



A-level French



Course Structure

Year 12	Year 13
<p>Core topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Traditional vs. modern families- Cyberspace- Voluntary work- National heritage- Modern Francophone music- Cinema and filmmaking	<p>Core topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The benefits of multiculturalism- Marginalisation- Criminals and criminal justice- Young people and politics- Protest movements- Immigration
<p>And either the film or the book</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Un sac de billes (book)- La Haine (film)	<p>And the film or book not yet studied</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Un sac de billes (book)- La Haine (film)

Course assessment

All assessment takes place at the end of year 13, though the IRP for paper 3 is an ongoing project throughout year 13 and is presented in the paper 3 exam.

Paper 1 Reading, listening, translation 50%	Paper 2 Written exam 20%	Paper 3 Speaking exam 30%
2hr 30 mins exam. You have your own laptop and headphones to control the listening track at your own pace. Examined on a range of texts based around the cultural topics we have studied. Gap fills, translations, comprehension and summary writing.	2 hour exam in which you will write two essays, one about the book we have studied and one about the film we have studied.	2 parts 1) Independent Research Project – 2 mins to present the topic you have researched and 10 mins of follow up questions with your teacher. 2) Photocard discussion for 5 minutes about one of the cultural topics we have studied.

Course resources

- The A-level course is very current which means that your lessons will be adapted to reflect what is happening in the news. We won't just look at France – lessons will cover all French-speaking countries, such as Canada, Morocco, Algeria and Haiti.
- Your teachers will use the Kerboodle online textbook which you will also have access to both in paper and online for class work and homework tasks
- You will also be exposed to a range of news articles, radio programmes, videos, podcasts, bulletins, films, TV shows, music, webpages and online courses such as those offered by the Open University and Future Learn.

Course detail

- 12 cultural topics
- 1 book
- 1 film
- Independent Research Project

In this topic you will study:

- New trends in marriage and other forms of partnership
- The benefits and drawbacks of different family structures
- The relations between different generations in the family



La famille en voie de changement



In this topic you will study:

- How technology has transformed everyday life
- The dangers of digital technology
- Possible future developments in technology



La cyber-société



In this topic you will study:

- The voluntary sector in France and the range of services they provide
- The benefits of voluntary work for both those that are helped and those that do it



Le rôle du bénévolat



In this topic you will study:

- Key heritage sites in France and how they are preserved
- How heritage sites market themselves
- How heritage is linked to wider French culture



Une culture fière de son patrimoine



In this topic you will study:

- Contemporary French music and how it varies across different Francophone countries
- Who listens to Francophone music today
- The threats to contemporary Francophone music and how these might be tackled



La musique francophone contemporaine

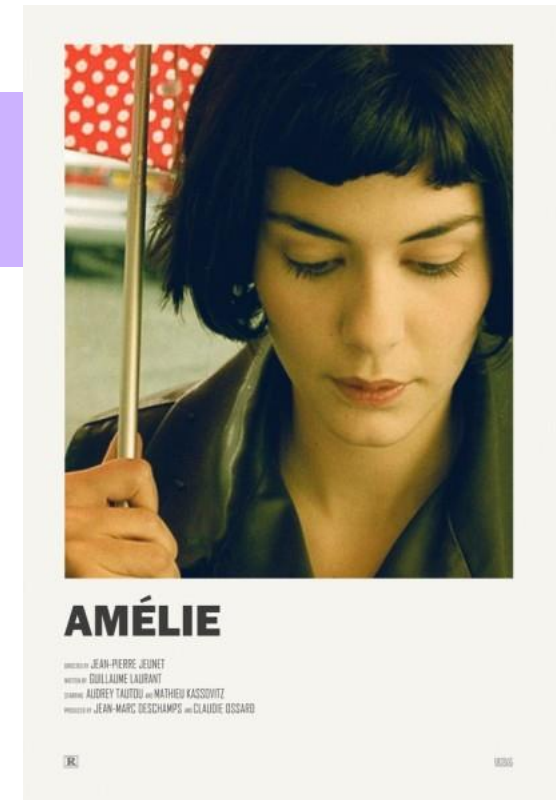


In this topic you will study:

- A variety of aspects of French cinema
- Major developments in the evolution of French cinema from its beginnings to present day
- The continuing popularity of French cinema and its film festivals



Le septième art



In this topic you will study:

- The benefits of living in a multicultural society
- The need for tolerance and respect for diversity
- How we can promote diversity to create a richer world



Les aspects positifs d'une société diverse



In this topic you will study:

- Different groups who are socially marginalised
- Measures to help those who are marginalised
- Changing and contrasting attitudes to people who are marginalised



Quelle vie pour les marginalisés?



In this topic you will study

- Different attitudes to crime
- The benefits and drawbacks of prison
- Alternative forms of punishment



Comment on traite les criminels



In this topic you will study:

- Arguments relating to the vote
- The French political system and its evolution
- Engagement levels of young people and their influence on politics
- The future of politics and political engagement



Les ados, le droit de vote et l'engagement politique



In this topic you will study:

- The role of unions
- The different methods of protesting and striking
- Different attitudes towards strikes and protests
- Other political tensions



Manifestations, grèves – à qui le pouvoir?



