



Frequently Asked Questions About French Programs

What is the difference between Core, Extended, and Immersion French?

Major differences include the **number of hours** of accumulated instruction in French, the **delivery** of the programs, and the **fluency/proficiency** of a student's language at the end of each program.

The aim of the **Core French** program is to provide students with fundamental communication skills in French and an understanding of the nature of the language and its culture. By the end of grade 12, students will be able to participate in a straight-forward conversation in French, read and understand a variety of written passages, and understand the general meaning of radio and television news programs. Grade 9 Core French is a mandatory credit. Students may take up to 4 courses of Core French in high school.

Extended French is a form of French Immersion. The aim of the Extended French program is to develop students' French language knowledge and skills and to provide them with an understanding and appreciation of francophone culture. Students will be able to converse freely on familiar topics, will be able to read and will be able to function in a French-speaking community. To qualify for an Extended French Certificate, students need to take 7 courses in French (4 Language Arts courses and 3 optional French courses).

The aim of the **French Immersion** program is to develop and refine students' ability to communicate in French, as well as to expand their knowledge of the language through the study of Francophone literature. Students will be able to participate easily in conversations and discussions, take courses at the college or university level in which French is the language of instruction, and accept employment in which French is the working language. Immersion French students need 10 courses (4 Language Arts courses and 6 optional French courses) to qualify for an Immersion French Certificate.

How does one know if a student should take Core French or Extended/Immersion French?

Students who are enrolled in the Core French program in grade 8 should take Core French courses in high school. Students who are enrolled in the Immersion French program in grade 8 should enroll in either Extended French or Immersion French.

At what levels are Core French and Extended /Immersion French offered?

Core French is offered at the Applied and Academic level. French Immersion is also offered at the Academic level and in 2013 will be available at the Applied level as well.

