French and Francophone Studies

Unless they have not previously studied French, all entering students (freshmen and transfers) who wish to take courses in French, whether in 2013-2014 or subsequently, must take the French Placement On-line Test, anytime before Thursday, August 29, 2013. The test is located at http://webcape.byuhtrsc.org/?acct=haverford (the password is: paris-dakar).

Even students who have taken the Advanced Placement exam must take this test. (The only students exempted from the exam are students who have taken the French baccalauréat; students who have taken the I.B. or A-levels are advised to consult directly with the Chair, David Sedley). Placement results will be posted next to the department offices (3rd floor Founders) and in strategic campus locations as soon as they are available.

**Note:** in order to fine-tune placement, students placed above the level of 001 will be asked to write a short essay in French the first day of class, the evaluation of which may result in a different placement. Attending the first class session is thus important if you wish to study French at Haverford.

Students placed at the Elementary level (001-002) have the choice of studying the language in regular sections (1 at HC, 2 at BMC), which meet for five contact hours a week for 1 credit per semester, or in an intensive section (2 at BMC only) which meets for nine contact hours a week for class and drill sections for 1.5 credits per semester. Whether taken intensively or non-intensively, this is a year-long course, and both semesters are required for credit. 001 is only offered in the fall semester. Students who are placed in Elementary and who may wish to major or minor in French (usually one or two of our senior majors began study of French in college) are encouraged to take the Intensive Elementary section, since they will accomplish the equivalent of six semesters of study in only four. Both regular and intensive sections of French emphasize the speaking, understanding, and writing of the language in an oral-proficiency based curriculum which relies heavily on small contact groups and use of the Instructional Technology Center and online resources.

Students placed at the Intermediate level also have the choice of studying the language non-intensively in four regular sections of 003-004 (2 at HC, 2 at BMC) which meet for three class hours and one additional drill hour for 1 credit per semester, or intensively in three intensive sections of 005 (1 at HC, 2 at BMC) which meet for five contact hours a week for 1.5 credit per semester. In both types of sections, the emphasis on speaking, understanding and writing French is continued, and students are exposed to progressively more difficult literary and cultural texts which they discuss orally and in increasingly longer papers. The regular Intermediate 003-004 is a year-long course, and both semesters are required for credit. It is open to students who have taken 001-002 or who have been placed in it by departmental examination. The Intensive Intermediate 005 is open only to students who have been specially placed by the departmental placement exam or to alumni/ae of the Intensive Elementary course. Intensive Intermediate requires its graduates to take 102 or 105 in semester II for credit. Both 003 and 005 are only offered in the fall semester.

French 101 – Introduction à l’analyse littéraire et culturelle I – meets either in 1-hour sessions three times a week (1 section at BMC) or in 1.5 hours sessions twice a week (2 sections at HC). It is open to graduates of 003-004 or to students who have been placed in it by departmental examination. 101 is offered only in the Fall. The course focuses on developing expertise in literary and cultural analysis by emphasizing close reading and oral and written analyses of works chosen from various genres and periods of French and Francophone writing (i.e., France, Africa, the Caribbean, Canada). Readings begin with modern short stories and build to increasingly complex short stories, poetry, plays and novels. Although students may chose not to take 102 or 105 in the Spring, for which 101 is a pre-requisite, we recommend that they do so. 101 is the first required course for the French major, and students planning to major or minor in French must take either 102 – Introduction à l’analyse littéraire et culturelle II –, a continuation of 101 with increasingly complex readings from French and Francophone authors, which enable students to read and understand a novel in a week, or...
105 – Directions de la France contemporaine – which examines contemporary society and its issues (family structures, ethnic identity, the individual with respect to institutions) in French culture as portrayed in recent documents and films. In all three courses, participation in guided discussion and practice in oral and written expression are emphasized, as is grammar review. Two semesters are required at the 100-level for majors and minors.

200-level courses are open to students who have taken 2 units at the 100-level. First-year students, therefore, are rarely placed at the 200-level in the fall semester, since they generally lack some of the skills necessary for success at this level.

**200-level courses (literary and trans-disciplinary tracks)**

**Semester I:**
- 206 – Le Temps des prophètes [at BMC]
- 213 – Theory in Practice [at BMC]
- 250 – Introduction aux littératures francophones [at HC]
- 275 – Improving Mankind [at BMC]

**Semester II:**
- 203 – Passion et culture : le Grand Siècle [at HC]
- 204 – Le Siècle des Lumières [at BMC]
- 207 – Intro to 20th/21st French Literature [at BMC]
- 248 – Histoire des femmes en France [at BMC]

**Advanced Language Courses**

**Semester I:**
- 212 – Grammaire avancée, composition et conversation [at HC]
- 260 – Atelier d’écriture [at BMC]

**Semester II:**
- 262 – Débat, discussion, dialogue [at BMC]

Students who are placed by examination at the 200-level are urged to take a 200-level course of their choosing immediately so as not to lose the proficiency they have worked so hard to gain. All courses at the 200-level may fulfill minor and major requirements in either major track (literary or interdisciplinary).

300-level courses are open to students who have taken a minimum of two 200-level courses. Entering students are never, by departmental policy, placed at this advanced level.

If there are any questions regarding placement, courses, or the French program, please do not hesitate to contact the Department Chair, David Sedley (dsedley@haverford.edu; 610-896-1439).