In this topic you will study :

- Political issues concerning immigration in Francophone countries
- The viewpoints of different political parties regarding immigration
- Immigration from the standpoint of immigrants
- Racism and immigration

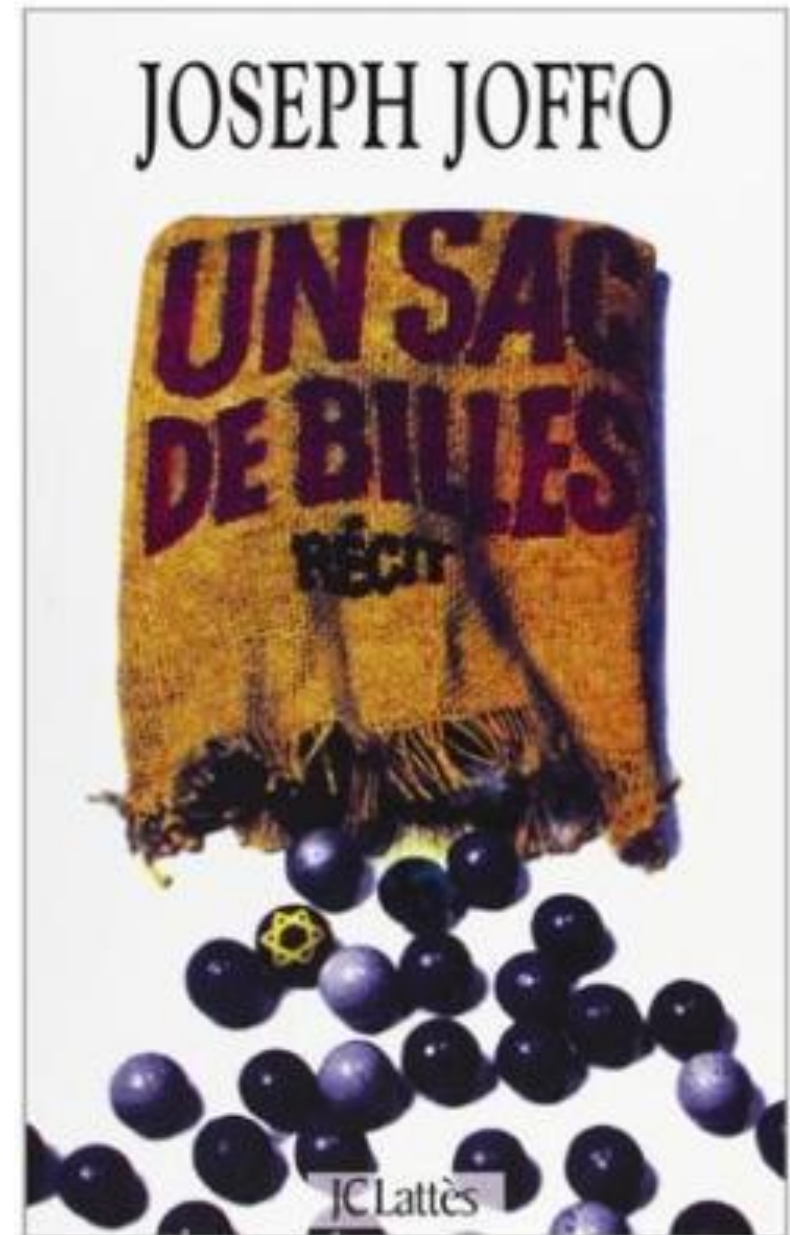


La politique et l'immigration



Un Sac de Billes

- Second World War autobiographical novel by the French Jewish author Joseph Joffo
- Tells the story of Joffo fleeing Nazi-occupied France with his brother Maurice
- Studied in French and the essays you write will be in French too – excellent for developing your more formal writing style in French.



La Haine

- A black-and-white drama about three young friends and their struggles whilst living in the *banlieues* of Paris
- The title derives from a line spoken by one of the main characters, Hubert: “La haine attire la haine!” (Hate breeds hatred).



The Independent Research Project (IRP)

- You will complete an research project about anything that interests you from the Francophone world and present on this in your speaking exam at the end of year 13.
- Previous students have linked the IRP to what they want to study at University, which has been a great addition to their UCAS personal statement. For example, a previous student wanting to study Psychology wrote her Independent Research Project about attitudes to mental health in France.

What skills will I get from studying French?

Communication

Essay
writing

Linguistic
skills

Organisation

Critical
thinking
skills

Wide knowledge
of the
Francophone
world

Analysis

Independent
research

Managing
information

Teamwork

What careers can I do with French?

Interpreting

Civil
Service

Teaching –
at home or
abroad

Academic
research

Travel and
tourism

Politics

Journalism

Translation

Law

Diplomacy

Business

Marketing/
advertising

Media

Enrichment



- Cinema trip for an MFL study day at the Tyneside cinema with language ambassadors from Newcastle University;
- Visit to the University to use their language labs for live interpreting;
- Trip abroad to France for a full linguistic and cultural immersion.

