

# Quoi de neuf chez les francophiles à ISU?

*Le Petit Journal Français: French at ISU*

National French Honor Society  
Pi Delta Phi - Delta Psi

Novembre 2022

## L'heure de conversation

*Francophone club holds conversation hour two times a week in the Language Commons in Stevenson 227B!*

It is a great way to practice speaking French in a relaxed setting. We love connecting with so many different students. If you have any ideas for conversation hour topics, themes or something to do during our time together, please contact us. *Venez nombreux à l'heure de conversation!*

### *Notre comité exécutif de Pi Delta Phi*

Sophie Cotter - présidente

Adriana Rosales - vice-présidente

Abby Moorehouse - relations publiques

Kristiana Mininger - secrétaire / trésorière

#### *How to contact us!*

@isupideltaphi on Instagram

isupideltaphi@gmail.com

French Clubs @ ISU on Facebook



### *Bienvenue à notre nouvelle chargée de relations publiques, Abby!*

Abby is a French Education major with a minor in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies. She will be study abroad in Angers, France in spring, 23!  
Bonnes études en France, Abby!

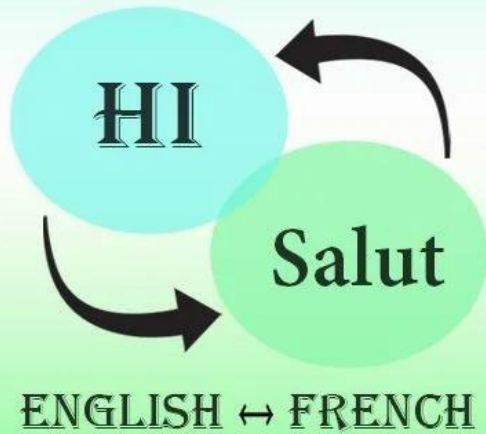
# Topics in French Language, Literature and Culture

French 285 Dr. Jennifer Howell

This semester's Topics in French Language, Literature and Culture taught by Dr. Jennifer Howell has focused on different translation techniques between English and French. We have talked about the importance of each technique as there is not always a direct translation to a word, phrase, or sentence. When translating a phrase, there are multiple ways to approach it, such as a direct translation (translating word for word), a borrowing (when there is not an equivalent word or phrase for something, you can "borrow" from the source language) and modulation (a change in thinking instead of grammar) to name a few. This class is a great way to understand where different translations come from when they are not word for word! It is so fun going over translations that make no sense in English but make perfect sense in French!

Sophie Cotter

## TRANSLATION



## *Les cours de français*

### History of French Civilization

French 305 Dr. Erin Ponnou-Delaffon

This semester, in FRE 305, History of French Civilization, which is taught by Dr. Ponnou-Delaffon, we learned about French history and the cultures that lived in that geographic region from prehistoric times up to today. It is interesting to see how art, music, entertainment and fashion evolved throughout the ages and also cool to see some of the older trends and styles resurface in later time periods. This is a great class to learn about why France is the way it is today. Students also have the opportunity to pick a topic from a list of different time periods on a first come, first served basis to teach the class about it. It's a fun way for students to engage in the class and teach and learn from each other.

Adriana Rosales





# *L'heure de conversation*

## **Sophie Cotter asked questions to two French 115 students, Alison Skelton and Claire Campbell to get their viewpoints on Conversation hours**

### **How did your attention come to conversation hours?**

**AS:** I first learned about them in the syllabus of my French class FRE 115. Then when classes started Prof. Keller reminded us about them and updated us on when the meetings would be.

**CC:** During one of our first class sessions, a representative from Pi Delta Phi stopped by to tell us about conversation hours

### **What did you think? Were you excited, intimidated, nervous, etc.?**

**AS:** I was definitely nervous to go because I had so much fear about messing up and embarrassing myself. But I also knew that the convo hours would help me gain confidence in my speaking skills and I needed to push myself to improve those skills.

**CC:** I was very excited to hear there was an opportunity to practice more casual conversational French!

### **Now that you have gone, does it help you? Do you like going?**

**AS:** Going to the convo hours has helped me feel more confident in my listening and speaking skills and not be so afraid of saying something wrong. Also, I have many different people that I could potentially use as a help resource in the future. I really enjoy going and at the moment the time works perfectly in my schedule. I have had a lot of fun meeting people that also enjoy languages and practicing my listening and speaking skills.

