



Discipline of French

Postgraduate Booklet 2020-21

MA in French

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14 September 2020

Master of French

Full-time one year. Closing date for applications: Normally early April.

MASTER OF ARTS

(FRENCH)

GENERAL

The MA in French enables graduates to develop a high degree of oral and written fluency in French, in addition to 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.

DURATION

One academic year (September to May) (TAUGHT) Full-time

COURSE CONTENT

<i>Code</i>	<i>Module</i>	<i>Semester</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
Core			
FR522	French Language Sem I	1	10
FR523	French Language Sem II	2	10
FR508	Dissertation (Minor Thesis)	2	30
Optional (students are assessed in the following)			
FR525	Representations of the Islamic Other in Medieval France	1	10
FR528	The Literature of France in Algeria	1	10
FR527	Critical Approaches & Methods	1	10
SH505	Translation Studies I	1	10

ASSESSMENT

Literature seminars will be examined by essay. Translation Studies will be examined by continuous assessment. Language proficiency will be assessed continuously throughout the year and examined in a 2-hour written examination. An oral examination, generally consisting of a research presentation, will take place. All seminars will not necessarily be available every year. The specialized dissertation prepared in the second semester of the course will then allow the student to engage in an individually negotiated project, which will generate a substantial piece of personal research.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A BA (Honours) degree (at National Framework of Qualifications level 8; www.nfq.ie/nfq/eu/). Applicants must meet the entry requirements prescribed for admission to the MA programme, i.e. BA Second Class Honours Grade 2 overall, and at least a Second Class Honours Grade 2 in French. An interview may form part of the selection process. Candidates are expected to have resided in a Francophone region for one year or equivalent prior to taking the examination.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Previous graduates have found employment in second and third-level teaching, media, administration, cultural industries, journalism, and further research.

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

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Candidates attend **FOUR** seminar courses available in any year, and are assessed in **four** of them. All seminar courses will not be available every year.

Content of Individual Seminars:

Seminar Title: FR527: Critical Approaches and Methods 10 ECTS

Lecturer: Ms. M. Blom

Course Description: The aim of this seminar is to consolidate the critical skills and reinforce the critical awareness and confidence of participants. A number of dominant modes of French cultural criticism will be examined, including structuralist, post-structuralist, psychoanalytic, genetic, feminist, and sociocultural. Discussion will focus on a selection of illustrative French critical responses to a number of short literary texts. A secondary objective of the seminar is to ensure familiarity with the bibliographic resources (paper and electronic) available to students of French culture, as well as familiarity with relevant bibliographic conventions.

Teaching and learning methods: Seminars

Method of assessment: Essay

Core texts: Anthology of critical essays and Charles Baudelaire, *Le Spleen de Paris: Petits Poèmes en prose* (any edition).

Seminar title: FR522, FR523: French Language I, French Language II Semester I & II 10 ECTS per semester

Lecturer: Dr. Catherine Emerson, Dr. Coralline Dupuy

Course description: To perfect language skills by appropriate written exercises, mainly translation (French-English, English-French) of passages suitable for graduate students.

Teaching and learning methods: Language classes in small groups

Methods of assessment & examination: C/A & 2-hr written exam.

Core texts: In-house handouts.

Seminar title: SH505: Translation Studies I 10 ECTS

Lecturers: Dr. Mel Boland, Prof. Hans-Walter Schmidt-Hannisa

Course description: This module is aimed both at introducing students to the field of Translation Studies and to considering some theoretical and practical issues relevant to the concept of translation. Students will be introduced to the various linguistic and cultural issues underlying the production and reception of translation globally.

Teaching and learning methods: Seminars

Language of instruction: English

Methods of assessment and examination: Continuous assessment

Core text:

Munday, J., *Introducing Translation Studies: Theories and Applications*, 4th ed., (London and New York: Routledge, 2016).

