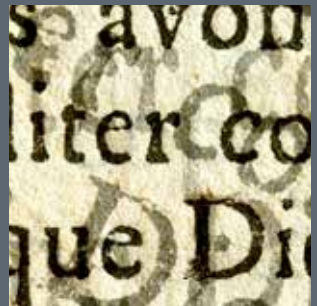


FRENCH STUDIES

BA/BSc (Hons) combined





Lucy Hunt has always loved performing and had a passion for learning languages. She chose Brookes because it was one of the few universities that offered the chance to combine French and Drama.

I chose my course because I have always been interested in the French culture and its language. I love learning new things. With languages you never stop learning as there will always be a new word to add to your list of vocabulary.

Thanks to my course I have become much more confident in my ability to speak a foreign language and I have improved my writing skills in both English and French. My French tutors are fantastic at helping me and directing me in the right way so I can improve my work.

On my year abroad I studied in Grenoble. It was a fantastic opportunity to meet new people, become more independent, enhance my language skills, explore new places and learn about a new culture. After I graduate I'd like to travel and learn another language before I start a full time job. Eventually I would like to work in France where I can use the skills I have learnt at Brookes to become part of French society.

For more student profiles visit www.english-languages.brookes.ac.uk

WHY STUDY FRENCH?



In today's globalised world, French is more important than ever before. Combining language skills with an insight into French history and culture, French Studies offers an interesting, varied degree course that will give you the edge in a competitive job market.

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WHY CHOOSE OXFORD BROOKES?



Develop your language fluency, explore French history and culture, and grow in confidence on a course that will prepare you for a successful future career.

Distinctive features

- Be taught entirely by native French speakers
- Delve into French culture with our taught modules or create your own independent study module
- Be supported throughout your studies – from academic support to careers advice
- Study, work or teach as you choose how you spend your Year Abroad
- Fancy something new? You can learn Spanish, German, Japanese or Mandarin as part of your course
- Choose from a wide range of combined honours options



Oxford has a really international community so you constantly hear French being spoken around and it is very easy to find societies and clubs for Francophiles.

Keira Moulding, French and English Literature student



French Studies at Oxford Brookes

Truly multicultural, rich in heritage and entertainment, and small enough to feel welcoming and accessible, Oxford is the ideal study city. It's just one hour from London too, giving you easy access to the diverse range of multicultural exhibitions, performances and bookshops in the capital.

Oxford is home to the Maison Française which offers interdisciplinary programmes, conferences, seminars and other events in collaboration with Oxford University. At Brookes you can also join the student-run French Society which organises social events and activities.

Support

You will be allocated an Academic Adviser when you start who will provide academic and departmental support for you throughout your studies. In addition, our Student Support Coordinators are there to help you in all aspects of your academic career from module choices to any personal issues you may experience.

We have a dedicated languages librarian who is on hand to answer your enquiries, teach you information skills and guide you around the electronic resources. The library also offers regular training sessions on accessing and making the best use of key resources.

Through our Upgrade service we offer advice on all aspects of study, from planning and writing essays to statistical analysis, either in a one to one situation or as a drop-in session. Upgrade is a free service available to all students at any level and is unique to Oxford Brookes.

www.brookes.ac.uk/services/upgrade

TEACHING AND LEARNING



The key to understanding another culture is mastering the language. At Brookes you will be taught French by native speakers in small classes, enabling you to develop accurate pronunciation and verbal fluency for social and business purposes.

Combined honours options

French Studies is offered as part of a combined honours degree. You can combine with the following subjects:

- Business Management
- Communication, Media and Culture
- Drama
- Education Studies
- English Literature
- English Language and Communication
- Film Studies
- Fine Art
- History
- History of Art
- International Relations
- Japanese Studies
- Music
- Politics
- Publishing Media

Teaching

We emphasize student participation and developing your communication skills. We have small class sizes to ensure every student takes an active part.

We use a range of assessment and learning methods which vary according to each module. Alongside the more traditional structure of lectures, essays, seminars and tutorials, assessment methods may include:

- group work
- presentations and debates
- practical work



Resources

With over half a million books, DVDs and CDs, a vast range of databases, e-journals and reference materials, the library provides all the resources you need for your study. You can also take advantage of the Library Electronic Information Network (LEIN), giving you access to a range of biographical searching tools, databases and electronic journals. Once you reach the stage of researching your dissertation you will have access to Oxford's Bodleian library.

We have state of the art e-learning tools to ensure you have the very latest technological support to advance your oral, listening and writing language skills.

Enhance your language skills

Our Modern Languages unit offers you the opportunity to take a module in another language as part of your course. You can choose to learn a language from scratch or improve your existing skills in French, Spanish, German or Mandarin.



The best thing about the course is the tutors. They have made me even more passionate about learning French because they care about the students. They really want to help us to make the most of our degrees and so they always make time for you. The fact that the tutors are all native French-speakers also inspires me because their incredible level of English makes me want to be that good in French!