**CC:** I really enjoy attending conversation hours! I've always felt like my conversational French isn't as strong as other aspects of French. It's been very helpful to be able to practice without any pressure of being graded.

### **What is your favorite part/ memory of/from conversation hour?**

**AS:** Gotta admit the cookies are a highlight. At the most recent meeting, we talked about some of our family traditions for thanksgiving and wintertime. It was really cool to hear about what others do during those times and sharing memories.

**CC:** One of my favorite memories is playing a conversation game using a beach ball. We all took turns catching the ball and answering questions written on it. It was a great way to talk about a variety of topics!

### **Is there something that you look forward to in future conversation hours?**

**AS:** I look forward to meeting more people and for another karaoke night. Maybe a future convo hour can be practice time for the next karaoke night. While the idea of convo hours can seem intimidating, I encourage people to show up and try it. Everyone is very welcoming and patient.

**CC:** I'm looking forward to seeing how our conversation hours evolve as we all improve at speaking French. I strongly encourage my classmates to go to at least one conversation hour! It's much more laidback than you might be expecting. It's a great way to practice French and to get to know other people in French classes!

# Speaker Series

We were delighted to have some current students give presentations on their experiences living in Francophone countries!

Drew Shoaff gave a fascinating presentation on his time living and going to school in Haiti, along with some non-touristy insight into the country's history and culture. He also shared examples of Kreyòl language.

Matt Tronc and Adam Armstrong discussed being English language teaching assistants for the TAPIF program. Matt was placed in La Ferté-Milon and Adam taught in a small town near Grenoble and lived along Lake Geneva!

If you are interested in the TAPIF program go to <https://frenchhighereducation.org/teaching-assistant-program>

Abby Moorehouse



## *French Experiences*



## Sorties Éducatives

This semester there were several opportunities to explore different areas in our community while learning new French vocabulary. We visited the local farmers market, University Art Galleries, and Miller Park Zoo. Being at the farmers market was an interactive way to put our food vocabulary into practice. The art encouraged us to think outside of the box and utilize descriptive language that we had not used prior to the experience. Despite the rain, at the zoo we enjoyed discussing our favorite animals and had a great time. Making new connections with French-speaking peers was a highlight throughout these activities and we look forward to more experiences in the coming semester.

Kristana Mininger

## National French Week

Organized each year by AATF (American Association of Teachers of French), National French Week is a celebration of the language and culture of French-speaking countries and people.

French is spoken in over 30 countries around the world!

National French Week honors French learners and native speakers alike, with hope to encourage others to begin their language-learning journey.

This year, Pi Delta Phi exec board members created a poster to hang in Stevenson Hall celebrating women from Francophone countries known for their expertise in singing, acting, baking, or writing.

Abby Moorehouse



# Homecoming

Along with the other language clubs, which include Spanish, German, Mandarin, Italian and Japanese, we put together a float that showcased some of each culture. All clubs walked in the parade together as a united language department and played multicultural music along the way! We had so much fun interacting with people from the other clubs, and our float ended up receiving the first place award! Overall, it was definitely a successful homecoming for Francophone Club and the language department!

**Adriana Rosales**



## *Francophone Spotlight*

### **Soirée Karaoke!**

In collaboration with all the world language clubs at ISU, the Francophone Club participated in an exciting multilingual karaoke night. The exec board and other students sang songs in French and listen to songs in other languages while indulging in treats from all the cultures represented. It was a fun evening through which we learned about the music and food traditions of countries all around the world, while building new relationships with other language-learning Redbirds.

**Kristana Mininger**





## La télé/les films

### Les émissions de télé

Plan Cœur (2018 - 2022)  
M'entends-tu? (Québécois) (2018 -2021)  
Family Business 2019/2020  
Chef's table: France (2016)

### Les films

Loin du périph (2022)  
Pourris gâtés (2021)  
Les passagers de la nuit (2022)  
Athena (2022)

# Francophone entertainment

## La musique

### Playlist - fin de semestre!

J'tomberai pas - Christophe Willem  
Abracadabra - Aurélie Saada  
Dans tes yeux - Symon  
Je vais survivre - Ben Mazué  
Dis-moi comment tu dances -  
Boulevard des Airs  
Douala Paris - Irma  
Je vais où? - Charlie Pâle  
Mamma - Claudio Capéo  
Fous - Emma Peters  
Santé - Stromae  
L'homme nouveau - Jérémy Frerot



