through the teaching and learning programme outlined below. Each module involves the critical reflection of key themes, verbal discussion and the written analysis and interpretation of the relevant material.

##### Assessment:

Assessed through supervised projects requiring independent research, essays, supervised class discussions, book reviews, group projects, self-assessment activities and written examinations.

### **C. Subject-specific skills:**

1. Communicate effectively in French
2. Develop reading speed in French
3. Demonstrate detailed knowledge and effective understanding of the various structures and registers of French
4. Translate accurately and efficiently into and from the target language
5. Analyse critically a variety of texts be they journalistic, historical or literary
6. Gain an appreciation of cultural diversity
7. Ability to work independently in a Francophone Business environment
8. Develop skills in these three related areas: **a)** reception (listening and reading), **b)** production (speaking and writing) and **c)** mediation between at least two languages (translation and interpreting)

#### **Teaching/learning:**

All students receive initial guidance on how to identify, locate and use material available in the library and online resources. Comprehensive reading lists are provided for each module at the start of the academic year as are guidelines for the production of essays and oral presentations. In the second year extraordinary classes are provided for students who will be participating in Erasmus exchanges in their year abroad. Discussion of theoretical and conceptual issues are integrated into all modules. Students are encouraged to evaluate a comprehensive sample of cultural perspectives and Francophone texts.

#### **Assessment:**

Assessed through group work, oral presentations, oral examinations, listening and comprehension tests, participation in structured oral discussions, linguistic commentaries, drafting texts in French for a defined audience and purpose, written examinations, translation tests, year abroad studies, year abroad project, *Chambre de Commerce de Paris* examinations

**D. Transferable skills:**

1. Communicate effectively with a wide range of individuals using a variety of means
2. Evaluate their own academic performance
3. Utilise problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations
4. accurate and effective note-taking and summarising skills
5. library and bibliographical research skills
6. techniques for using French language source materials
7. Take responsibility for personal and professional learning and development
8. Manage time and prioritise workloads, think and perform under pressure
9. Capacity for teamwork
10. Leadership abilities
11. Work creatively and flexibly
12. Deploy a range of Information Technology skills effectively, such as word processing text with footnotes, basic formatting, using e-mail, searching databases and text-files, navigating the world wide web

**Teaching/learning:**

All courses require regular written work and regular feedback on work is given to the students to help develop their power of presentation, analysis and communication both in English and in French. Time management is learned as students meet deadlines and plan projects. Information Technology skills are learnt through course work and developed through individual learning.

**Assessment:**

Assessed continuously. Regular feedback and marks reflect progress in these areas.

For more information on which modules provide which skills, see the module mapping.

**13. Programme structures and requirements, levels, modules, credits and award**

The full-time Joint Honours B.A. involves three years' study at the university, plus a further year (the third of four) spent in a French-speaking country. If the joint honours degree involves another language then the year abroad may be split between a French-speaking country and either Germany, Italy or Spain. It is possible to do a Joint Honours degree with another language and still opt to spend a whole year in just one of the countries mentioned above. Study at the university is organised in 2 x 12-week terms and a final, 6-week term, 30 weeks in total. The programme is divided into study blocks called modules and all modules have a value of 15 or 30 credits. A 15-credit module represents 150 hours of learning, endeavour and assessment, including a minimum of 20 hours of direct contact in class. All students take required modules, and are advised to take, but need not take, recommended modules. All students must, during each of the three years of study in Canterbury, take modules amounting to 120 credits, making up their choices from the list of optional modules. The degree comprises 420 credits, 120 at three different levels for each year of study present at the university. Of these yearly 120 credits 30 may be taken in any subject including the subjects of the joint honours degree. The other 90

credits must be split equally between the two subjects of the Joint Honours degree. A further 60 credits will be gained in respect of the year abroad either by producing a year abroad project or studying at one of our foreign partner universities in France: Avignon, Grenoble, Lille, Nice, Poitiers and Rheims and in Switzerland: Neuchatel, Fribourg and Lausanne for either the academic year or during half of the academic year if the other element of the Joint Honours programme is either German, Italian or Spanish. The structure of the programme and the modules which make it up, their levels, credits and the terms in which they are taught, are shown below. Not all modules are available every year. Details of all modules can be found at [www.ukc.ac.uk/secl/french](http://www.ukc.ac.uk/secl/french).

