FRENCH



Program of Study

The Department of Modern Languages and Classics offers a Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) French; a Master of Arts (M.A.) with a concentration in French Literature and a Master of Arts (M.A.) with a concentration in North American French studies.

Master of Arts in Teaching French

The M.A.T. in French has been redesigned with the collaboration of the campuses of the University of Maine System and Colby, Bates, and Bowdoin Colleges in order to better meet the needs of Maine's schools. The program offers full-time instruction during the academic year planned around the needs of pre-service teachers and an intensive institute during the summer for in-service teachers. The M.A.T. degree does not carry the requirement of a thesis. Candidates are expected to satisfy the 9 credits that constitute the M.A. core course requirements: linguistics (3 credits), contemporary society (3), and film or literature (3). They are also expected to complete 6 credit hours of courses in foreign language pedagogy taught by the Department of Modern Languages and Classics, in education through the College of Education. Additional requirements include a course in advanced French grammar or one in French stylistics, and a minimum of 12 hours of 500-level courses in French linguistics, film, literature, and contemporary society. The culminating project for the M.A.T. in French is the submission of a professional teaching portfolio illustrating the candidate's familiarity with Maine's teaching standards and his/her readiness to teach a second language in the K-12 classroom. Candidates seeking certification in the state of Maine must complete a course on teaching the exceptional student. In-service teachers who are already certified to teach French may opt to take additional courses in French language and culture or they may resume the study of a second foreign language at the intermediate level or higher in lieu of courses leading to certification.

Master of Arts with a concentration in French Literature

This program is intended for individuals with an interest in literature and who are considering pursuing a doctoral degree in the field. Candidates are expected to satisfy the core requirements described above in addition to completing four courses in literature, three of which must be at the 500 level. A minimum of six credits must be devoted to thesis research. The candidate's program of study may include courses in other departments when these relate to his or her field of interest. The M. A. candidate is expected to write a thesis and to defend it orally before a committee of the graduate faculty.

Master of Arts with a concentration in North American French Studies

North American French studies at the University of Maine developed from a natural link between the department and the geographic location of the university. The large number of francophone citizens who make up the population of the state of Maine, the significant communities with French heritage (Québécois and Acadian) that surround it, and the presence of Franco-American and Canadian-American Centers on campus have combined to create a strong interest and an expertise in North American French language and culture. The requirements for this degree are similar to those of the M.A. with a concentration in French Literature described above. The primary difference is that literature, language, and culture courses will be oriented to francophone North America. The candidate for the M.A. with a concentration in North American French Studies is also expected to write a thesis and to defend it before a committee of the graduate faculty.

Financial Aid

The Department of Modern Languages and Classics annually awards two Teaching Assistantships. TAs generally teach one first or second-year French course per semester. Graduate degree candidates may also be nominated for Trustee Tuition Scholarships and Chase Distinguished Research Assistantships offered by the Graduate School. Others may qualify for Canadian-American Center Assistantships, New England, Atlantic Provinces, and Québec Fellowships, and Foreign Language and Area Study awards available through the Canadian-American Center.

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Graduate Faculty

Eugene F. DelVecchio, Ph.D. (Washington, 1979), Professor. Nineteenth and early 20th century Spanish literature. Comparative literature. Literary and genre criticism.

Nancy Erickson, Ph.D. (Michigan, 1992), Associate Professor. French Renaissance literature. French women writers. (at USM)

Gisela Hoecherl-Alden, Ph.D. (Wisconsin, 1996), Associate Professor. 19th and 20th century German literature, Film, Exile studies, Second language acquisition.

Madelon Kohler Busch, Ph.D. (Wisconsin, 2004), Assistant Professor. Medieval Germanic literature. German linguistics and culture.

Kathleen N. March, Ph.D. (SUNY at Buffalo, 1979), Professor. Contemporary Hispanic literature. Literature and society. Peninsular and Latin-American narrative and poetry.

Kristina Passman, Ph.D. (Iowa, 1982), Associate Professor. Mythology. Latin literature. Women in the Ancient World. Greek.

Raymond J. Pelletier, Ph.D. (Massachusetts-Amherst, 1977), Associate Professor and Department Chair. Eighteenth century French literature. Foreign language pedagogy. Franco-American literature and culture. Bilingualism and bilingual education.

Susan Pinette, Ph.D. (University of California, Irvine, 1999), Associate Professor and Director, Franco-American Studies. Francophone literature. Eighteenth Century French literature.

Kathryn E. Slott, Ph.D. (Pennsylvania, 1980), Associate Professor. Nineteenth and 20th Century poetry. Nineteenth Century novel. Twentieth Century theatre. Poetics. Québec Literature.

Jane S. Smith, Ph.D. (Washington, 1994), Associate Professor and Graduate Coordinator. French Linguistics. North American French Dialects. Morphology. Foreign language pedagogy.

James Troiano, Ph.D. (SUNY at Buffalo, 1973), Professor. Contemporary Latin-American theatre and short story.

Associate Faculty

Mireille Baurens, Ph.D. (Sorbonne, 2003), Assistant Professor, Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres, Université de Lyon II. English. Gender Studies.

Charlotte Daniels, Ph.D. (Pennsylvania, 1992), Associate Professor, Bowdoin College. Early French novels.

Claire Davidshofer, M.A. (Université des Lettres et Sciences Humaines, Aix-en-Provence, 1969), Instructor of French, University of Maine at Presque Isle.

Katherine Harrington, Ph.D. (Brown, 2005), Assistant Professor, University of Maine at Fort Kent. Francophone Literature.

Claudette O'Connell, M.A.T. (Maine, 1985), French teacher/Department head (Retired), Brewer High School, Brewer, Maine.

Kirk Read, Ph.D. (Princeton, 1991), Associate Professor, Bates College. Early literature, Maghrebian Literature and Culture.

William C. VanderWolk, Ph.D. (North Carolina/Chapel Hill, 1986), Professor, Bowdoin College. Nineteenth century French literature.