A-Level French: Edexcel Examining Board

Overview

Articulate writing and consistent use of terminology appropriate for literary and cinematic analysis will be expected at the end of this 2 year course. Students will develop their skills in order to produce a critical analysis of issues covered in the themes listed further down. They will learn to sustain a conversation in order to Interact spontaneously, responding with assurance to questions and statements.

All assessments will take place at the end of the second year.

What do you need to join us?

At least a grade 6 at GCSE will be needed to apply as students will need a secure knowledge of verbs and tense formation in order to convey information with lesser or close to no ambiguity. Students need to have a good grasp of vocabulary and structures in order to produce fluent pieces of coherent analysis.

What will the course involve?

4 themes 1 book, 1 film	3 papers
1 book, 1 mm	
	(40%)
Theme 1:	Paper 1: Listening, reading, translation
Changes in French society (France only)	Students should be able to:
	•understand main points, gist and detail from spoken and written materia
 Changes in family structure and expectations. Evolution of attitudes 	infer meaning from complex spoken and written material
towards marriage, couples and family.	assimilate and use information from spoken and written sources,
 Education. Pathways and students' expectations. 	including material from online media
• World of work. Working in France and attitudes towards work, the right	summarise information from spoken sources, reporting key points and
to strike, as well as gender equality.	
	subject matter
Theme 2:	translate from French into English.
Arts and politics in French speaking countries	(30%)
Arts and pondes in French speaking countries	Paper 2: Written response to works, translation
Music changes and evolution. Impact of music on popular culture.	
• The media and the freedom of expression. Impact of paper and online	Students should be able to:
journalism on society and on politics.	 develop a detailed understanding and appreciation of the works studied,
Festivals and traditions	by writing critical and analytical responses in the language of study to the
	works.
Theme 3:	produce responses that show critical appreciation of features
	• present viewpoints, develop arguments, draw conclusions, analyse and
Immigration and French multiculturism	evaluate in writing
	manipulate language accurately through translating an unseen passage
 Positive impact of immigration on French society. Immigrants' 	from English into French
contribution to the economy and to culture.	
Challenges brought by immigration and inclusion. Sense of community	(30%)
Vs alienation from the immigrants' perspective.	Paper 3: Speaking
• Extreme right. Rise of the Front National and its leaders. Public	Discussion on a theme (left column)
perception.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Independent research presentation and discussion
Theme 4:	
	Students should be able to demonstrate:
Occupation and Resistance	 knowledge and understanding of the cultural context by giving ideas,
	examples and information on one of the themes and on a chosen subject
German occupation and French collaboration. Anti-Semitism.	of interest they have researched linked to the social and cultural context of
Vichy France and Maréchal Pétain.	the language studied
• Resistance with Jean Moulin and Charles de Gaulle. Women in the	• the ability to analyse aspects of the cultural context by presenting and
resistance. The role of the people during the resistance.	justifying valid arguments, viewpoints and conclusions
	the ability to interact and hold a natural and fluent discourse
	skill in manipulating language accurately

What can I do with an A-Level in French?

Film: les choristes - Barratier 2004

Jobs directly related to your degree include: interpreter, political risk analyst, secondary school teacher, translator.

Jobs where your degree would be useful include: broadcast journalist, detective, diplomatic service officer, education consultant, English as a foreign language teacher, international aid worker, logistics and distribution manager, marketing executive, patent examiner, publishing rights manager, sales executive, tour manager

Remember that Modern Languages are a facilitating subject commonly asked for in universities' entry requirements regardless of the course that you will be applying to.