Code/Title	Level	Credits	Term/s
<b>Year 1</b>			
<b>REQUIRED</b>			
FR300 French language	C	30	1 & 2
<b>RECOMMENDED</b>			
FR 301 Writer and Genre I	C	15	1
FR302 Writer & Genre II	C	15	2
FR308 Questions of Cinema	C	15	2
FR309 Women's Estate	C	15	2
FR310 France in Crisis	C	15	1
<b>Year 2</b>			
<b>REQUIRED</b>			
FR589 French language	I	15	1&2
FR566 French extended essay	I	15	2
<b>RECOMMENDED</b>			
FR590 French language for business	I	15	1 & 2
FR593 Paris Myth or Reality I	I	15	1
FR594 Paris Myth or Reality II	I	15	2
FR599 Description of French	I	15	1
FR547 Literary Trailblazers	I	15	2
FR611 Short Narrative Fiction	I	15	1
FR598 Occupation & Resistance	I	15	2
FR 558 Other Languages of France	I	15	1
FR 557 Surrealism in Literature and Film	I	15	2
FR 549 African and Caribbean Francophone Writing	I	15	1
FR 595 Classical French Theater	I	15	2
<b>Year 3</b>			
<b>REQUIRED</b>			
Year Abroad spent at one of the universities mentioned above or spent in a work placement situation in a Francophone country.	I	60	Academic year

<b>Year 4</b>			
<b>REQUIRED</b>			
FR591 French translation	H	15	1 & 2
FR567 French dissertation	H	30	1 & 2
<b>RECOMMENDED</b>			
FR592 French language for business	H	15	1 & 2
FR 539 History of French Language	H	15	1
FR 554 Sociolinguistics of French	H	15	1
FR 556 18 <sup>th</sup> Century Narrative	H	15	1
FR 560 Reader and Text	H	15	1
FR 561 Contemporary Cinema	H	15	1
FR 562 Romantic Autobiography	H	15	1
FR579 French Enlightenment French	H	15	1
FR540 Novels of F. Mauriac	H	15	2
FR 541 Molière and Classical French Comedy	H	15	2
FR542 Mothers and Daughters	H	15	2
FR 551 Introduction to French Autobiography	H	15	2
FR 579 French Enlightenment Literature as Propaganda	H	15	2
FR 700 Literature and the Left	H	15	2

#### **14. Support for Students and Their Learning**

- Personal academic tutor in French who will guide you throughout your studies.
- Tandem system (i.e. mentoring of first-year students by second-year students)
- Full induction programmes (including specially designed preparation course for those students going for their third year abroad to a French or Swiss University on an Exchange)
- One on one tutorials for supervision of second-year extended essay and final-year dissertation
- *Table Ronde* (i.e. extra-curricular language support organized by native language assistants from France and Switzerland)
- Student: staff ratio of 15:1 (maximum)
- French Society run by the students
- Student-Staff Committee
- Learning resources, equipment/plant: Templeman Library, Computing Services, School *Vidéotheque* and Viewing Room, Computer Assisted Language Learning Laboratory
- Handbook and individual course booklets
- Academic support system providing advice on module choice and programme structure, academic difficulties, progression routes and individual progress
- Central support services, including a learning resources centre, a Students' Union (including its Advice and Information Service, Counselling Service and Disability Unit).

## **15. Entry Profile**

### **Entry Route**

For fuller information, please refer to the University prospectus.

