

LE PETIT JOURNAL FRANÇAIS: FRENCH AT ISU

ΠΔΦ

PI DELTA PHI ●

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NOTRE COMITÉ EXECUTIF:



Pictured left to right:

Abby Moorehouse: Co-Présidente, Senior

Kateri Olivares: Secrétaire, Senior

Adriana Rosales: Co-Présidente, Senior

Tiffani Kawa: Relations Publiques, Sophomore

Alison Skelton: Recrutement, Sophomore

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NOS NOUVEAUX MEMBRES
DU COMITÉ EXECUTIF:

Alison Skelton

Major: French Education

Minors: Italian Studies &
TESOL



Tiffani Kawa

Major: French Education



This newsletter is written and
published by Pi Delta Phi
Exec Board.

● @isupideltaphi ●

L'HEURE DE CONVERSATION

Pi Delta Phi runs Francophone Club, for which convo hours are held twice a week in the Language Commons (STV 227B). It is a great way to practice speaking *en français* in a relaxed setting.

Ce semestre, nous avons fait des pages à colorier, les virelangues (tongue twisters!), Pétanque, et plus !



We interviewed two current French students, Orion (in French 115) and Quentin (in French 116), to get their views on conversation hours:

How did you first find out about *l'heure de conversation*?

Orion: Abby (Moorehouse) gave an announcement in my class at the start of the semester. But Prof. Keller had mentioned it again and that's when I decided to give it a try.

Quentin: ...from Professor Keller. She encourages her students to attend at least two meetings during the semester. I was already looking for an opportunity to practice my French speaking skills, so I was excited to hear about a francophone club that could help me improve my conversation abilities.

What did you think? Were you excited, nervous, intimidated, etc?

O: I was nervous because I didn't know anyone, and I had never tried to casually talk in French before.

Q: I was extremely nervous for my first one. I wasn't sure if I would be able to keep up with other French speakers who were more experienced. My French education prior to ISU never focused on speaking, only reading and writing. So, before this year, my speaking abilities were greatly limited. I was relieved when I was able to not only comprehend what others were saying, but also contribute to the conversation. I left my first convo hour with a new confidence and joy in learning French.

Now that you have participated, how has it helped you?

O: It is far easier to have basic conversation in French and hearing how people use words/phrases is helpful in general.

Q: It helps me greatly in maintaining my French speaking abilities and allows me to discuss a variety of topics that we wouldn't have time to cover in a normal French class. I can also practice and use different vocabulary and phrases.

L'HEURE DE CONVERSATION

What is your favorite part and /or memory of l'heure de conversation?

O: The tongue twisters were really fun.

Q: ...when we all shared our favorite French songs with each other. I first fell in love with the French language through listening to its music. It was really special to learn that others liked some of the same songs and artists that I do.

Is there something that you'd like to do in future heures de conversation?

O: Christmas Carols in French!

Q: I would like to try learning a few French jokes. French humor has been difficult to comprehend so it could be a fun challenge to try.



More tongue-twisters:

Quelques virelangues:

(Tongue-twisters!)

Si mon tonton tond ton tonton, ton tonton sera tondu.

As-tu vu le ver vert allant vers le verre en verre vert ?

Un chasseur sachant chasser sait chasser sans son chien.



Do you have any ideas of things we should do during convo hours ?

Contactez-nous !

@isupideltaphi

SPOTLIGHT: DES COURS DE FRANÇAIS

Français 115 au zoo !

French 115 students had an excursion to Miller Park Zoo to learn how to talk about des loups, des pandas roux, des loutres, des serpents, and more all in French !

