

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN EUROPEAN LANGUAGES

*(add French section!)*

**B-STREAM UNITS  
1994**

**Course Co-ordinator: Mr Graham Halligan**

*for 1995, add  
the new uniform  
grading system*

In the B-stream of French, there are three possible Majors, known as 3, 4 and 5 (see *Faculty Handbook*, p. 173).

### The usual B-stream major in French (= Major 3)

Most students taking a B-stream major in French will make up the required six points as follows:

French IB (2 points)  
French Language IIB (1 point)  
French Language IIIB (1 point)

plus any **two** of the following 1-point 'French Studies' units (only some of which are taught each year):

- \* *Bonnes nouvelles* : brief ironies
- \* Contemporary France
- Determinism and self-determination: five novels
- \* *Epousailles*: Couples and happiness in the French novel
- \* Approaching French Poetry
- History of the French Language
- Ideological Issues under the Fifth Republic
- Masqué, démasqué*: Fools and frauds in the French comic tradition from the Middle Ages to the present
- Moi et milieu*: French autobiographers from Montaigne to Sartre

In 1994 only the three French Studies units marked with an asterisk will be offered. Each of them has two classes a week and runs throughout the year. All these units are taught in French.

**Please refer to the *Faculty Handbook* and to individual course outlines and booklets for further details of each of these units.**

## Other possible French "B" majors

**Major 4:** French IB, French Language IIB and any three of the 1-point French Studies units listed above

**Major 5:** For students exempt from French IB (e.g. native speakers): French Language IIB, French Language IIIB and any four of the 1-point French Studies units listed above

Each proposal to take either of these majors 4 and 5 is subject to the approval of the Convener of the French Section.<sup>1</sup>

## Honours

Students intending to take French Honours in the B-stream require a total of 10 points in French. They will normally make these up by taking Major 3 (see above) and **four** additional 1-point French Studies units, selected from the list (see also above). Students who take either Major 4 or Major 5 may also be able to make up the 10 points required, depending on availability of units. Each Honours proposal including Major 4 or Major 5 must have the approval of the Convener of the French Section. It is possible to include French in a combined Honours course, usually by doing 8 points in French, and in a double Honours course, usually by doing 9 points in French. Students enrolled in the BA/LLB degree can also take Honours in French; they usually require 10 points in French.

All candidates for Honours are expected to reach at least Credit standard in all their French units.

## FRENCH LANGUAGE IIB and FRENCH LANGUAGE IIIB (1994)

(Course co-ordinator: Mr G Halligan)

At least one of these units is compulsory for students doing any major in the B-stream. They each consist of three hours a week throughout the year, one hour each of: written language, stylistics and oral. All teaching is in French. Students enrolled in Language IIB and IIIB take the same oral classes (see page 5). The two units have separate classes for written and stylistics (see below).

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<sup>1</sup>In 1994, the Convener of the French Section is Mr J. Grieve

## FRENCH LANGUAGE IIB

You will be given one exercise a week, the work for the written class alternating with the work for the stylistics class. The first exercise will be for the written class.

**NB : For both the written and the stylistics classes, your fortnightly deadline is Fridays 5.30 pm. You will have to plan your workdays accordingly.**

**Written class (Mr J. Grieve; Wednesdays at 3 p.m., Room LG1 Dedman):**

The main focus of the French we shall read and write in this class will be, as in French IB/III~~A~~, the discursive or dialectal sentence. This is the type of sentence you will need to master if you are ever to write an intelligent discussion in French, in the form of, say, an essay. In IB/III~~A~~, we studied aspects of the simple sentence. In IIB, we progress to aspects of the composite or compound sentence. The structures we shall study are of two sorts: those found inside these sentences; and those that serve to link sentences to one another. Two of the most marked features of this type of written French are the frequency of binary structures and the use of connecting words and expressions, placed usually at the beginnings of the sentences. These connectors render explicit and visible certain links of thought which, in English, often remain implicit. This is one reason why with many connectors, for instance *par ailleurs*, *au demeurant*, and *en l'occurrence*, the problem faced by the native speaker of English who wishes to understand and use them comes close at times to the philosophical. In studying examples of these structures and connectors, we try to become familiar with the contexts in which they appear and the functions they serve; in the regular writing exercises, we try to imitate what we have observed in reading. Most of the models of this style we look at come from recent newspaper articles and books discussing current ideas. You will find on the next page a provisional programme listing most of the structures we shall study.

