Degree Programs in French and Francophone Studies

Summary of Requirements: Major in French and Francophone Studies

- FREN 20500 OR FREN 20503
- Nine courses in advanced language, literature, or culture (FREN 20601 and above)*
  - BA paper (if the student wishes to qualify for honors)**

Total Units: 1000

* These must include at least one introductory-level course and at least two courses that incorporate pre-nineteenth-century material. See the College Catalog for more information.
**Students writing a BA honors paper may count FREN 29900 BA Paper Preparation: French or FREN 29901 Academic Research and Writing as one of their literature and culture courses.

Summary of Requirements: Minor in French and Francophone Studies

- FREN 20500 OR FREN 20503
- Five courses in French Language, literature, culture or society (FREN 20601 and above) including;
  - One introductory-level course in French
  - One including pre-nineteenth-century material

Total Units: 600

Summary of Requirements: Minor in Kreyòl and Haitian Studies

- KREY 20400
- KREY 21100 OR 21200
- Four upper-level language, culture or literature courses that pertain to Francophone Caribbean Culture, Haitian Culture and Society, or Creolophone Communities*

Total Units: 600

*Other courses may be taken outside of the department, or an independent study could be considered upon the approval of the French undergraduate adviser and the Kreyòl language program coordinator.

Contact Us :

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Join the French and Francophone Studies listhost to stay up-to-date on news, events, and job opportunities!
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French and Francophone Studies

2026-2027

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF ROMANCE LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES
Division of the Arts & Humanities

Student Spotlight

A two-time Quad Undergraduate Research Scholar, Ernest also won the Neff Prize for Excellence in the Study of French Literature and Culture for his Honors thesis, “Le point de vue du peintre : écriture picturale et regard moral chez La Bruyère.”

Ernest works on early modern French literature and intellectual history. Following graduation, he is pursuing a master’s degree in Lettres Modernes at the École Normale Supérieure de Lyon, collaborating with members of the Institut d’Histoire des Représentations et des Idées dans les Modernités, before beginning his PhD in the department of French at the University of California, Berkeley. Ernest was awarded the prestigious Lafayette Fellowship, one-year of fully funded master’s study and is participating in an immersive leadership and cultural program designed to cultivate the next generation of French-American leaders.

Ernest Leong
BA in French and Francophone Studies and MA in the Social Sciences; Class of 2026
Photo (below): Ernest posing with the Mona Lisa at the Louvre in Paris, France

Our Faculty

One distinct aspect of the Haitian program at UChicago is community-building in class and outside of the classroom. Students are encouraged to participate in cultural activities such as Kreyòl Club conversation and networking meetings or cultural exploration outings to restaurants, museums, or konpa soirées.

Professor Ulysse teaches beginner and advanced courses pertaining to francophone and creolophone, particularly Haitian language, culture, and society. As a Haitian-born educator, her path to the classroom is rooted in a personal commitment to cultural preservation and social justice. She has won several awards including The Faculty Award by the African and Caribbean Students Association, the Glenn and Claire Swogger Award for Exemplary Classroom Instruction, and the Janel M. Mueller Award for Excellence in Pedagogy.

Gerdine Michel Ulysse
Assistant Instructional Professor, French and Haitian Creole (Kreyòl); Kreyòl Language Program Coordinator

Dr. Lyamlahy works on Francophone North African literature in relation to political, social, and cultural debates in the region and beyond. His research interests also include fiction and poetry in the French-speaking world, literary and postcolonial theory, as well as translation. His second novel, *Évocation d'un mémorial à Venise*, has just been released in English under the title *Venice Requiem*. In Autumn 2026, he will teach *Nouvelles du Maghreb,* an introductory course on the North African short story, and *Lire les littératures francophones : éléments d’analyse littéraire,* which explores the methods and techniques of literary analysis through a selection of texts and debates from across the French-speaking world.

Khalid Lyamlahy
Assistant Professor of French & Francophone Studies

Study Abroad

Many programs are offered through the UChicago John W. Boyer Center in Paris across all academic quarters. These include subject-specific trips such as Art History, Cinema and Media Studies, or Global Health as well as Civilization Core courses in European Civ, Gender and Sexuality in World Civ and more!

There are also possibilities to study abroad in Dakar (Senegal), and Marrakesh (Morocco).

Professor Khalid Lyamlahy is teaching “North African France: Decolonization, Immigration, and Postcolonial Identity” as part of a September course abroad that explores the historical intersections between France and North Africa, from France’s imperial colonization of North Africa to political and cultural legacies in the postcolonial era.

Find more information at study-abroad.uchicago.edu
Cover Photo: Taken by Annabel Yarborough while travelling abroad for European Civ in French
Top Photo: Prof. Khalid Lyamlahy posing with students at the Arab World Institute in Paris