

## Dear Future Study Abroad Participant:

I am a French advisor and the department member who usually processes requests for French department equivalents. In order to help you better determine if your courses will receive equivalents in French, I have drafted this document.

If you are concerned about how your French courses will count once you return to Madison, please read this carefully. As always, if a course is not pre-approved for an equivalent at UW-Madison (as noted in the list of course equivalents published on the IAP website), you must eventually submit a syllabus and may be required to show proof of your work in class.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Bonne continuation et bon courage!

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### How to determine FRENCH DEPARTMENT EQUIVALENTS for courses taken abroad

#### Basic principles:

- Note the difference between *content* and *language* courses. *Content* refers to courses that deal with subjects such as literature, civilization, history, marketing, etc. *Language* refers to courses that concentrate on perfecting the use of the French language such as writing, conversation, phonetics, etc.
- To receive French Department credit, the foreign course must be taught in French. All written work and readings must be in French.
- The fact that a course is taught *in* French does not automatically imply that it will receive French department credit. Content must be predominantly French/francophone in nature.
- Credits are determined based on contact time *in class*. 15 hours of in-class contact time is equivalent to 1 UW-Madison credit.
- A 2-credit course *will* satisfy course requirements for the French major or certificate (even though equivalent courses in Madison are 3 credits). However, the 24-credit minimum at the 300-level or higher for the French major and the 15-credit minimum at for the certificate are still required.
- French Certificate candidates: 5 courses are required for the certificate starting with French 228 and 271. 2 of those courses can come from abroad (3 must be taken on the UW-Madison campus).
- French majors and certificate candidates: If a student studies abroad *without* having taken 271 on campus, s/he should contact a French advisor about other options; some students may need to take 271 upon returning, others will be given the opportunity to substitute another course for 271.

#### FOREIGN COURSE

**CIVILIZATION:** topic is predominantly French or francophone

#### UW-MADISON EQUIVALENT

**French 462** and **449** are repeatable courses. You may receive 2 or more courses with the same equivalent.

**French 451**, Medieval, Renaissance, and Early Modern Studies, can replace the French 347 requirement for the major. However, to receive this equivalent, a course must demonstrate a focus on French civilization or history during the middle ages and the renaissance.

**French 348** is a survey of modern French civilization from the French

Revolution to the present.

**French 447**, *Panorama de la Civilization Française* : This equivalent is used for students who take a general French civilization course that spans more than 2 periods (or that does not fit into the 347 or 348 options). This course does not fulfill the 347 requirements for the French majors.

**FILM:** topic is predominantly French or francophone

**French 465.** If need be, a student may ask for a Com Arts 455 (French film) equivalent and subsequently (once back in Madison) *ask* to have that course count towards the French major or certificate (this is not guaranteed). See a French advisor for more information.

**HISTORY, ANTHROPOLOGY, JOURNALISM, GEOGRAPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE, ART HISTORY, SOCIOLOGY, MARKETING, OR MORE?:**  
topic is French or francophone

An equivalent in French or another department may be offered. Students *can* ask for an equivalent in that other department and subsequently (once back in Madison) *ask* to have that course count towards the French major or certificate (this is not guaranteed). See a French advisor for more information.

**LANGUAGE** (writing, conversation, etc., but *not* phonetics)

There is no need to *request* an equivalent for a language course. Students automatically receive the next course up in the UW-Madison language sequence. For example, if a student had 204 before leaving the UW, s/he will get 228, then 311, 312, etc.

**COMPARATIVE LITERATURE:**  
topic is a combination of French or francophone literature and literature from other countries or cultures

Normally French department credit is *not* offered. Usually an equivalent in Comparative Literature is available.

**FRENCH/FRANCOPHONE LITERATURE:** content is predominantly French or francophone

Consult the online course guide at [www.wisc.edu](http://www.wisc.edu) for the closest possible match. There are many possibilities; most however will be **French 461**.

**French 461** is a 'topics' course (eg., *Le thème de l'immigration dans la littérature francophone*) and this is a repeatable course. You may receive 2 or more courses with this same equivalent.

Rarely are equivalents to **French 321** or **322** available abroad. While one of these is normally a prerequisite to any 400-level literature or civilization course, you can get a 400-level equivalent *abroad* without 321 and 322. If you cannot take 321 or 322 before heading abroad, you will need to take these upon your return in order to complete the French major (321 and 322 are optional for the certificate).

Remember that **French 271** is a prerequisite for the French major and required for the certificate. An equivalent to 271 is not always available abroad. If a student cannot take 271 before studying abroad, s/he should contact a French advisor about other options; some students may need to take 271 upon returning, others will be given the opportunity to

substitute another course for 271.

**PHONETICS**

There is no need to *request* an equivalent for a phonetics course. Students automatically receive **French 351** or **590**.

**STUDENT TEACHING**

Currently **French 698**, Directed Study, graded on a Credit / No Credit basis.

**TRANSLATION**

A translation course is treated as a language course (see above).