#### **Minimum requirements:**

You must be at least 17 years of age by 20 September in the year you begin your programme. There is no upper age limit to studying.

#### **A levels and AS levels:**

280 points (21 units) including BB at A level

#### **Access/Foundation programmes:**

A satisfactory pass in an approved Foundation or Access programme [?]. Please check with the University beforehand that we will accept the Access/Foundation syllabus you took.

#### **BTEC National Certificates/Diplomas:**

4D [including French], 2M

#### **European Baccalaureate:**

Average 73 points, 73 in French (plus standard English-language requirement, see below)

#### **International Baccalaureate:**

30 points, including 14 in French

#### **French Baccalaureate:**

Average 13 points, 13 in French, (plus standard English-language requirement)

#### **French Baccalaureate (International Option):**

Average 12.5 points, 12.5 in French, with standard English-language requirement

#### **Abitur:**

Average 2.3, 2.1 in French, with standard English-language requirement

#### **Italian Maturità:**

Average 52, 54 in French, with standard English-language requirement

#### **Irish Leaving Certificate:**

BBBBB, including French.

#### **Scottish qualifications:**

BBBBB, including French, at Advanced Higher or Higher grade.

#### **Certificate of Education:**

A Certificate of Education gained after a full three-year course at a college of education in the United Kingdom, with evidence of your previous study or experience of the French language at an appropriate level.

#### **University Degree:**

Completion of a degree course, including all the required examinations at a university in the United Kingdom or at another approved university, with evidence of your previous study or experience of the French language at an appropriate level.

#### **Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL):**

We shall consider any evidence you have of previous study and your ability to follow your proposed programme in French

#### **Mature applicants:**

If you are a mature student without traditional qualifications, we shall likewise seek proof of your ability to follow your proposed programme in French.



### **International Applicants**

In addition to the above requirements, international students can also qualify with the following:

- School Certificates and Higher School Certificates awarded by a body approved by the University. Subsidiary level credit or pass = pass at GCSE, Higher School Certificate pass = pass a A level.
- Matriculation, including French, from an approved university, with a pass in English Language at GCSE/O level, or an equivalent level in an approved English language test.
- Passing one of Kent's Foundation programmes, provided that you meet the subject requirements for the degree course you intend to study.
- An examination pass accepted as equivalent to any of the above.
- If you are not a native speaker of English, you must also, in order to enter directly into a degree programme, demonstrate your proficiency in English by a pass at the appropriate level in your 18+ school leaving certificate, through the evidence your previous university study, or through one of the following:
  - Average 6.5 in IELTS, minimum 6.0 in reading and writing.
  - Grade B in Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English.
  - Grade A in Cambridge Advanced Certificate in English.
  - Pass overall in the KMB/NEAB Test in English for Overseas Students, with at least B in Writing, Reading and Speaking modules.
  - A TOEFL score of at least 600 (written test) or 250 (computer test).

If you have not yet reached these standards, the University offers a Foundation Programme for international students, which gives you a year's academic and language training before you begin your degree.

**Other Qualifications:** European Baccalaureate Diploma; Advanced International Certificate of Education; Advanced Placement; Overseas Certificates (including other European Union Countries); The Higher School Certificate of Matriculation of approved overseas and EU authorities; American High School Diploma if accompanied by Advanced Placements (AP) Passes

UKC considers other qualifications similar to the ones listed above, provided they include a pass at English Language at GCSE/O level or equivalent

### **What does this programme have to offer?**

- An excellent grounding in contemporary French language and linguistics as well as Francophone literature, film and culture
- The Year Abroad requirement provides each student with the opportunity to consolidate this grounding through a possible year's residence in a French-speaking country, pursuing an appropriate full-time activity
- The opportunity to study the principles of literary-critical and linguistic-analytical practice within a friendly and committed department.
- The opportunity to study in Canterbury a major center for European Studies within easy access of both Paris and London
- A friendly campus with high student morale and dedicated lecturers and professors of international standing
- French and Swiss language assistants

