DEGREE OFFERED: FRENCH. Doctor of Philosophy

Requirements for the Ph.D. degree include a total of 524 hours of course work, taken in the Department of French and Italian and in other departments with the approval of the DGS.

French 310 is required as part of the 36 hours that make up the M.A. component of the degree. A comprehensive examination, based on a departmental reading list, must be taken no later than the beginning of classes in the student's fourth semester of study the second week of the student's fourth semester of study, and students who successfully pass the exam enter the Ph.D. stage.

Requirements for the Ph.D. include 52 credit hours of course work, an additional 15 hours of course work to the M.A., including fourteen courses in French at the 300 level, of which six must be literature seminars distributed among six different time periods. Students are expected to begin to register for research credit no later than their fifth semester of study. Up to 201 hours may be taken as research credit. Of the required 51 hours of course work, students are required to take F300 and 310 during their first year of study. 9 hours will be taken in a minor field. An integrated minor of 12 hours outside the department is required for students writing dissertations in the field of second language acquisition. Students are required to take French 300 and 310 during their first year of study. During the second or third year of study, they must take French 302 or French 318. In addition to French and English, doctoral candidates must demonstrate a reading knowledge to be determined in consultation with the student's dissertation advisor, of a foreign language appropriate to the area of specialization. Other regulations governing graduate work are available from the director of graduate studies.

The Jean and Alexander Heard Library's rich collection of French materials makes research possible in all periods of French literature. The library's special collections department also houses the W. T. Bandy Center for Baudelaire and Modern French Studies, the Pascal Pia collection (nineteenth-and twentieth-century literary criticism), the Gilbert Sigaux collection (twentieth-century French theatre), and the Wachs collection (eighteenth-century fiction and almanacs).

The French department has formal ties to the Université de Provence through its Vanderbilt in France program, McGill University through its Vanderbilt-McGill Initiative, and the Sorbonne through MICEFA.