Keira Moulding, French and English Literature student

RESEARCH AND EXPERTISE



You will be taught by tutors who are active researchers and also have the chance to develop your own research expertise.

Research expertise

You'll be taught by experts whose teaching is driven by the very latest academic thinking. Our main areas of research and expertise include:

- 19th and 20th century French literature
- Avant-garde movements and the visual arts
- French philosophy
- French cinema and representations of social change
- 19th century culture and society

Will I get involved?

We value research highly and we actively encourage you to become a researcher in your own right.

You will have the opportunity to take part in an annual Undergraduate Research Conference, at which you can create an exhibit or give a talk based on your research project and explain it to visitors at the conference. Prizes are awarded for the best display and for the best oral presentation.

CAREERS



French Studies will give you the language fluency, research skills and cultural awareness you need to tackle a wide range of careers.

One of the six official languages of the United Nations and spoken by an estimated 220 million people, French is an important language in the modern world. Language skills are increasingly rare in the UK and achieving fluency in French will impress employers both in the UK and abroad. In addition to language skills you will graduate with cultural awareness, team working, presentation and research skills that will make you attractive to potential employers.



I chose to do a work placement for my year abroad because I felt that it would complement my combined honours degree in Business Management and give me an insight into working internationally.

Kris Denhardt, student

Graduate opportunities

Studying French opens up a wide range of career options to you in addition to language-focused roles like translation and interpretation.

Our recent graduates have entered roles in teaching, public relations, banking and finance. Others have chosen to pursue postgraduate study.

Careers centre

Our Careers Centre is on hand throughout your time at Oxford Brookes, guiding your development from graduate to professional. The Centre can provide you with information throughout your studies, from career guidance and advice, to application procedures and practical interview skills.

www.brookes.ac.uk/careers

STUDY ABROAD



How would you like to spend your Year Abroad? You can choose to study, work or teach. Whatever you choose, we'll be here to support you to ensure that you get the most out of the experience.

Your Year Abroad

You will spend Year 3 in a French speaking country. You can choose to study at one of our partner universities, complete a work placement in a French firm, or become an English language teaching assistant.

In addition to improving your French language skills, you will emerge from the Year Abroad more confident, culturally aware and ready to take on the world.

Study Abroad partners

We are partnered with the following French-speaking universities:

- Aix en Provence
- Angers
- Brussels
- Grenoble
- Paris



My time in France was definitely an experience that I learned a lot from. Not only did I get to know the French language, French people and the French culture, but I also got to know myself, my strengths and my weaknesses.

Micky Bobie-Ansah, spent her Year Abroad in Paris



ELENA BOATENG

**MY YEAR ABROAD:
ELENA BOATENG, ROUEN**

"I really enjoyed my year abroad. I worked in the International Relations office at the Université de Rouen in northern France and I was in charge of welcoming Erasmus students. Every day was different and interesting as I had the opportunity to organise outings for people from different cultures and backgrounds and the experience exposed me to French culture and history.

I'd definitely recommend to anyone enthusiastic about looking for a future career that involves culture and languages to go for a work placement during the year abroad. Not only will you come back to Oxford Brookes with more developed language skills, but you will also have had work experience to prepare you for *le monde du travail* once you graduate."



CHRIS STONE

**MY YEAR ABROAD:
CHRIS STONE**

"The year abroad has been hugely beneficial to me both in terms of improving my French and broadening my personal horizons. Living in a foreign country is a completely different experience but one that I would definitely recommend to anyone looking to gain a different view of the world. I've met such a diverse group of people from all over the globe, and have had the opportunity to do things that I won't forget."

**I'LL COME AWAY WITH
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FRENCH WAY OF LIFE -
AND BEING ABLE TO SKI
EVERY WEEKEND!
~ CHRIS STONE**

MODULES



YEAR 1

French Language Skills (compulsory)

You will take modules in each semester to improve your written and spoken French, providing a foundation for the study and understanding of French culture and society. You will focus in particular on improving your grammar, vocabulary, oral and writing skills.

Introduction to Modern France (compulsory)

In this module you will explore the underlying structures and forces that have shaped modern French society through an introduction to France's political, economic and social evolution since 1945. We will look at selected themes which reflect the changing social agenda, such as the women's movement and anti-racism.

Reading and Writing - European Culture and Society (recommended module)

This module examines contemporary European culture and intercultural differences within Europe. Focusing particularly on France, you will gain a greater awareness of cultural differences and intercultural communication.

Key Issues in Film Studies

This module will introduce you to key issues and concepts in film studies. Through lectures, seminars and close readings of selected films, you will acquire the analytical tools for understanding the visual language of film. You will also gain an understanding of different critical approaches and the debates that surround them.

Early Modern World

This module provides an introduction to the socio-economic and cultural origins of modern Europe in the period 1450-1700. It offers you the chance to develop a long-running perspective on some of the main developments and debates in early modern history. The module is offered by the History department.

