



Woolwich Polytechnic
Sixth Form

French A Level

The approach is a focus on how French-speaking society has been shaped, socially and culturally, and how it continues to change. In the first year, aspects of the social context are studied, together with aspects of the artistic life of French-speaking countries. In the second year further aspects of the social background are covered, this time focusing on issues such as life for those on the margins of French-speaking society as well as looking at the positive influences that diversity brings. Students also study aspects of the political landscape in a French-speaking country, looking at immigration from the political perspective and at the way in which political power is expressed through action such as strikes and demonstrations. Teenagers and the extent to which they are politically engaged looks towards the future of political life in French-speaking society.

Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of themes relating to the culture and society of countries where French is spoken, and their language skills. They will do this by using authentic spoken and written sources in French.

Potential Career paths:

- Bilingual customer service associate
- Flight attendant
- Tour coordinator
- Translator
- Curator
- Technical writer
- Travel agent
- Political analyst

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 6 in French

Which awarding body is the course validated by?

Edexcel

You will be tested on all prescribed A level Themes:

1. Les Changements dans la société française
2. La culture politique et artistique dans les pays francophones
3. L'immigration et la société multiculturelle française
4. L'occupation et la Résistance

Paper 1

Listening, reading and translation

40% - 80 marks - 2 hours.

In this exam you have to listen and respond to spoken passages from a range of contexts from the themes mentioned earlier. All the questions are in French. The reading and listening passages studied in lessons will give you plenty of practice at this type of task. In the exam you are also asked to carry out a short translation from French to English. No access to a dictionary is allowed.

Paper 2

Written response to works and translation

30% - 120 marks - 2 hours 40 minutes

In this paper, you have to write two essays: one about 'L'étranger' and the other one about 'La haine'. These essays require a critical and analytical response. You are expected to structure your own essays and decide how best to respond to the question. No dictionaries allowed during this exam.

Paper 3

Speaking

30% - 72 marks - 21-23 minutes

At A level, Paper 3 consists of two different types of task: Task 1 is a discussion on a sub-theme (from a choice of two). This should last 6-7 minutes. You have 5-minute prep-time.

Task 2 is two parts. Part 1 is the presentation of your research (2 minutes). Part 2 is a wider discussion about your research (8-9 minutes).