French as a Foreign Language / French as a Second Language

Degree conferred
Master of Arts in Languages and Literatures: French as a Foreign Language/French as a Second Language

Languages of study
Study in French

Commencement of studies
Commencement of studies in the Autumn Semester (September) or in the Spring Semester (February)

Access to further studies
Ph.D.

The master programme «French as a foreign language/French as a second language» (FLE/FLS) focuses on consolidation of the didactic and linguistic aspects of language learning and FLE/FLS teaching in a multilingual context. Students learn to master empirical research methods, enabling them to analyse language development, communication and intercultural skills, and the role of interaction in an educational context. They also learn how to analyse language learning and teaching material, as well as assessment tools, methods and curricula, to scrutinise them critically and adapt them in accordance with the context.

Profile of the study programme

The master programme *French as a Foreign Language/French as a Second Language* (FLE/FLS) comprises four modules:

- In the «Linguistic perspective» module, the students acquire in-depth knowledge of the linguistic dimensions of FLE/FLS. In particular, they are familiarised with theories and specific aspects of acquiring French as a foreign and second language and learn to use linguistic tools, especially corpus linguistics, with a goal to teach French L2 to various audiences.
- The «Didactic perspective» module allows students to acquire in-depth knowledge of the theoretical and practical dimensions of FLE/FLS. It enables them to develop their capacity to structure courses in response to specific needs, for example, those of migrants.
- The objective of the «In-depth empirical learning» module is to train students in the methods and practices of empirical research, in particular in FLE/FLS.
- Lastly, the «Research and application» module allows students to combine theoretical knowledge and field work, both in teaching and research. This module includes an internship and practical tutoring work.

Fribourg profile
The master programme FLE/FLS is taught in the typical multilingual context of the Fribourg region, where French as a foreign or second language is an everyday reality. Close collaboration with the **Institute of Multilingualism *of the University and the Fribourg University of Teacher Education*** enables students to take part in the regularly held conferences and workshops that attract specialists from across the globe on topics related to foreign language teaching and the socio-linguistic and psycho-linguistic aspects of multilingualism.

At the **Research Centre** on **Multilingualism's documentation centre**, which is attached to the University's **Foreign Language Library** (BLE), students enjoy access to many publications and specialist reviews in this field. In addition, they can receive professional advice to assist them in independent learning.

Interested students can also take lessons in French, Italian, English and German at the University's **Language Centre**. The Self-Access Centre also boasts a full range of media to learn many other languages or to perfect specific language skills.

Learning outcomes and career openings
Graduates from this course enjoy in-depth theoretical and methodological knowledge in the field of FLE/FLS, in terms of didactics and linguistics and the processes inherent in the learning of second or foreign languages. They are able to put this specialist theoretical knowledge into practice, both through the development and completion of research projects and in actual teaching situations. They are aware of the requirements of modern foreign language teaching, know how to analyse and assess language teaching in their own language or in a foreign language, and can submit proposals for the optimisation of learning methods. In other words, this master programme provides training for the profession of FLE/FLS expert, in Switzerland and abroad. The master programme *French as a Foreign Language/French as a Second Language* (major and minor) is equivalent to the modules «Educational work with adults», «Foreign and second language education» and «Migration and interculturality» of the Swiss «Certificate for language teachers in the field of integration» (cf. https://fide-info.ch/fr/formation-continue/certificat). This programme also provides an introduction to research in the field of language learning and teaching as conducted at the Institute of Multilingualism. The Institute also offers students who wish to pursue an academic career the option of a doctoral programme, providing the ideal environment for further study in an even more specialised field.

The career opportunities for graduates of the FLE/FLS master's degree are in the following fields:
– Language teaching in Switzerland and abroad as part of adult learning courses and in universities and other graduate schools (the master programme FLE/FLS is a good complement to the DEEM for people wishing to teach French in non-French-speaking regions);
– Activities concerning integration classes, exchange programmes and the promotion of multilingualism in professional environments, and more specifically in companies;
– Activities concerning the development of linguistic expertise and competences with government authorities, NGOs, international

organisations and publishers;
– Scientific collaboration in research centres such as the Institute of Multilingualism or the Research Centre on Multilingualism.

Studies organisation

Structure of studies

90 ECTS credits + 30 ECTS credits as an option in a minor study programme freely chosen or in a specialisation programme, 3 to 4 semesters

Curriculum

http://studies.unifr.ch/go/ikZzC *(French only)*

Admission

Master's degree programmes are built on the knowledge and abilities that were acquired when obtaining a bachelor's degree.

Holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss university are admitted to a master's degree programme without any preconditions if they have earned 60 or 90 ECTS credits – depending on the chosen master's degree programme – within the corresponding discipline. However, additional requirements can be required. The same applies to holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a foreign university, provided that the bachelor's degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg.

Holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss or a foreign university, provided that the bachelor's degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg, who do not fulfil this condition can be admitted to a master's degree programme with preconditions (which must be successfully completed before starting the master's degree programme) and/or additional requirements (which can be completed during the master's degree programme). The preconditions and/or additional requirements may not exceed 60 ECTS credits in total. The same applies to holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss university of applied sciences, according to existing agreements.

The respective conditions of admission for each master's degree programme are reserved.

Alternatives

Also offered as a minor study programme and as a specialisation programme (30 ECTS credits).

Contact

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