Foundations of Business

This module will introduce you to the nature, form and function of business organisations. Examples from current business practice will be used to illustrate business concepts and theory.

YEAR 2

French Language Skills (compulsory)

You will take an advanced French language module that will refine your spoken and written French language skills for academic and practical use.

Language for Professional Communication

This module complements your language modules and offers a hands-on approach to professional writing and speaking as well as conducting independent research using a range of resources. It is a prerequisite for the Year Abroad as it will prepare you for the Year Abroad research project. The research methods taught in this module also provide a methodological foundation for students wishing to take a dissertation in Year 4.

World War II: The French Experience*

Introduces students to French experiences of 'les années noires' and the ways in which they have been perceived and represented during the time of the Occupation and in post-war France. The module explores various genres, including film, the novel and the autobiographical diary. We will examine primary sources such as newspaper articles and original documents.

**Taught in alternate years.*

East-West Encounters in French Culture*

Much of what we think of as 'Western culture' has been marked by colonialism and its emphasis on racial and cultural differences. But how should we understand the varieties of conflict and cooperation that took place across cultural borders before the advent of colonialism, and how do they relate to our contemporary world? This module looks at representations of the 'East' from the 19th century until the present today. It surveys varied material such as texts, photographs, paintings and examines how they work to project an image of the 'foreign' and the uses to which such constructions are put. Notions of 'otherness' and gender will be particularly focussed on throughout the period covered.

**Taught in alternate years.*

The Business Environment in Europe

This module is designed to provide you with a knowledge of the economic and business environment in Europe. It will also investigate the extent of European integration in France. [Lectures in English, seminars in French.](#)

European Film in Focus

This module examines the national cinemas of France, Spain, Italy and other European countries. We will study key movements such as the French New Wave, the Spanish Movida movement and the Golden Age of Italian cinema, exploring the relationship between European cinema and social, political and aesthetic developments. There will be a particular focus on French cinema in parallel seminar sessions which will be delivered in French.

Methodology of Foreign Language Teaching

This is an introduction to the theory and practical application of the principles of foreign language teaching at secondary or adult levels. You will develop an awareness of a range of teaching techniques and apply these to the language classroom. The course will familiarize you with aspects of grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and classroom management which are essential to the language teacher.

Independent Study in French

This option gives you the opportunity to pursue a defined academic project of your own choosing in greater depth.

YEAR 4

French Language Skills (compulsory)

In your final year you will take two compulsory language modules. Building on the language skills you developed on your year abroad, these modules will prepare you for using French language at a high level in both academic and vocational contexts.

French Translation Skills

An advanced French translation module covering a broad span of current affairs and contemporary literary texts. The course is suited to students with a very high linguistic competence in French.

Paris City of Light

An advanced module on research methods in French Studies. It includes historical, sociological, literary and cultural aspects relating to the French capital. The module encourages students to conduct independent research on a topic of your choice from 18th to 21st century Paris.

[Taught in French.](#)

Intrigues, Secrets and Conspiracies in Versailles

This module focuses on the lives and fortunes of the Bourbons, the French Royal family and their below-stairs servant staff at Versailles against the social, political and historical backdrop of the French Monarchy in the run up to the French Revolution and its immediate aftermath. It provides an insight in the historical and cultural background of Early Modern-France and gives the students an opportunity to study arguably the most significant historical event in French history: the 1789 Revolution.

Interdisciplinary or Double Dissertation

This module allows you to pursue specialised work on a topic of your own choice that ties together both fields of your study. Students taking this module must also register for the interdisciplinary module in their other field and have their topic approved by module leaders and supervisors.

Applied Languages Research Topic

The aim of this module is to motivate students to use intercultural theory as a tool for analysing the cross-cultural experience of individuals or groups. It encourages students to conduct independent research relating to an aspect of the culture of the country they experienced during their placement and analyse it adopting the form of an academic research paper. To maximise the opportunity for learning, students have to present the outcomes of their research modelled on an academic conference.

[As courses are reviewed regularly, the module list you choose from may vary slightly from those shown here.](#)

KEY FACTS



TEACHING LOCATION

Gipsy Lane campus

ACADEMIC FACULTY

Faculty of Humanities
and Social Sciences



HOW TO APPLY

Application is through
UCAS. See our website
for course codes.

TYPICAL OFFERS

A level: BBC including
French

IB Diploma: 31 points

For combined honours,
normally the offer will lie
between the offers quoted
for each subject.

Applicants over 21 years of
age who do not meet these
requirements are encouraged
to contact Admissions to
discuss their application.

DURATION

Full time:
4 years

Part time:
up to 8 years



Contact

+44 (0)1865 484848 query@brookes.ac.uk www.english-languages.brookes.ac.uk

Oxford Brookes University
Headington Campus
Oxford
OX3 0BP

+44 (0) 1865 484848
query@brookes.ac.uk
www.english-languages.brookes.ac.uk

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