

French

AS/A Level

Edexcel

Structure & Specification

Year 1: AS 8FR01

Year 2: A2 9FR01

Syllabus details

Edexcel syllabus 9190 is followed.

What does the course include?

Year One- AS

Units One and Two: These two units focus on the development of the four main skills – listening, speaking, reading and writing – with regular reinforcement of grammar points linked to the texts. We study topics drawn from the following general topic areas:

- Youth culture and concerns.
- Lifestyle; health and fitness.
- The world around us; travel, tourism, environmental issues and the French speaking world.
- Education and employment.

To complement the topics covered in the text book, we study materials from newspapers and magazines and discuss them in class. In addition topical French current affairs reports from the press and media are used to broaden your interest and knowledge of French culture. Every year we organise a day trip to a Paris and a four day trip to a French speaking country, giving students the opportunity to practise their speaking and immerse themselves in the culture.

Year Two- A2

Units Three and Four: Further General Topic Areas are studied:

- Customs, traditions, beliefs and religions.
- National and international events; past, present and future.
- Literature and the arts.

As for AS level, the sources are contemporary. The different aspects of French society are studied in greater depth. You learn how to develop your information seeking skills by undertaking research into a controversial issue of your choice for your oral examination. You have the opportunity to use the Internet and the networked software. You also study two set books in French to broaden your experience

What are the entry requirements?

Grade C in French GCSE but grade B is preferable.

How will I learn?

You have the opportunity to discuss and debate topics in class. Listening activities are based on authentic French materials using the satellite TV channels in lessons. Reading, listening to the radio, watching French films and documentaries are greatly encouraged in your spare time, as well as using the facilities of the French Institute in South Kensington. ICT is widely used in lessons. You will be expected throughout the course to use the VLE and the language facilities

How will my work be assessed?

Your progress is monitored through a variety of activities. e.g. through pair work, individual listening exercises etc. At the end of each term you are asked to assess yourself in French, in writing, with full guidance and support, by answering a number of predetermined questions. These make you reflect on your work and progress, identify areas of strength and weakness and determine strategies for the next term.

AS: Unit 1 - Spoken Expression and response in French (30%)

Unit 2 - Understanding and written response in French (70%)

A2: Unit 3 - Understanding and spoken response in French (35%)

Unit 4- Research, understanding and written response in French (65%)

What skills will I need to be successful in this subject?

Above all you need to be committed, prepared to work hard and be reliable. You will also need excellent attendance and especially to have a love of the French speaking world, its language and culture.

What are the opportunities after this course for further/higher education and employment?

Knowledge of foreign languages is a real asset in many jobs and can lead to exciting careers both in the UK and abroad. French is an important language inside and outside Europe.