“The size of this zoo worked well to be able to see it all and talk about each thing in French along the way. Prof. Keller brought along little handouts that had a bunch of words that had not been in the book, so we could more independently talk about what we were seeing. I really liked this one bird, I think it was a Galah, it was a nice rose color and talkative.” –Orion, FRE 115 student

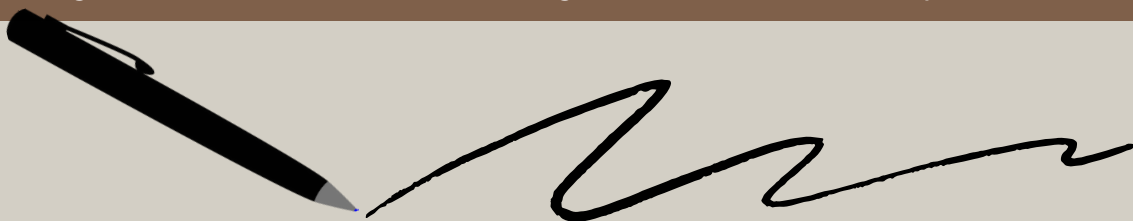


Curious what FRE courses are like above the 100 level?
Keep reading to find out!

FRE 213

By Tiffani Kawa & Alison Skelton

Written Communication in French, taught by Dr. Ponnou-Delaffon, focused on improving written language skills in both formal and informal situations while considering our audience, purpose, and form. We learned to write in many genres of texts including narratives, argumentative, descriptive, and expository. Each unit, we watched a French film which our class discussions and written compositions focused on. These films touched on important social, political, and ecological topics and themes such as the struggles of immigration, racial and social tensions, the loss of childhood innocence, and the importance of finding beauty and value in what is often overlooked or discarded. While working with the films, we did an in-depth review of key grammar points and expanded our vocabulary. This helped us develop our ideas, interpretations, and opinions, resulting in clear and persuasive writing and increased understanding of French and Francophone society.



SPOTLIGHT: DES COURS DE FRANÇAIS

FRE 285

By Tiffani Kawa

This semester's Topics course, taught by Dr. Howell, focused on diverse populations and cultures that make up the Francophone world by engaging with French-language news and media. Through individual exploration of our own chosen Francophone country with its own variations in current events, we constantly practice and improve our speaking, reading, and writing skills. We also gain an understanding of how mass media sharpens each country's culture and society. As we analyze and discuss the current events happening in our chosen country, we enhance critical thinking and media literacy skills as well as become more responsible consumers of media. The class is a great way to learn about different Francophone countries through journalism, memes, and social media. It is so fun to listen to classmates discuss what they learned about their country each week.

FRE 385

By Kateri Olivares

French 385 is an advanced topics class taught by Dr. Ponnou-Delaffon where we focused on the topic of childhood. Childhood is a time where a child first encounters social, family, and traditional values. It is a time that is formed by dreams and imagination, but also heartbreak and sadness. To better understand French culture it is important to learn how they were shaped and brought up personally (family) and formally (education). Through this theme, the class explored different materials, resources, and genres of literature. We began the course with learning about childhood in the middle ages and have made our way to present society. This class has not only given us an understanding of French culture, but let us explore our own upbringing and how we have been formed.



DEPARTMENTAL COLLABORATION

By Abby Moorehouse



Homecoming

Numerous clubs representing seven different languages put together a multicultural game night where students tried new games and food from around the world! Francophone club and La Tavola (Italian Club) shared a game of Pétanque/Bocce, there was Chinese checkers, basta, backgammon, and many more!



Cheese Night

This semester, our Co-Presidents served on the new LAN Student Exec Board, which helps the Language, Literatures, and Cultures department's RSOs collaborate and plan great multicultural events! Here are a few examples:

With the collaboration of LAN RSOs, we participated in ISU's Homecoming parade. We walked in the parade with flags from around the world and handed out candy to the spectators. This year's LAN float, which was a trailer transformed into a castle, won best RSO float for the second year in a row!



Game Night

In collaboration with La Tavola and Sigma Delta Pi (Spanish Honors Society), we hosted a *dégustation des fromages du monde*. Students from all three language RSOs tasted cheeses from countries around the world that speak French, Italian, and Spanish. Highlights included brie, boursin, baguettes, fresh mozzarella, queso fresco, and homemade charcuterie and focaccia!

