

French



Exam Board

AQA

Qualification

GCE A-level

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in French, with consistent performance in all 4 skills. Students should have sat the Higher tier exam at GCSE.

Content (Outline of Course)

In year one of the course there are 3 compulsory topics:

- Current trends in French-speaking society (the changing nature of family, the 'cyber-society' and the place of voluntary work)
- Artistic culture in the French-speaking world (a culture proud of its heritage, contemporary francophone music, cinema: the 7th art form)
- A study of a French-speaking film

In year two of the course there are 4 compulsory topics:

- Current trends in French-speaking society (positive features of a diverse society, life for the marginalised and how criminals are treated)
- Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world (teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment, demonstrations, strikes (who holds the power?) and politics and immigration)
- A study of a French-speaking book or play
- An individual research project linked to a French-speaking country or culture

Assessment

THE A-LEVEL EXAMINATION

Unit 1 – Listening and Reading

2 hours 30 minutes, and forms 40% of the total A-level marks

Unit 2 – Writing

2 hours, and forms 30% of the total A-level marks

Unit 3 – Speaking

21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes of preparation time), and forms 40% of the total A-level marks

Careers Guidance

French is a highly valued A-level and choosing it will increase your chances of gaining a place at a leading university. Languages combine well with virtually any subject for further study: the range of combined degrees and further education courses involving a language is limitless – from Accountancy to Theatre Studies. Many universities even offer funding for students to continue or extend their language-knowledge by travelling or working abroad during the holidays. Many universities also offer the opportunity to take an ERASMUS year whereby students can study their degree subject in another country and, develop and practise their language skills at the same time.