

MA in FRENCH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

The Graduate Program in French Language and Literature at Boston University provides comprehensive training in all areas of French studies. Students develop an advanced knowledge of French and Francophone literature, its history, and major works; and a sound knowledge of the traditions, aims, and methods of scholarly research in the field.

The requirements include:

- A sound command of written and spoken French
- Eight courses on French literature and cultural studies at the 500-level or above
- Successful completion of the Comprehensive Examination

The program must be completed within a *maximum* of three years.

PHD IN FRENCH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

The PhD in French Language and Literature seeks to provide each student with a thorough knowledge of French and Francophone literature, its history, and major works. The program offers professional preparation through the acquisition of extensive knowledge of a specialized area within the field of study; advanced skills in the use, evaluation, and production of critical scholarly and research materials; experience communicating knowledge acquired through original research; and training in pedagogy and/or other relevant practical training.

The requirements include:

- A near-native command of written and spoken French
- Eight courses on French literature and cultural studies at the 500-level or above, beyond those required for the M.A. degree
- Successful completion of the Comprehensive Examination
- Successful completion and defense of two Qualifying Papers
- Successful completion and defense of the Doctoral Dissertation
- Completion of the Curricular Practical Training requirement
- Completion of appropriate coursework and training in pedagogy, as per departmental and GRS policies

Financial support:

The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the Department of Romance Studies guarantee five full years (12 months each) of financial support for new PhD students who maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress. This support will be in the form of Teaching Fellowships, Research Assistantships or Graduate Fellowships. All requirements for the doctorate, including dissertation, must be completed within seven years (exceptions require a petition to GRS). A leave of absence of up to two semesters is permitted for appropriate cause, but the leave period counts towards the seven-year time limit. Given these time constraints, students should work closely with their advisers and dissertation readers to devise an efficient schedule for meeting all benchmarks. Faculty and students share responsibility for adhering closely to this schedule.

Satisfactory Academic Progress:

The following achievements are required to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress:

- Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Have no more than 2 failing grades (lower than B- or an incomplete grade older than 12 months)
- Pass qualifying exams and other milestones on the departmentally recommended schedule.

General Optimal Timetable to Completion:

Following is a general optimal timetable for the completion of the PhD*:

- During the first year, all students must take and pass 8 approved courses.
- During the second year, students continue their coursework and complete the departmental pedagogy sequence. By the end of the second year, post-MA entrants should have completed their coursework, Comprehensive examinations, and the oral defense of their Qualifying Papers.
- During the third year, post-BA entrants complete their coursework, Comprehensive examinations, and the oral defense of their Qualifying Papers. Post-MA entrants are expected to have an approved Dissertation prospectus by the mid-point of the third year.
- Post-BA entrants are expected to have an approved Dissertation prospectus by the mid-point of the fourth year.
- Under GRS guidelines, students are allowed until the end of their seventh year to complete and defend their dissertations. Students who will not meet this deadline must file a petition for extension of time to complete PhD requirements.

Throughout their studies, all students are encouraged to apply for appropriate external fellowship and professional development opportunities, including existing departmental programs in Lyon and Paris.

* This schedule applies to students who began their first year at BU in September 2013 or later.