STUDY ABROAD PRESENTATIONS

By Abby Moorehouse

For students who were curious about the department's study abroad opportunities, we hosted two presentations/Q&A sessions.

For more information about these programs, visit studyabroad.illinoisstate.edu or speak to your French professor!

Executive members and French Teacher Education majors Abby Moorehouse and Kateri Olivares spoke about their semesters abroad in Angers, France, at the Université Catholique de l'Ouest. In the CIDEF program at UCO, you take French language and culture classes with international students and native French professors, stay with a native host family in town, and go on excursions to cultural sites such as Mont St. Michel or the Normandy Beaches.



French minor Fletcher Peterson presented about his summer semester in Québec, Canada, at L'Université Laval. Studying in Québec offers students experience with a different part of the francophone world outside of France that may be closer to home, but has just as deep and rich a history. Exploring beautiful Québec City, eating *poutine*, taking classes with Canadians, and learning both Québécois and standard French from native professors truly makes for *un semestre inoubliable* !



Interested in accessing one of these slideshows??
Follow these QR codes!



<- Angers
Québec ->



INITIATION CEREMONY

Every year we celebrate French students by honoring their academic achievements as they join the French National Honor Society. On November 10, five new members were initiated:

Nikki Dalbey

Mia Norris

Alison Skelton

Tiffani Kawa

Kateri Olivares



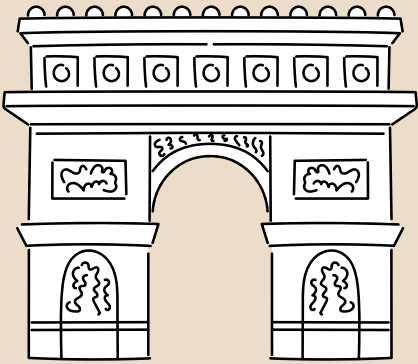
Each participant read a poem, an excerpt from a novel, or words from a song. New members received cords, pins, and certificates and were warmly welcomed by current members. Afterwards, members celebrated with delicious crêpes made by Dr. Edwards and listened to francophone music.



SPOTLIGHT: STUDENTS OF OTHER MAJORS

HISTORY AND FRENCH

Co-President Adriana Rosales interviewed Joel Pandess to learn about his experience as a double major in French and history education.



Why did you choose History as your major?

"I had an amazing history class in high school which really showed me that learning opens up your mind and changes the way one perceives the world and even their own life. I was blessed with a wonderful teacher who motivated and believed in all of us... She made a very warm family environment where I and many others felt safe to talk about life and share our struggles. These both motivated me to become a history teacher to do even more for students than what was done for me!"

Why did you decide to study and double major in French?

"My high school French teacher was full of love and joy for not only the language, but the culture, art and history of France. This translated into us performing French plays in front of our school or doing dances for National Francophone week. I adored French because of the joy it brought me and my instructor. Along with this, the majority of my family is from west Africa, and all of them spoke French fluently besides me, so that motivated me to learn French so I could communicate with them. I am now finally at the point where I can have a good conversation with my relatives and be understood."

What connections do you see between History Education and French?

"it's been wonderful to know that I can look at history through the lens of someone who has already been immersed in French culture and language. When I look at historical figures like Louis XIV or Molière now, it is through a different lens than someone who isn't involved with it. Being able to speak a second language will also help me connect with students who may be francophone and not speak English. With this, there is even the possibility of being endorsed to teach French, which would be a wonderful opportunity."

Does your knowledge of French language/culture help your understanding of History?

"There are SO many ways that French has helped me with History Ed. For starters, we look at many historical events in France, such as the Revolution or the French impact on Art movements like Neoclassicism. Having a background in French makes it much easier to interpret these events and sources since I have a larger context to fit it in. There was even a time when I needed to go on websites that were only in French for an end-of-semester project and I was able to find what I needed because I knew the language. French history is so captivating, and knowing the language behind it helps bring out more of the passion that rests within it!"

