

Centre for Modern European Languages, Literatures and Culture Studies
Bhasha-Bhavana, Visva-Bharati

Syllabus of MA in French

MA in French: Semester I

Course I: Introduction to Linguistics.

Objective: Definition and objective of linguistics (Phonology, Morphology, Syntax etc.).

Learning outcome: As a learner of a foreign language, developing a critical insight into the science of language.

Course II: Culture and Civilization (I): Middle Ages to Enlightenment.

Objective: Students are expected to get acquainted with geography and history of France through readings of texts pertaining to the history and cultural movements of France.

Learning outcome: Developing awareness about physical, historical and cultural context of various forms of art including literature.

Course III: Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology of French.

Objective: Imparting detailed knowledge about phonological system of the French language including study of various elements of phonetics such as speech organs, air stream mechanism etc.

Learning outcome: Developing a scientific understanding of the acoustic production of speech and its relevance in the pedagogy of foreign language teaching.

Course IV: Literature: Middle Ages to 18th Century (I).

Objective: Developing thorough acquaintance with history of French Literature across ages through close readings of texts to be chosen by the course coordinator.

Learning outcome: Identifying the correlation between socio-political history and literature as a cultural production.

MA in French: Semester II

Course I: Europe Today.

Objective: Critical acquaintance with history of contemporary Europe from end of World War II to the present day, with special focus on the emergence of a common European identity within the context of EU and contemporary socio-political issues.

Learning outcome: Understanding Europe in today's global context and Europe's relation with other geopolitical spheres in the post-colonial context.

Course II: Culture and Civilization (II): Pre-Modern and Modern France.

Objective: Students are expected to get thoroughly acquainted with pre-modern, modern and contemporary French society, politics and culture including the idea of Francophonie.

Learning outcome: Developing a critical understanding and analytical tools to comprehend social, political and cultural history of France from Enlightenment to present day.

Course III: Use of French Language.

Objective: Reading of texts, articles published in the media relating to commerce, business and economy; understanding textual variations, such as descriptive, narrative, argumentative texts etc.; drafting commercial letters, effective communication in written and oral modes of expression through extensive use of online materials.

Learning outcome: Enhancing written, oral and listening skills.

Course IV: Literature: Middle Ages to 18th Century (II).

Objective: Developing thorough acquaintance with history of French Literature with reference to history and philosophy of Enlightenment through close readings of texts to be chosen by the course coordinator.

Learning outcome: Identifying the correlation between socio-political history and literature as a cultural production.

MA in French: Semester III

Course I: Methodology of Teaching French as a Foreign Language.

Objective: Theoretical perspectives on acquisition of L1 and on learning of FL; definition of method, methodology and manual; review of audio-oral structural communicative and more recent methodological post-communicative approaches.

Learning outcome: Critical awareness of theoretical and methodological problems of FL teaching and its implementation in FL classroom.

Course II: Literature: 19th to Contemporary French Literature (I).

Objective: Close readings of texts and study of theories necessary for textual analysis. Texts to be chosen by course coordinator.

Learning outcome: Detailed in-depth knowledge of French literature of 19th century; developing analytical literary appreciation.

Course III: Literary Theories.

Objective: Study of philosophical and literary traditions in Europe through readings of canonical texts from Antiquity to present day.

Learning outcome: Getting students acquainted with the long intellectual history of Europe and its impact on modern critical theories.

Course IV: Option I: Francophone Literature (I).

Objective: Notion of Francophonie: historical perspectives; its political and cultural implications; key concepts of Francophone literature; introduction to Canadian and Indian Ocean Francophone literatures through close readings of texts.

Learning outcome: Awareness about the global reach of French language and Culture with special reference to the history of French colonialism and its impact in the postcolonial world.

Course IV: Option II: Tagore and France:

Objective: 1. Tagore and Europe; 2. Reception of Tagore in France; 3. History of French Studies in Santiniketan; 4. Readings of Tagore's works in French translation.

Learning outcome: Awareness of Tagore's relevance in French and Francophone social and cultural contexts.

MA in French: Semester IV

Course I: Theorie of Translation and Practical Translation.

Objective: Introduction to advanced theoretical problems of translation and developing practical skills in technical and literary translation.

Learning outcome: To be able to professionally utilize the skills as translator; advanced ability to engage critically with theoretical problems of translation.

Course II: Option I: Francophone Literature (II).

Objective: Notion of Francophonie: historical perspectives; its political and cultural implications; key concepts of Francophone literature; introduction to Sub-Saharan and Maghrabiane Literature in French through close readings of texts.

Learning outcome: Awareness about the global reach of French language and Culture with special reference to the history of French colonialism and its impact in the postcolonial Africa.

Course II: Option II: French Travel Narratives.

Objective: Study of Travel Narratives as a Genre with special reference to French travel narratives from India.

Learning outcome: Critical awareness about travel narratives and understanding their significance within the context of French colonial involvement in India.

Course III: Literature: 19th to Contemporary French Literature (II).

Objective: Close readings of texts and study of theories necessary for textual analysis. Texts to be chosen by course coordinator.

Learning outcome: Detailed in-depth knowledge of French literature of 20th and 21st century; developing analytical literary appreciation.

Course IV: Dissertation.

Objective: Students select a topic of their choice, conduct research and submit a dissertation at the end of the semester.

Learning outcome: learning the basic skills and techniques of conducting research on a given / chosen topic and to write an academic / research paper; basic research methodology and forms of presenting research in a scientific format based on internationally accepted styles.