

Program Change Request

EP.26.155_FINAL

Approved by EP 04/20/2026

New Proposal

Date Submitted: 03/22/26 5:24 pm

Viewing: : **French & Francophone Studies Minor,**
GR

Last edit: 04/15/26 8:06 am

Changes proposed by: Aurore Mroz

In Workflow

1. U Program Review
2. 1985-FRIT Head
3. SLCL Head
4. KV Dean
5. University Librarian
6. Grad_College
7. COTE Programs
8. Provost
9. Senate EPC
10. Senate
11. U Senate Conf
12. Board of Trustees
13. IBHE
14. HLC
15. DOE
16. Catalog Editor
17. DMI

Approval Path

1. 01/29/26 3:39 pm
Emily Stuby
(eastuby): Rollback
to Initiator
2. 02/10/26 4:42 pm
Brianna Vargas-
Gonzalez (bv4):
Approved for U
Program Review
3. 02/16/26 3:32 pm
Eleonora Stoppino
(stoppino):
Approved for 1985-
FRIT Head
4. 02/25/26 3:23 pm

- Mariselle Melendez
(melendez):
Approved for SLCL
Head
5. 03/12/26 12:25 pm
Stephen Downie
(sdownie): Rollback
to Initiator
6. 03/25/26 3:13 pm
Brianna Vargas-
Gonzalez (bv4):
Approved for U
Program Review
7. 03/25/26 3:13 pm
Eleonora Stoppino
(stoppino):
Approved for 1985-
FRIT Head
8. 03/25/26 11:08 pm
Mariselle Melendez
(melendez):
Approved for SLCL
Head
9. 03/26/26 9:15 am
Melissa Reedy
(murray): Approved
for KV Dean
10. 03/26/26 9:48 am
Tom Teper (tteper):
Approved for
University Librarian
11. 04/08/26 2:04 pm
Allison McKinney
(agrindly): Approved
for Grad_College
12. 04/08/26 7:48 pm
Suzanne Lee
(suzannel):
Approved for COTE
Programs

13. 04/09/26 2:57 pm

Brooke Newell
(bsnewell):
Approved for
Provost

Proposal Type

Proposal Type: Minor (ex. European Union Studies)

Administration Details

Official Program Name French & Francophone Studies Minor, GR

Diploma Title

Sponsor College Liberal Arts & Sciences

Sponsor Department French & Italian

Sponsor Name Aurore Mroz

Sponsor Email apmroz@illinois.edu

College Contact Stephen R. Downie

College Contact
Email

sdownie@illinois.edu

College Budget Officer Michael Wellens

College Budget Officer Email wellens@illinois.edu

If additional stakeholders other than the Sponsor and College Contacts listed above should be contacted if questions during the review process arise, please list them here.

Melissa Reedy, murray@illinois.edu (LAS Assistant Director Course & Cir Dvt)

Does this program have inter-departmental administration?

No

Effective Catalog Term

Effective Catalog Term Fall 2026

Effective Catalog 2026-2027

Proposal Title

Proposal Title (either Establish/Revise/Eliminate the Degree Name in Program Name in the College of XXXX, i.e., Establish the Bachelor of Science in Entomology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, include the Graduate College for Grad Programs)

Establish the Graduate Minor in French & Francophone Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College

Does this proposal have any related proposals that will also be revised at this time and the programs depend on each other? Consider Majors, Minors, Concentrations & Joint Programs in your department. Please know that this information is used administratively to move related proposals through workflow efficiently and together as needed. Format your response like the following "This BS proposal (key 567) is related to the Concentration A proposal (key 145)"

Program Justification

Provide a brief justification of the program, including highlights of the program objectives, and the careers, occupations, or further educational opportunities for which the program will prepare graduates, when appropriate.

The proposed Graduate Minor in French and Francophone Studies is designed to provide graduate students enrolled in a program, other than French, advanced, structured engagement in the language, literatures, cultures, histories, and societies of the Francophone world. Building on the department's existing strengths in French & Francophone studies, the minor formalizes an interdisciplinary opportunity for students to develop high-level language proficiency and cultural literacy that complements and enhances their primary field of study.

The program's objectives are threefold:

- to foster advanced proficiency in French and deepen understanding of the diverse Francophone world, including Europe, Africa, the Caribbean, and the Americas
- to equip students with critical, linguistic, and intercultural competencies that will strengthen their academic profiles and broaden their professional horizons
- to support interdisciplinary research and collaboration by creating a credential that signals expertise in French language and Francophone cultural analysis

Graduates who complete the minor will be well prepared for careers in academia, international relations, global business, diplomacy, translation, non-governmental organizations, and cultural institutions, as well as for further doctoral and post-doctoral research requiring advanced French proficiency and cultural knowledge.

