MA in French and Francophone Studies

Admission Requirements

Applicants are considered on an individual basis. The program will accept and review applications for fall and spring semesters. Transcripts for all undergraduate work must be uploaded along with all other requirements.

In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following program requirements (for details, please consult the department website).

- **Baccalaureate Field** A substantial background in French literature is essential, as is fluency in written and spoken French.
- **Grade Point Average** At least 3.00/4.00 for the final 60 semester hours (90 quarter hours) of undergraduate study.
- **Tests Required** None.
- **English Proficiency** Additional information on the English proficiency test requirement for international students can be found on the UIC Admissions website. Minimum test scores for this program are:

Exam	Score	Reading	Listening	Speaking	Writing
TOEFL iBT (exams taken on or after 1/21/2026)	4.5	4	4	4.5	4.5
TOEFL iBT (exams taken prior to 1/21/2026)	80	19	17	20	21
IELTS Academic	6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
PTE Academic	54	51	47	53	56
Duolingo English Test	120	115	115	115	115

- **Letters of Recommendation** (in English or French) Three required from professors or others familiar with the applicant's recent academic work.
- **Statement of Academic and Professional Motivation** 300–400 words, in French; the statement should explain the applicant's (a) reasons for wanting to engage in graduate study; (b) previous training in French language, literature, and cultural studies; and (c) career goals.
- **Other Requirements**
  - **Writing Sample:** All applicants must submit a sample of their academic writing in French; a research paper in which an analytical and critical argument is developed and which cites appropriate sources is preferred.
  - **CV/Resume**

Degree Requirements

In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, students must meet the following program requirements:

- **Minimum Semester Hours Required** 32.
- **Coursework** At least 12 of the 32 hours must be 500-level courses in the Department of French and Francophone Studies, excluding FR 596 . At least 28 hours of coursework must be taken in the Department of French and Francophone Studies.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
FR 400	French in Style: Advanced Speaking, Writing and Research [a]	

Select at least 12 additional hours at the 400 level.

- **Comprehensive Examination** Required; written and oral.
- **Thesis, Project, or Coursework-Only Options** Coursework only. No other options are available.

a *FR 400 is required in the first or second semester for all non-native French speakers.*

Interdepartmental Concentrations

Students earning a graduate degree in this department may complement their courses by enrolling in select concentrations after consulting with their graduate advisor. Interdepartmental concentrations available for this degree include:

- Black Studies
- Gender and Women's Studies