### **Personal Profile**

#### **An applicant should have:**

- A lively interest in the contemporary language and traditional literate culture of France
- A desire to deepen one's knowledge of these fields
- A desire and willingness to travel and experience other cultures
- An openness to what is distinctive of and specific to the French language and culture
- A suitable level of linguistic ability in French and a willingness to develop this through reading and writing, as well as through speaking.
- A willingness to acquire the IT skills appropriate to literary and linguistic studies and to the creation of one's own texts.
- A readiness to share discovery with a larger group and exchange ideas.
- Flexibility of mind, the capacity for self-reflection and the desire to be intellectually independent and self-standing
- A readiness to place specialist study in a broad framework of complementary and contextual knowledge.

**16. Methods for evaluating and enhancing the quality and standards of teaching and learning**  
**Mechanisms for review and evaluation of teaching, learning, assessment, the curriculum and outcome standards**

- Student module evaluation questionnaires
- Annual monitoring reports
- External examiners' reports
- Periodic programme reviews
- Annual staff appraisal
- Active staff development programme
- Peer observation
- Mentoring of new and part-time lecturers
- Quality Assurance subject review
- Continuous monitoring of student progress and attendance
- Personal Academic Support System
- Vetting process of examination questions by module team, Quality Assurance Committee and external examiners

**Committees with responsibility for monitoring and evaluating quality and standards**

- Staff-Student liaison committee
- Departmental learning and teaching committee
- Faculty learning and teaching committee
- Board of Examiners (including external examiners)
- Departmental part-time studies Director
- Departmental quality assurance committee
- Departmental ethics committee
- Programme approval sub-committee of the University Learning and Teaching Board
- Programme teams

**Mechanisms for gaining student feedback on the quality of teaching and their learning experience**

- Staff-student liaison committee
- Student course evaluations
- Informal meetings and social contact with students (including student role in recruitment activities)
- Student representation at School Level
- Student representation at Faculty Level
- Exit questionnaire
- Final year programme evaluation
- Year abroad evaluation
- Discussions with tutors
- Discussions with Senior tutor
- Involvement of students in recruitment activities
- Monitoring of newsgroups
- Focus groups
- Suggestion Box or e-mail address

**Staff development priorities include:**

- Research led teaching
- Links with other European Institutions
- Post Graduate Certificate in Higher Education requirement for all new appointments and new part-time teachers
- Regular formal and informal collaboration in programme development
- Staff appraisal scheme
- Staff development courses
- Study leave
- Research seminars
- Subject based Conference
- Interdisciplinary Conferences
- Institute of Learning and Teaching membership
- Attendance at relevant conferences
- PhD as minimum qualification for appointment to lecturing posts
- Strong evidence of research record required for appointment to lecturing posts
- Mentoring of new lecturers
- Self evaluation
- Professional body guidelines
- Membership of relevant academic bodies
- Dissemination of good practice on new learning and teaching methods

## 17. Indicators of quality and standards

- Results of Research Assessment Exercise: 4 out of 5 in 2001
- Internal subject reviews
- External examiners' reports
- Validation of Final Year Business French programme by the *Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Paris* (Section authorised to oversee exams for the CCIP Certificat)
- Teaching and research culture recognised by the AHRB in the form of grants given to graduate students and staff for research
- Partnership with other higher education institutions in the UK and abroad
- Alumnae feedback
- International recognition of members of staff research
- Invitations extended to members of staff from French and other Foreign Universities

The following reference points were used in creating these specifications:

- Benchmarking statement/s for French: to be applied (draft form of Languages and related studies benchmarking- July 2001)
- Requirements of *Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Paris*
- The University Plan and Learning and Teaching Strategy (including the School Learning and Teaching Forum)
- Subject produced documents
- Staff and Graduate Student Research

Programme Specification Template

Annex 2

18 May 2001