Dear Michael,

Our rationale for changing the minor is that the breadth of curriculum that we wanted for our major is not needed for our minor. In practical terms, we found that it was logistically too difficult for minors to plan their relatively few classes around our major divisions of traditions, communications and intersections. Therefore we are changing the minor to allow students to select the courses they want and that are available for the minor, with only a few required courses.

Thanks so much,
Lynn Ramey
Chair, French and Italian
THE Department of French and Italian offers a program of concentration in French. Students use courses in both French and Italian to satisfy some requirements of the College Program in Liberal Education or AXLE. Senior faculty members teach courses at all levels, including certain sections of first- and second-year courses. Other sections are taught by teaching fellows—selected graduate students working under the supervision of department faculty. All literature and civilization courses and most language courses are taught in French or Italian.

Many students participate in the Vanderbilt in France or the Vanderbilt in Italy program. Activities organized by the department or by the French or Italian Clubs include lectures by visiting professors, films, and symposia. Students are urged to apply for living space in the French or Italian section of McTyeire International House; activities organized there are open to all interested parties.

Program of Concentration in French

Students who choose to major in French are expected to achieve advanced proficiency in oral and written French (Communications), to demonstrate a general understanding of the history of French and Francophone literatures and cultures (Traditions), and to develop an awareness of the ways French and Francophone studies intersect with other disciplines (Intersections). Of the 36 hours required for the major, 30 hours must be taken in French; 6 hours may be taken in a relevant area outside the department with adviser approval and may satisfy the requirement in Intersections. No more than 6 hours of AP or IB credit may count toward this total (3 hours for 201W and 3 hours no equivalent). All majors are strongly urged to spend a semester or a year studying at Vanderbilt in France or at one of our affiliated programs in Paris or in Senegal.

Course work for the major is distributed as follows:

Required courses (9 hours): 201W, 211, 212
Two courses from Communications (6 hours): 203, 204, 205, 214, 226
Three courses from Traditions (9 hours): 209, 215, 232, 234, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 251, 253, 255, 261, 265, 267, 272, 294
Four courses from Intersections (12 hours): 210, 218, 219, 222, 224, 225, 252, 256, 258, 268, 269, 271, 287a–287b, 295 (Two courses in related fields will count in this category.)

All majors are expected to consult their advisers about their choice of major courses each semester.

Honors Program in French

In addition to requirements set by the College of Arts and Science, the following requirements must be met:

1. All the requirements for the 36-hour major in French.

1. One 300-level French course during the senior year; this course may substitute for one 200-level course required for the major.

A minimum of one semester of study (or the summer session) at Vanderbilt in France or
at an approved substitute program in a French-speaking country.

4. 3.5 grade point average in French.
   5. Completion of a senior honors thesis, under the direction of a faculty adviser.
   6. 6 hours of thesis credit under French 299a and 299b (Honors Thesis).
2
   An oral examination on the thesis and its area in the last semester of the senior year.

A three-member Honors Committee will administer the program. Students must submit the name of the faculty adviser and the proposed thesis topic to this committee for approval during the second semester of the junior year. The committee will set guidelines for the thesis topic proposal, publish deadlines each year, and administer the oral examination.

Program of Concentration in French and European Studies

Students in French may elect this interdisciplinary major, which requires a minimum of 42 hours of course work. A semester of study at Vanderbilt in France or at our affiliated program in Paris is required.

Course work for the major is distributed as follows:

Requirements (9 hours): 201W, 211, 212; 3 hours in Communications; 6 hours in Traditions; 9 hours in Intersections. (NB: All courses must be in French.)

Total in French: 27 hours

European and German Studies
European Studies 201 and 250 (6 hours)
Political Science 287 or 288 in the version offered at Aix (3 hours)
One course selected from the list of social science courses approved for European Studies—economics, political science, sociology (3 hours)
One of the following history courses: 136, 226, 227, 228, 229, 231, 234, 294 (with appropriate topic), 295 (with appropriate topic) (3 hours)
A history course on twentieth-century France will also count for 3 hours on the French side of the program; in this case, the student will take an elective from the list of history, social science, or humanities courses approved for European and German Studies.

Total in European and German Studies: 15 hours

Minor in French

The minor in French requires 18 hours of 200-level course work, including 201W, 211, and 212 including 201W, 211, 212; 3 hours in Communications; 3 hours in Traditions; 3 hours in Intersections. All minors are expected to consult their advisers about their choice of courses. No course taught in English may count toward the minor. Students are encouraged to participate in the Vanderbilt in France program.

Minor in Italian

The minor in Italian requires 18 hours of course work, including 201, Grammar and Composition; 214, Spoken Italian; 220, Introduction to Italian Literature; and three electives from the 200-level courses, except 289. Students are encouraged to participate in the Vanderbilt in Italy program.
Dear Kass,

At its meeting this morning (February 2, 2009), CEP approved a revision to the French minor. Attached to this email please find, for Faculty Council's consideration, the proposed revision along with Professor Ramey's rationale for it.

Best,

Gregg

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