What is your advice to someone thinking about adding a French major or minor?

“My advice for someone wanting to add a French major/minor is “'impossible' n'est pas français!”. This quote was our motto in high school French and it symbolizes the spirit of always trying and being open to learn new things, facing new challenges and growing in the French language... When you are passionate about something it is natural to feel like you aren't progressing or that others are doing much better than you, since you really care about doing well. But comparison to others and self doubts aren't the truth, the truth is that all is possible and YOU can do this major/minor if you put your heart in it and discover the beautiful garden of French that lies in the field of language. Cultivate your garden by learning French!”

Considering adding a second major in French?? Visit the page below to see how you can fit the major into your schedule and still graduate on time!

lan.illinoisstate.edu/academics/internationalize

LA SEMAINE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE

By Abby Moorehouse

Each year, a week in November is dedicated to La Francophonie, the collection of countries, regions, and people who speak French.

From the French Minister of Culture: “Prepared with the support of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF), made up of 84 states and governments, This French Language and La Francophonie Week aims to promote the strong bond that unites Francophones but also to reveal to everyone the richness of their diversity.”

This year, it took place November first through eighth. To celebrate and honor the occasion, our exec board worked together to create a poster highlighting various francophone artists from around the world! We chose to feature Leila Slimani (writer), Angèle (singer), Zeinixx (street artist), Omar Sy (actor), and Douchka Volaric (social media creator).



ORGANISATION
INTERNATIONALE DE
LA FRANCOPHONIE

Divertissements

French-language media
recommendations from
PDP exec board



Netflix documentary
about Belgian pop star
Angèle



Stromae - Racine Carrée
Full concert free on
Youtube



Family Business
Comedy show
on Netflix



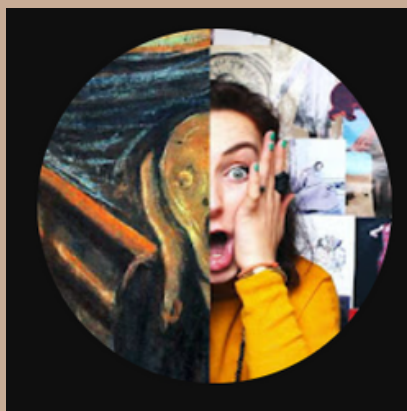
Nonante-Cinq
Album by Angèle



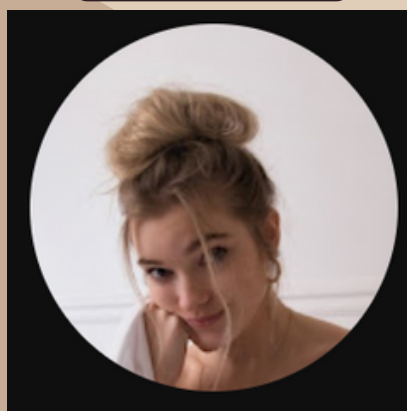
Francophone club's
Spotify playlist



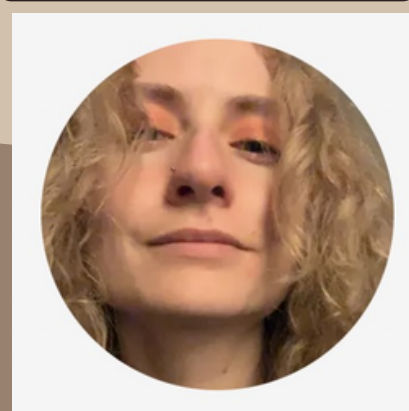
InnerFrench podcast
on Spotify and Youtube



Art Comptant Pour Rien
on Youtube



Eloise O'Connor
on Youtube



Victoria Pierce
on TikTok