We do different sorts of exercises: *résumés*, comprehension questions, *rédactions*, some translation. There will be one of these written exercises once a fortnight, alternating with the exercises set in the stylistics class. See also the proposed assessment arrangements (p. 6 below).

**Le cours écrit : programme (approximatif) des structures et des connecteurs que nous étudierons cette année**

semaine 1 : en effet; effectivement

semaine 2 : en fait; de fait

semaine 3 : le *si* d'opposition; alors que

semaine 5 : n'en [...] pas moins

semaine 7 : formules copulatives (affirmatives)

semaine 9 : formules copulatives (oppositionnelles)

semaine 11 : d'autre part; d'une part.. d'autre part; d'un côté.. de l'autre

semaine 13 : quant à [lui]; pour [sa] part; de [son] côté

semaine 15 : or; certes

semaine 17 : autant [...] autant; pour autant

semaine 19 : d'autant [plus] que...

semaine 21 : reste à...; reste que...

semaine 23 : en l'occurrence; à savoir

semaine 25 : n'empêche que...

**En outre, une semaine sur deux, c'est-à-dire les semaines no. 2, 4, 6, 8 etc., nous reverrons en classe le devoir écrit que vous m'aurez remis le vendredi précédent et nous ferons connaissance éventuellement avec d'autres structures.**

**Stylistics (Dr P. Brown; Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Room LG2 Dedman):**

Ce cours se propose un double but: d'une part, passer en revue une variété de styles (épistolaire, journalistique, narratif, onirique, politique, scientifique, publicitaire, etc) à partir de documents écrits et audio-visuels, pour en faire ressortir les différences et les spécificités; d'autre part, faire un découpage des textes pour en voir la cohérence interne, cerner les articulations, mots de liaison etc, qui contribuent à une grammaire textuelle, et étudier des aspects proprement stylistiques, tels que le choix de vocabulaire, le ton et le point de vue. Enfin, les étudiants auront l'occasion, en alternance avec l'analyse, de faire et de commenter leurs propres exercices de style.

## FRENCH LANGUAGE IIIB

You will be given one exercise a week, the work for the written class alternating with the work for the stylistics class. Each week, the deadline for handing in this work, for **Mr Halligan's class** will be:

**Fridays, at 12 noon.**

and for Ms Poirier's class:

**Mondays at 5 pm.**

**Written class (Mr G. Halligan; Tuesdays at 10 a.m., Room G.15 Dedman):**

Writing in French, on a wide range of subjects, in diverse styles and with various degrees of originality (e.g. the spontaneous, the pastiche, the translation). The aim will be to achieve the most appropriate vocabulary, within the correct registers, and with the most effective syntactic structures, for any given purpose: discursive, persuasive, descriptive, narrative, etc. Critical attention will be paid to related passages of French writing, to observe the usage of French writers in analogous situations.

**Stylistics (Ms M.-P. Poirier; Thursdays at 2 p.m., Room G.15 Dedman):**

A l'aide de textes littéraires et de documents écrits et audio-visuels, nous étudierons le rôle de la mode dans la langue française, comme la préciosité, le snobisme (l'hexagonal, le style superlatif, le franglais) et même le sexisme, qui peut être considéré comme une mode puisqu'il est aujourd'hui la cible des critiques. Les étudiants devront utiliser les techniques d'analyse maîtrisées en cours de stylistique LIIB et ajouter une dimension culturelle plus avancée à leurs discussions sur les concepts de style et d'esthétique.