# *French students of other majors*



**Sophie Cotter, president of Pi Delta Phi, interviewed Allison Henrichsmeyer and Sophie Quackenbush, two students that major in Political Science and minor in French.**

**Sophie asked them questions about their major and why they also chose to study French.**

**SC: Why did you choose Political Science as your major?**

**AH:** I chose political science as my major because I am fascinated by the way the world works and how political systems, whether local, federal, or global, impact all people every day. I'm passionate about ensuring everyone has a voice in their government no matter where they live in the world, and studying political science gives me the tools toward that goal.

**SQ:** I chose this major because I have a strong sense of justice, as well as an interest in the institutions of government and what helps them (or impedes them) from working in the favor of citizens. I began as a psychology major, but that wasn't hands-on enough for me, so I switched to political science, which I think can be partially defined as the application of psychology to a system of government.

**SC: Why are you studying French?**

**AH:** I initially chose to study French because I loved learning it in high school and didn't want to stop. As I continued taking French classes at ISU, I discovered that it was so much more. Communication is vitally important in our increasingly globalized world. I recognized the value of understanding and communicating in another language and the window that it provides into the diverse Francophone cultures.

**SQ:** I decided to study French too because I loved my French classes in middle and high school, so I wanted to keep going. I also love the French language, French culture, and that of Francophone countries.

**SC: What connections do you see between political science and French (if any?)**

**AH:** There are so many connections between Political Science and French! Language is an integral component of culture, and culture has such a big impact on how people are governed and how they respond to that governance. In order to build effective governments, culture has to be taken into account, and language has more meaning than we realize. On a more practical level, I'm hoping to do an internship focused on immigration law this coming summer, and my French language skills will be a huge help in communicating with clients who may come from French-speaking countries.

**SQ:** Some connections between both programs are that they focus strongly on history and context being used to both explain and predict the actions of people or whole countries.

**SC: Do you think French can help with Political Science?**

**AH:** French is one of the primary languages used in the international community. In fact, it's one of the two working languages used in the United Nations. Especially if a student is focused on international relations, French is a great skill to have. Even if not, learning about language and culture provides an additional interesting lens by which to view the political processes of the world.

**SQ:** I do think French helps with political science. The French courses I've taken at ISU have encouraged me to strengthen my writing by finding the right words and making sure my arguments come across clearly. This can be hard enough in English, but especially when writing in another language, it takes a lot more focus. We do a lot of writing in the politics and government department as well, so having the added challenge of doing it in French has been very helpful to me.

**SC: What is your advice to someone thinking about adding a French minor?**

**AH:** My advice to someone thinking about a French minor would be to just go for it! No matter your major, learning another language is always an asset, and I'm definitely partial to French. The department is small, so you're able to get to know the amazing professors and receive individualized attention. As our world becomes more and more globally connected, learning the French language is a great investment!

**SQ:** My advice for someone thinking about adding a French minor is, Do it! It enhances your time in undergrad and gives you a chance to explore something that complements your major.

*Merci à Allison et Sophie d'avoir  
répondu à mes questions !*



# Initiation

Every year we celebrate French students by honoring them as they join French National Honor society. It is always wonderful to be together celebrating the traditions of initiation. This fall, six new members were initiated:

Adyson Bradley Arianne Labrecque  
Sarah Haraldson Abby Moorehouse  
Allison Henrichsmeyer Emily Sopala

Each participant shared a poem, an excerpt from a novel, or a song. New members received cords, pins, and certificates and were warmly welcomed by current members. Afterward, all members shared a meal made by Dr. Edwards and her husband, of crêpes with various fillings and a celebratory Pi Delta Phi cake, while enjoying lively conversation.



## *Pi Delta Phi*

### **INTERESTED IN BEING A MEMBER OF NATIONAL FRENCH HONOR SOCIETY?**

**PI DELTA PHI MEMBERSHIP, JUNIOR  
MEMBERS, AND INITIATION**

The requirements are a minimum 3.0 GPA and having completed, at minimum, one 200-level French course.

If you are in FRE 116, you are invited to be a junior member, come to initiation ceremonies and take part in other activities to see if PDP is for you!

There are sometimes exceptions allowed if you want to be on executive board!