Please include how the proposed minor requires some depth in the subject, but not as extensive as the major.

The proposed minor provides meaningful depth in French and Francophone Studies by requiring 12 credit hours of advanced coursework (400- and 500-level) taught in French, with exposure to at least two distinct subfields of study. This ensures that students engage with sophisticated content and develop substantial expertise, particularly in linguistic, literary, historical, or cultural analysis.

At the same time, the scope of the minor remains less extensive than an M.A. or a Ph.D. in French, which requires 32 hours of coursework, as well as comprehensive examinations, and sustained engagement with a single field of research. The minor is designed to complement a student's primary graduate program without duplicating the depth or intensity of a full M.A. or Ph.D. program in French.

Instructional Resources

Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a result of this new program/proposed change?

No

Does this new program/proposed change result in the replacement of another program?

No

Does the program include other courses/subjects outside of the sponsoring department impacted by the creation/revision of this program? If Yes is selected, indicate the appropriate courses and attach the letter of support/acknowledgement.

No

Program Features

Academic Level Graduate

Is this minor?

An interdisciplinary study focusing on a single theme

Is this program part of an ISBE approved licensure program?

No

Will specialized accreditation be sought for this program?

No

Other than certification via the students' degree audits, is there any additional planned mechanism to award/honor successful completion of the minor?

No

Does this program prepare graduates for entry into a career or profession that is regulated by the State of Illinois?

No

Program of Study

An undergraduate minor should consist of at least 16 - and no more than 21 hours - of course work, with at least 6 hours of 300- or 400- level courses. Except for clearly remedial offerings, prerequisite courses within the

sponsoring unit count towards the total; prerequisite courses outside the sponsoring unit do not count toward this total. The unit sponsoring the minor and that unit's college may set educationally necessary prerequisites for eligibility for the minor within these constraints. Does this proposal meet these criteria?

Yes

Attach Program of Study related information here.

Catalog Page Text - Overview Tab

Catalog Page Overview Text

The Graduate Minor in French & Francophone Studies provides graduate students from programs outside of French the opportunity to pursue advanced study of the French language and the literatures, histories, and cultures of the Francophone world.

The minor requires 12 credit hours of approved 400- and 500-level coursework taught in French, representing at least two distinct subfields, and students must demonstrate an advanced command of French during the course of study. Designed to complement a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds, the minor equips students with linguistic and intercultural competencies that enhance their scholarly research and professional profiles in fields such as higher education, international affairs, cultural institutions, public service, and global business.

Statement for
Programs of Study
Catalog

Minor Requirements

The minor requires 12 credit hours, including 8 credit hours at the 500 level chosen from the courses below or in consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies.

French Literature Course (choose 1):		4
FR 543	French Studies	
FR 571	Seminar 16thC French Lit	
FR 572	Seminar 17thC French Lit	
FR 573	Seminar 18thC French Lit	
FR 574	Seminar 19thC French Lit	

FR 578	Seminar 20thC French Lit	
FR 579	Seminar in French Literature	
Francophone Studies (choose 1):		4
FR 479	Studies in Francophonie	
FR 576	Seminar in Francophonie	
French Applied Linguistics (choose 1):		4
FR 417	Topics in the History of Romance Languages	
FR 418	Language & Minorities in Europe	
FR 419	Techniques in Translation	
FR 485	French for the Professions	
FR 529	Studies in French Linguistics	
Total Hours		12

Other Requirements

Students must demonstrate a minimum of Advanced Low Proficiency on the ACTFL scale (B2 CEFR)

It is at the discretion of the major degree department to determine which, if any, of the courses used to fulfill the minor will also be used to fulfill the requirements for the graduate major degree.

Program Regulation and Assessment

Plan to Assess and Improve Student Learning

Illinois Administrative Code: 1050.30(b)(1)(D) Provision is made for guidance and counseling of students, evaluations of student performance, continuous monitoring of progress of students toward their degree objectives and appropriate academic record keeping.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Graduate Minor in French & Francophone Studies, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate advanced command of the language
2. Analyze, interpret, and synthesize complex cultural, literary, and/or linguistic materials from the Francophone world
3. Articulate interdisciplinary connections between French and Francophone studies and their primary field of Graduate study
4. Employ culturally responsive and ethical frameworks when engaging with Francophone texts, communities, and research contexts

Describe how, when, and where these learning outcomes will be assessed.

Describe here:

Assessment will occur systematically at three levels;

- Course-based level: instructors will evaluate linguistic and analytical performance in each 400-/500-level course using standardized rubrics for language proficiency and critical analysis
- Mid-program review: the DGS will confirm satisfactory progress and verify proficiency documentation (exam or coursework)
- End-of-program evaluation: the DGS will review a short portfolio including final seminar papers (direct measure) and an exist self-reflection (indirect measure).