Recommended additional reading:

Hatim, B. & J. Munday, *Translation: an Advanced Resource Book*, (New York: Routledge, 2004).

Munday, J. (ed.), *The Routledge Companion to Translation Studies* (London: Routledge, 2009).

Seminar title: FR528: The Literature of France in Algeria

Semester I

10 ECTS

Lecturer: Prof. Philip Dine (online)

Course description: This course examines the reflection in French literature of the country's colonial presence in Algeria from 1830 to 1962. It thus focuses on the wide variety of French literary engagement with this most strategically, economically, politically, and, above all, psychologically important of France's overseas territories. The texts selected for study range from early travel writing, through the mature output of the celebrated *Ecole d'Alger*, as well as literary responses to the process of decolonization, including particularly the continuing output of the exiled European population of 'French' Algeria. Emphasis will be placed throughout the course on the system of myths developed by the settler community, and repeated by its metropolitan defenders, in an ultimately vain attempt to legitimize European minority control of the territory.

Teaching and learning methods: Seminars

Methods of assessment and examination: Semester Essay

Core texts: Georges Perec, *Quel petit vélo à guidon chromé au fond de la cour ?* Paris, Denoël/Folio, 1966; Albert Camus, *L'Exil et le Royaume* (Paris, Gallimard/Folio, 1957); Albert Camus, *Le Premier Homme* (Paris, Gallimard/Folio, 1994). Philippe Labro, *Des Feux mal éteints* (Paris, Gallimard/Folio, 1967). Extracts from the work of other authors will also be provided.

Seminar title: FR525: Representations of the Islamic Other in Medieval France

10 ECTS

Lecturer: Dr. Catherine Emerson

Course description: To what extent were modern perspectives on Islam already prefigured in medieval Europe? Muslims appear as stereotyped adversaries in a wide range of medieval texts. Usually depicted with manifest ignorance of their traditions as pantheists, they may be bloodthirsty savages but are often more civilized counterparts of the European knights whom they encounter. In either case, the encounter with the Islamic other tells us more about the fears and aspirations of French writers than it does about contemporary Islam. Most intriguing is the tradition of the erotic encounter with the Saracen blonde where the exotic is rendered both exciting and docile through feminization.

Teaching and learning methods: Seminars

Methods of assessment & examination: Essay

Core texts:

La Chanson de Roland, Lettres Gothiques

Jean Bodel, *Le Jeu de Saint Nicolas*

La Prise d'Orange, Klincksieck

Aucassin et Nicolette

See the module in blackboard for details of editions and online alternatives.

Assessment (MA)

Students will be assessed by essay and/or examination at the end of the First and Second Semesters. All areas taught will be subject to examination. The topic for the minor dissertation should be confirmed with the supervisor and lodged with the Head of Discipline before December 15th. The completed thesis must be submitted to the School of Languages according to Examinations' Office deadlines. Candidates are reminded of the importance of submitting drafts of the minor thesis to Supervisors at an appropriate time before the end of the academic year. In practice it is frequently not possible for drafts to be submitted after the end of June.

Distribution of Marks

<u>Module</u>	<u>ECTS</u>
Language Sem. I	10
Language Sem. II	10
Seminar 1	10
Seminar 2	10
Seminar 3	10
Seminar 4	10
Minor dissertation	30

Marks and Standards

The standard for the examination is:

First Class Honours	70 per cent on the aggregate
Second Class Honours, Grade I	60 per cent on the aggregate
Second Class Honours, Grade II	50 per cent on the aggregate
Pass	40 per cent on the aggregate

At M.A. Degree Examination where a written Examination is prescribed, there shall be Orals in Modern Continental Languages. Where the M.A. Degree is taken by Thesis in these subjects, an Oral or a Written Examination, or both, may be held if the Examiners so decide.

No Candidate will be permitted to pass any University Examination in Modern Continental Languages who does not satisfy the Examiners at the Oral Examination in these subjects.