Transfer Guide Leading to a Bachelor’s Degree in French

All degree requirements are subject to the provisions and notices in the NIU Undergraduate Catalog. Information is valid through November 2016.

Courses Highly Recommended Prior to Transfer (if student is transferring to NIU with general education requirements complete): Generally, it is recommended that students complete all lower-level French courses before transferring to NIU (100-200 levels). This way, students can start coursework at the 300-level during their first semester here. Some students can take a placement exam at their community college to place out of the lower levels. If you are a heritage speaker of French, then you will need to see an advisor in the department for appropriate course placement.

Courses to Be Completed at NIU:

Majors in both tracks are required to complete four core courses:

- FLFR 301 Advanced French Grammar and Composition
- FLFR 302 Advanced French Grammar and Translation
- FLFR 311 French Conversation
- FLFR 320 Analyse de Texte

After completing the core courses, students are required to take a certain number of 300 and 400 level courses, depending on the chosen track. In addition to French courses, students specializing in translation and business complete 15 credits of coursework in Marketing, Management, CLCE, or Communications. Some examples of upper-level course offerings are:

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<th>Translation and Business track:</th>
<th>Language and Literature track:</th>
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<td>FLFR 412 Commercial French</td>
<td>FLFR 464 Paris: City of Lights</td>
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<td>FLFR 483 Theme et Version</td>
<td>FLFR 437 Author in Context</td>
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<td>FLFR 484 Advanced Translation</td>
<td>FLFR 481 French Phonetics and Phonemics</td>
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<td>FLFR 482 History of the French Language</td>
<td>FLFR 446 Studies in French Genres</td>
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About the Department:

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at NIU offers a major program leading to the B.A. degree in French with two tracks available: one in language and literature and one in translation and business. Foreign language majors may gain certification to teach at the secondary level in French. The department also offers a minor in French.

- The French program offers small classes and individualized attention.
- Students majoring in one foreign language may complete a second major in another language.
- Foreign language majors may complete minors in languages other than that of their major.
- The department also participates in interdisciplinary minors in classical studies, comparative literature, Latino and Latin American studies, linguistics, Southeast Asian studies, women’s studies, and Chinese/Japanese studies.
- French majors interested in our teacher licensure program should set up an appointment with the Director of Teacher Licensure as soon as possible (even before transferring here).
Faculty:

The French program has dedicated professors who specialize in French literature, culture and film, translation, and linguistics. Our faculty are highly committed to student success and actively participate in the French Club, regularly offer honor’s course offerings, and continuously develop and lead faculty-sponsored study abroad programs.

Engaged Learning Opportunities:

Language Learning Center
The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures’ Language Learning Center is a fully integrated multimedia facility, with multi-standard capability. The system integrates all media sources. Audio, video, and data signals are linked together in a multifunctional learning environment. The media center is a means of enhancing classroom instruction and assists in creating a motivating atmosphere where students are stimulated to take an active part in learning the four language skills of understanding, speaking, reading, and writing. Students are exposed to a variety of native speakers and are able to work as a class with the instructor, in small groups, or individually. The Language Learning Center is state-of-the-art, equipped with an array of the latest and most up-to-date software and hardware, including software for virtual tape recorders and specialized translation programs.

Foreign Language Residence Program
The Foreign Language Residence Program (FLRP) is a residential language program in New Hall West for students interested in maintaining and/or improving their foreign language proficiency and cultural awareness. Native speakers of Chinese, French, German, Japanese, and Spanish are in residence to serve as cultural resources and to provide tutoring.

Roommates and other participants communicate in the foreign languages once they enter the realm of the Foreign Language Residence Program. At dinner, from Monday to Thursday, participants gather at individual language tables to socialize in the foreign language with fellow participants as well as foreign languages department faculty and other international guests.

Participants come together the weekend before the fall semester opens to make acquaintances and to orient themselves to the special atmosphere of this unique program. Two additional weekends, one each semester of intense interaction among participants, are held at a nominal cost to the student at NIU’s Lorado Taft Field Campus. One evening meeting per week, per language group, is held to learn more about the culture and customs of the foreign land. Each semester participants invite parents and other guests to share an ethnic meal and to be entertained at a program highlighting their language skills and their understanding of the foreign customs.

Professional Internships
Internship opportunities are available for students seeking to earn university credit toward their major degree requirements in French. Students in the translation and business track are strongly encouraged to complete a professional internship in the area of translation or business. French students have completed internships with Interpro Translation Solutions as well as with non-profit organizations both nationally and internationally.
Career Information:

A major in French language and literature can lead to graduate school, teaching, social work, government work (Drug Enforcement Agency, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Central Intelligence Agency, Department of State, Foreign Service, United States Information Agency, National Parks), health services, journalism, publishing, airlines, secretarial work, and international relations. Students who are planning to complete the emphasis in translation and business can anticipate the following career possibilities: import/export, translation/interpreting, travel and tourism, airlines, advertising, banking, sales and marketing, and health services. For a list of additional career opportunities in foreign languages, visit the NIU Career Service’s webpage: [http://www.niu.edu/careerservices/weblinks/majors/foreign_language.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/careerservices/weblinks/majors/foreign_language.shtml)

For More Information:

For more information about the French program at NIU contact:

Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures
Northern Illinois University
Email: FrenchAdvising@niu.edu
Telephone: 815-753-6448
www.niu.edu/forlangs