Feedback from faculty will inform periodic review of outcomes and curriculum effectiveness

Identify faculty expectations for students' achievement of each of the stated student learning outcomes. What score, rating, or level of expertise will signify that students have met each outcome? Provide rating rubrics as necessary.

Faculty expect students to achieve:

- Language proficiency: ACTFL Advanced Mid or CEFR B2, verified through standardized Oral Proficiency Interviews and evaluation of proficiency displayed in written assignments
- Analytical competence: grades of B (3.0) or higher in all approved seminars, demonstrating accurate use of French and critical understanding of Francophone materials
- Integrative understanding: portfolio evidence showing the ability to relate to Francophone perspectives to the student's disciplinary field.

Students meeting or exceeding these benchmarks are deemed to have achieved program learning outcomes

Explain the process that will be implemented to ensure that assessment results are used to improve student learning.

Assessment data will be reviewed annually by the Department's Graduate Studies Committee and discussed in the yearly FRIT faculty meeting dedicated to Graduate Student evaluations. Patterns in student performance, proficiency results, and faculty feedback will guide adjustments in course offerings, advising practices, and learning supports (e.g., study abroad, mentoring). Significant findings will be summarized in the department's annual report to ensure that assessment results directly inform curricular refinement and improved students learning outcomes.

Program

Description and

Requirements

Attach Documents

Delivery Method

This program is
available:

On Campus - Students are required to be on campus, they may take some online courses.

Enrollment

Will the department limit enrollment to the minor?

No

Describe how the department will monitor the admission to/enrollment in the minor.

Admission to and enrollment in the Graduate Minor in French & Francophone Studies will be monitored by the Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of French & Italian. Students wishing to pursue the minor must submit:

- (a) a brief written request in which they present their rationale for completing the minor,
- (b) an intended study plan,
- (c) the approval of their home department's graduate advisor (short email),
- (d) proof of graduate-level readiness and proficiency in French (advanced command of the language) that situates them well to complete the minor (e.g., previous advanced coursework in French (400-level or equivalent) at Illinois or elsewhere, current enrollments and grades in advanced seminars, oral proficiency interview passed or scheduled (communicating results afterwards), letter of recommendation from an instructor of French who can attest to their French language proficiency and academic readiness)

The DGS, in accordance with the Committee on Admissions, will review and authorize eligibility, maintain an internal record of approved students, and verify completion of requirements before the Graduate College transcript request is processed. Enrollment data will be tracked annually through departmental and Graduate College reporting to ensure appropriate oversight and advising

Are there any prerequisites for the proposed minor?

No

Number of Students in Program (estimate)

Year One Estimate

5

5th Year Estimate (or when fully implemented)

15

Budget

Will the program or revision require staffing (faculty, advisors, etc.) beyond what is currently available?

No

Additional Budget Information

Attach File(s)

Financial Resources

How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

The Graduate Minor in French & Francophone Studies will require no additional financial resources. Students completing the minor will enroll in existing graduate seminars that are already part of the Department of French & Italian's regular course offerings. The program will therefore operate within the department's current instructional capacity and advising structure. Administrative oversight and advising will be managed by the Director of Graduate Studies as part of regular duties, with no new budgetary allocations, faculty appointments, or instructional costs anticipated.

Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?

No

Attach letters of support

Library Resources

Describe your proposal's impact on the University Library's resources, collections, and services. If necessary please consult with the appropriate disciplinary specialist within the University Library.

The proposal team consulted with Paula Carns and, based upon their input, determined that the Library's resources, collections, and services are sufficient to meet the needs of the program outlined in this proposal.

EP Documentation

EP Control Number EP.26.155

Attach Rollback/
Approval Notices

Non-EP Documentation

U Program Review [Re_French & Francophone Minor Proposal.pdf](#)
Comments [RE_French & Francophone Studies Minor, GR \[response requested\].pdf](#)

Rollback

Documentation and
Attachment

DMI Documentation

Attach Final

Approval Notices

Banner/Codebook
Name

Program Code:

Minor Code	Conc Code	Degree Code	Major Code
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Senate Approval
Date

Senate Conference
Approval Date

BOT Approval Date

IBHE Approval Date

HLC Approval Date

DOE Approval Date

Effective Date:

Program Reviewer

Comments

Emily Stuby (eastuby) (01/29/26 3:39 pm): Rollback: College requested

Emily Stuby (eastuby) (02/09/26 2:18 pm): Updated Official Program Name to meet data standards. Removed diploma title as minors do not have diploma titles.

Stephen Downie (sdownie) (03/12/26 12:25 pm): Rollback: Revisions requested by LAS Courses and Curricula Committee and LAS Executive Committee. Explanatory email sent to sponsor A. Mroz on 03/12/26.

Key: 1383