### French Language IIB & IIIB combined

#### Oral modules :

This year six oral modules will be offered. Each module lasts eight weeks, and a choice of two modules will be offered in each of three eight-week periods. You must choose **three** different modules during the year, one in each of these periods. To qualify for the oral component of your assessment, you will need to fulfil the following requirements:

(a) attend three modules during the year. As these are intensive modules, an absolute maximum of two absences from each module will be permitted, except on production of a medical certificate;

(b) complete assessment for your three modules during the year. The assessment schemes will be advised and agreed upon at the beginning of each eight-week period;

(c) present yourself for an oral examination at the end of the year.

You should choose one module from each period, as follows:

Weeks 2-9: Module 1 or Module 2 (i.e. starting 7 March, ending 13 May)

Weeks 10-17: Module 3 or Module 4 (i.e. starting 17 May, ending 12 August)

Weeks 18-25: Module 5 or Module 6 (i.e. starting 15 August, ending 21 October)

The first two modules for 1994 are described below. You should sign for one of the three times on the list on the departmental noticeboard.

**Module 1 - "Journal télévisé - Chansons françaises" (Nouveau module)**  
(Ms. Chantal Crozet) Tuesdays at 11 a.m. *or* Wednesdays at 4 p.m.

**Module 2 - "Théâtre" (Mr Graham Halligan) Thursdays at 5pm.**

Lecture de pièces de théâtre très courtes, en commençant avec Ionesco. On lit les pièces à haute voix, on apprend à jouer les rôles, à interpréter les personnages, à mettre en scène les pièces. Plus tard on improvisera des rôles sur des scénarios donnés, ou suggérés par les membres de la classe. L'essentiel, c'est l'expression du caractère présenté par les personnages.

**(module répété de l'année dernière)**

Details of oral modules 3 and 4, and 5 and 6 will be announced later in the year.

There are no oral classes in the first week of the teaching year, to allow time for students to choose from the first two modules, nor in the last week of the teaching year, to allow time for the oral examinations.

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### Proposed assessment arrangements

Proposed assessment	Marks
Written language: best 75% of fortnightly work set	150
Stylistics: best 75% of fortnightly work set	150
Three-hour end-of-year examination in written language and stylistics	100
Oral: Three modules, 50 marks each	150
End-of-year oral examination	50
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b><u>600</u></b>

### Working rules for assessment

All written work must be handed in on time. Late exercises cannot be accepted, except in cases of illness attested by a medical certificate. Continued absences from class will also result in exercises not being accepted. Failure to hand in at least 50% of the exercises set during the year, in both written class and stylistics, will result in ineligibility for the examination in November. This would result in failure in the unit.

After experimenting for several years with various methods of assessment, we are convinced that a combination of the year's work and end-of-year examinations is the fairest and most appropriate system. Since language learning is a cumulative process, there is a clear need for proper testing at the conclusion of each unit, in circumstances where students are called upon to show what they can do with their own resources. This has become all the more necessary as some of the work handed in, showing evidence of collaboration or outside assistance, cannot be accepted as a reliable guide to some students' progress.

In recent years, illicit collaboration on language work has increased among some students. The consultation of printed sources is permissible. Having recourse to the knowledge of another person so as to solve individual difficulties in, for instance, a *résumé* or a prose translation, is not. The essential distinction between the two modes of consultation lies in the exercise of choice and judgement. In consulting books, one must exercise these faculties; in consulting another person one borrows, not understanding, but a mere answer to a problem. Group working can be open to this kind of objection.

Students are therefore urged to do their language assignments by themselves. In proven cases of illicit collaboration on such assignments, the Department will apply the principles of the Faculty's policy on plagiarism. This policy, which also refers to essays and other assignments, is set out on the last page of the 1993 Department's 'Student Handbook'.

**We shall be unwilling to approve requests for special examinations from students who might wish to leave Canberra before the end of the examinations period. The only requests which might be approved would be those arising from circumstances beyond your control.**