

French Program

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM:

French is a language of growing importance in our globally connected world. It is an important language of diplomacy, research, international organizations, and the arts. French is spoken on all continents and the Francophone Organization includes 57 countries. Many graduate schools require some training in languages ; French is spoken by an estimated 220 million people worldwide. That figure is set to rise sharply by 2050 with development in West and Central Africa.

The French program at Fairmont State University focuses on the study of language and culture, of communication and context, as a means to develop a comparative critical perspective. Through a broad humanities-based approach, with attention to history, the media, and the arts, students gain depth in their contextual knowledge. In addition, as students learn about cultures of the Francophone world, from Africa and the Americas to Europe and the Indian Ocean, they also understand their own story more clearly.

Learning to communicate in another language, and to develop intercultural knowledge, involves understanding simultaneous similarity and difference. This type of complex thinking is a desirable skill in many areas of the professional world. Employers seek out students who are multilingual, with concrete international experience, because of the maturity and skillset these students demonstrate. Training in French and cultural studies lays a strong groundwork for students' future lives as global citizens and innovators in many fields. Innovation coincides with an expanding network of knowledge and contacts.

French students are encouraged to study abroad through a variety of programs. International study may take place over a month-long summer session, a semester, or a full year. Students work closely with the French program director to select an appropriate program and ensure approval for transfer of credits back to Fairmont State.

Advanced placement allows French students with previous experience in the target language to accelerate their program. A placement exam will determine at what level the student may begin.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Dr. Erin Hippolyte

*Department of Language and Literature
College of Liberal Arts*

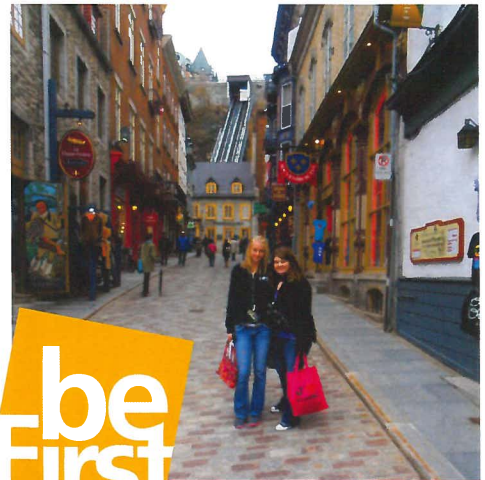
Room 305, Jaynes Hall

Erin.Hippolyte@fairmontstate.edu

Phone: 304 367 4598

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

www.fairmontstate.edu/collegeofliberalarts



- The French program offers students their first experience viewing and interpreting African films in French and local languages, with English subtitles.
- French is the first program on campus to participate in a statewide study trip to Quebec.
- In 2015, three Fairmont State students are the first to join West Liberty University in a special program in Strasbourg, France, focused on continued language training and hands-on learning about French culinary history and traditions.
- Along with Spanish, French provides high-school students with their first language immersion experience, welcoming them on campus for a day of activities in the target language during the fall semester.

WHY FRENCH?

French minors gain competence in global studies with a French-language focus, and have successfully combined the program with majors in other programs across campus. Students of French are well-equipped to work in government service, business, travel and hospitality, education, museums and cultural institutions, academia, and publishing. Pursuing coursework in the French program is also good preparation for law school and graduate school.

The French minor also provides a specialized path through general studies, with courses fulfilling requirements in the areas of Cultural Awareness and Human Dignity, Humanities, and Interdisciplinary Studies.

NOTES:

MINOR IN FRENCH

18 credit hours at or above FREN 1102

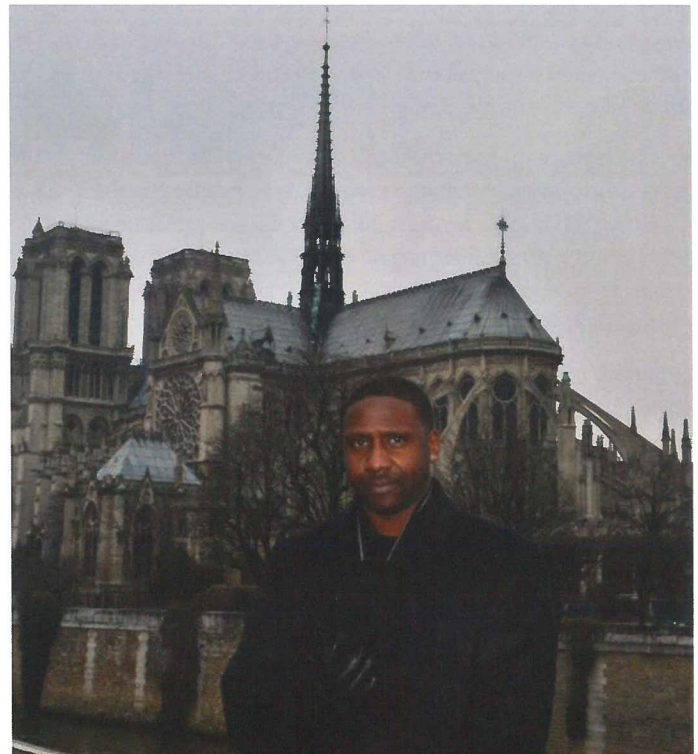
REQUIRED MINOR COURSES9 HRS.

FREN 1102	ELEMENTARY FRENCH II.....	3
FREN 2201	INTERMEDIATE FRENCH I.....	3
FREN 2202	INTERMEDIATE FRENCH II.....	3

MINOR ELECTIVES9 HRS.

Choose from the list below

FREN 1199	SPECIAL TOPICS IN FRENCH.....	3
FREN 3310	ADVANCED TOPICS IN FRENCH.....	3
FREN 3326	MEDIA STUDIES IN FRENCH.....	3
FREN 4420	FRANCOPHONE CULTURES OF THE AMERICAS.....	3
FREN 4998	UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH.....	3



Kevin Rucker in front of
Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, March 2012

Winner of the FSU Study Abroad
Photo Contest, fall 2014



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1201 Locust Avenue, Fairmont, West Virginia 26554

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