



# French (MA)

The MA in French enables graduates to develop a high degree of oral and written fluency in the language, additionally developing skills in research methods and intellectual enquiry. The programme combines advanced work on language, literature, and cultural studies in France and the French-speaking world.

It is suitable for those considering future careers in both secondary and higher education, as well as the creative industries, and other fields requiring high levels of communicative competence, intercultural awareness, and critical insight.

## MA French

Course level: Level 9

### Duration:

1 year, full-time

### Entry Requirements:

Second Class Honours NQAI level 8 degree with Second Class Honours Grade 2 in French; or equivalent international qualification.

### Fees:

E.U. students: €6,015 / Non-E.U. students: €13,000

### Applying:

[www.pac.ie/nuigalway](http://www.pac.ie/nuigalway)

### PAC code:

GYA13

### Closing date:

Further details on closing dates can be found on <http://www.nuigalway.ie/postgrad/assessmentdates/>  
First round offers will be made in mid February, therefore you are advised to apply early, which may result in an early offer.



## French (MA)

### Why study French?

This course provides the opportunity to study a wide variety of research topics in French and Francophone Studies, and also to acquire experience in literary and paraliterary translation. Individual modules are taught by experienced staff with a record of internationally recognised publications. The seminar-based format allows the productive combination of small-group tuition and varieties of student-centred learning. Graduate students thus achieve greater confidence in the specialist knowledge and skills acquired at BA level, developing their personal linguistic competence and analytical resources so as to be able to contribute effectively to professional and economic activities in a broad range of fields.

### Programme outline

This is a postgraduate course in French Studies, including translation experience. Tuition consists of specialist seminars in Semester I and a year-long translation class.

Seminars may include the following topics: Autofiction in French Literature: (Un-) Veiling the Self; Critical Approaches and Methods; Literature of Francophone Canada; Literature of France in Algeria; Representations of the Islamic Other in Medieval France; Spirituality and Literature; Travel Literature in French: Real and Imaginary Journeys; and advanced French Language studies. Together, these will allow the student to enhance and expand existing personal connections with and insights into French and Francophone societies and cultures. The specialised dissertation prepared in the second semester will then allow the student to engage in an individually negotiated project, which will generate a substantial piece of personal research.

On successful completion of the module, students will have significantly developed their analytical, critical, and linguistic skills, allowing them to embark on a variety of careers or to present themselves as candidates for doctoral research programmes in French Studies.

### Employment and career opportunities

As well as providing the opportunity to develop specialist knowledge and skills, the MA in French also encourages its students' broader development as articulate and confident members of society. The transferable skills encouraged include many regularly highlighted by prospective employers, such as information gathering and synthesis; analytical skills; presentation skills (oral and written); time management; and project management. The advanced linguistic competence and intercultural awareness developed by the course together equip students to embark on a wide variety of careers, both in Ireland and abroad. Previous graduates have found employment in second- and third-level teaching, media, administration, cultural industries, journalism, and further research.

### Examination arrangements

Literature seminars are examined by essay. (Not all seminars are necessarily available every year.) Language proficiency is assessed continuously throughout the year. An oral examination, typically consisting of a research presentation, is held. A Minor Thesis is presented.

### What our students say:

*"The literature and translation modules on the MA programme consolidated and expanded the knowledge of French I had gained at degree level, while the independent research involved in completing the thesis gave me a valuable insight into academic life. I found that having an MA boosted my confidence in French, increased my job prospects, and complemented my chosen career in teaching at second-level. The positive experience of researching my MA thesis stayed with me and I have since returned to NUI, Galway where I am now studying for a PhD in French".*

**Aoife Connolly,**  
IRCHSS Government of Ireland scholar.

[www.nuigalway.ie/courses/taught-postgraduate-courses/french](http://www.nuigalway.ie/courses/taught-postgraduate-courses/french)

Contact information/Enquiries to:

Dr Philip Dine T +353 91 492 391 E [philip.dine@nuigalway.ie](mailto:philip.dine@nuigalway.ie)