



QUEEN'S  
COLLEGE  
TAUNTON

# French A Level

## Overview

The Languages Faculty aims to develop as fully as possible students' innate linguistic ability and the teaching is sympathetic, supportive and, as far as possible, tailored to individual needs. A range of techniques and activities are employed to make the learning process as enjoyable and stimulating as possible.

## Why Study?

Studying a language at A level gives you the opportunity to practise key skills which can be useful for all career choices. The ability to understand and communicate in another language is a life-long skill for education, employment and leisure purposes. Through the study of a language, you can discover new cultures and broaden your view of our globalised world. In current climates, employers look favourably on future employees with the ability to speak another language.

Studying a language at university can involve studying languages solely or more often they can be combined to get joint or multiple Honours degrees. There is a wide range of courses available in universities where you can study a language in conjunction with another language studied to A level standard or even start a new language ab initio.

In recent years several students have continued French at university or have started a new language, on its own or in conjunction with subjects such as International Business, Cinema, History, Economics, Education, Management, European Studies, International Relations, International Politics, Journalism, Catering or Linguistics.

## Course Overview

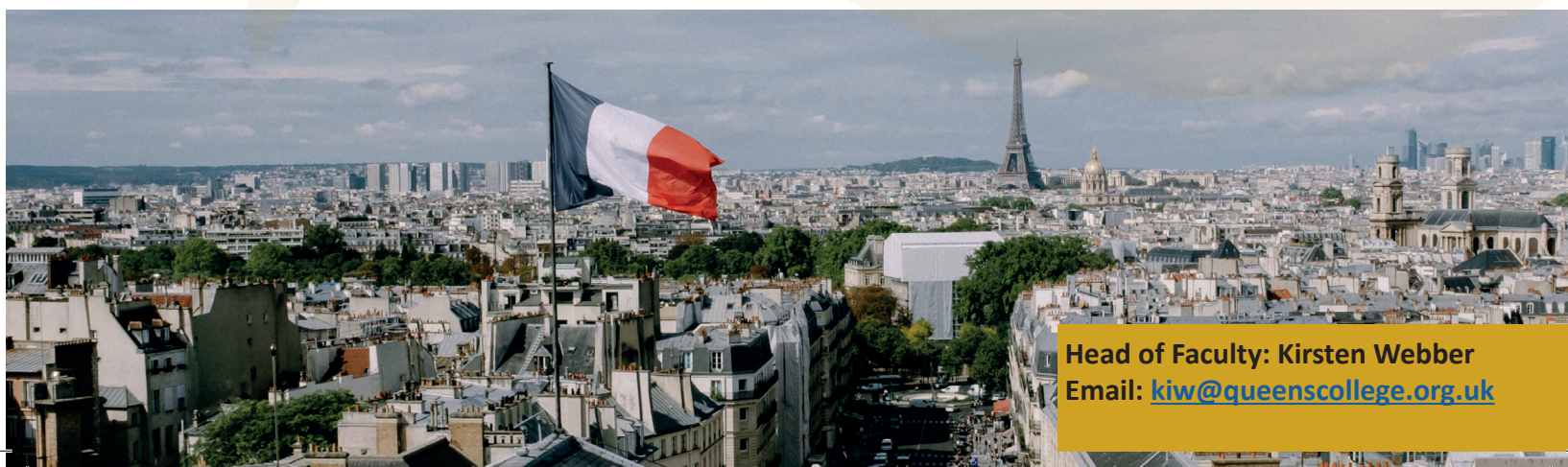
Students are assessed across all four skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. The Speaking element of

the exam is taken in advance of the main examining period and includes an Individual Research Project of the student's own choice. Students will be expected to write in French and English when answering key questions across the other papers. Key skills such as translation to and from French, summarising key information from a listening extract and text, inferring information as well as completing grammatical gap-fill exercises will be examined for the listening and reading exams. Students will be expected to write two essays; one based on the film studied and another based on the literary text studied.

In the first year students study topics such as relationships and the changing roles in families, cybersociety, voluntary work, francophone heritage, francophone music, and cinema. Students study a film such as 'Au revoir les enfants'. In the second year students continue their understanding of political and artistic culture in francophone countries covering topics such as: diversity, life for the marginalised, how we treat criminals, engaging youth in politics, demonstrations, and politics and immigration. Students also study a literary work such as 'No et moi' by Delphine de Vigan.

## Progression

Universities are able to offer undergraduates the opportunity to do part of their degree course abroad – a popular choice for students as it gives them an ability not only to become fluent but also to enjoy the culture of that particular country. Some key areas of employment after university are: civil service, education, media and journalism, marketing and publishing, transport and logistics and IT.



Head of Faculty: Kirsten Webber  
Email: [kiw@queenscollege.org.uk](mailto:kiw@queenscollege.org.uk)