Students in the French Program are exposed to the linguistic and cultural richness of France and other Francophone (French-speaking) societies. Our students not only acquire competence in the language, but also gain different perspectives on a variety of subjects of global concern. French is spoken by people of many nationalities besides the French themselves. It is one of the languages of North America, Africa and the Pacific region. In world affairs, France is influential as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council and as a leading power in the European Union. French culture has also given us eminent philosophers, writers and painters since medieval times, as well as film directors in the modern period.

In the Australian context, France has major business interests, particularly in the mining, electronics and viticulture sectors, and increasingly in banking and finance, while French-Australian collaboration in scientific and industrial research is strong and growing. In 2012 Australia and France signed a “New Strategic Partnership” which promotes closer relations in foreign affairs, defence and education.

The staff of ANU’s French program integrates language learning with culture, politics, literature and topical issues in contemporary French-speaking societies, taking account of developments in second language acquisition and language teaching pedagogy. Proximity to French diplomatic missions and opportunities for exchange programs enhance the value of studying French at ANU.

**Career options**

Students who study French Language and Culture are well prepared to enter the fields of foreign affairs, international relations, development, education, business, public relations, journalism, telecommunications, politics, and public and environmental affairs.
Student Exchange

We have exchange agreements with several French-speaking universities, including in the Pacific (Noumea, Tahiti), with Canada: (McGill University; the University of Montreal; the bilingual University of Ottawa) and with Switzerland (University of Geneva).

Modern Learning Spaces

Many ANU language and culture classes are held in the Ethel Tory Centre, a teaching space designed to encourage collaborative learning and the use of technology as a valuable resource in language study.

Study Program

ANU offers an outstanding variety of programs that cater to those students interested in studying a language. Courses are offered from beginners’ to honours and postgraduate levels, and various enrolment options provide for different student needs.

French may be studied as a major (8 courses), a minor (4 courses), an Advanced minor (4 advanced courses), or an elective (single courses).

Students who study French language and culture at ANU:

> Attain general fluency in oral and written expression as well as in aural and reading comprehension across a variety of different registers from everyday language use to academic language
> Can express themselves orally and in writing in different genres
> Gain substantial knowledge about French culture, history, politics and society. They can interpret critically French and Francophone literary texts, film and other visual media
> Have strong intercultural awareness; they can critically compare and reflect on cross-cultural differences between Francophone and Australian cultures and/or their native culture.

Core language and culture courses are offered at several different levels:

> Introductory French
> Continuing French
> Intermediate French
> Advanced French

Later year thematic courses include:

> Current Affairs & the French Press
> Global Paris: Culture, History and Identity in the French Capital
> The Sounds of French: Phonetics and Pronunciation
> Imagining the French Empire: French Colonialism on Film
> Advanced French Topics (e.g. French and Francophone Literature)

Flexible Double Degree

As part of a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Languages, a French major can be combined with other Art and Social Science degrees as well as with degrees in Law, Business, Science or Engineering and Computer Science as part of the ANU Flexible Double Degree program.

For a full list of degree combinations see [www.anu.edu.au/study/study-options/flexible-double-degrees](http://www.anu.edu.au/study/study-options/flexible-double-degrees).

Prizes and scholarships

The School of Literature, Languages and Linguistics offers a variety of prizes and scholarships to students at an undergraduate, honours, and graduate level.

Scholarships for studying at a French-speaking university are available on a competitive basis, including the Ethel Tory Languages Scholarships and the John Kirby Memorial Scholarship for study at the University of Versailles.

Visit our prizes and scholarships page to find out more: [sll.anu.edu.au/students/scholarships](http://sll.anu.edu.au/students/scholarships)

Further information

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Matthew
Bachelor of Arts (Chinese/French) / Bachelor of Politics, Philosophy & Economics (Hons)

I’ve enjoyed immersing myself in the study of two very different languages: French and Chinese. In particular, within the Bachelor of Arts, my Chinese Language Major has presented me with a unique set of challenges. Learning a language that is so radically different from English means rethinking how you approach the study of language altogether.

Not only has the study of languages given me a renewed respect for the beauty of cultures other than my own, I think it has helped me grow as a student. Coming from a high school where most of my friends lived in the same postcode, I’ve now made friends from all over Australia and the world, each of whom has their own unique set of experiences.