Ph.D.

STAGE 1

- Stage 1 of the doctoral program is the same as the M.A. for doctoral candidates, described above.
  - Admission to Stage 2 must be approved by the Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid, acting on recommendations from the M.A. Examination Committee, evaluation of written work and of a statement of research interest submitted by the student, and consideration of the student's grade average, which should be no lower than 3.5.
  - Students applying with M.A.s earned elsewhere will be expected to complete any requirements needed to have the equivalent of the M.A. for Ph.D. candidates at the University of Illinois, and must submit examples of past research written in French.

COURSE WORK FOR STAGE 2

- Eight additional courses in French Studies, at least two of which must be in literature or culture prior to 1800. One of these courses may be taken outside the department.
- Interdisciplinary field of concentration: Students choosing a field of concentration in French and Other Disciplines can, in consultation with their advisor, take more than one course in another department (history, sociology, anthropology, art history, comparative literature, etc.). “Field of concentration” may be defined here as including:
  - the traditional, century-oriented study or
  - some other traditionally delimited areas of research such as author (biography and/or canon), themes, genres, movements, forms and techniques, relations of literature and other disciplines such as sociology, linguistics, philosophy, art history, etc., or
  - some coherent system of French Studies, devised by the students with their committees, which will lay the groundwork for future research.
- Course work must be chosen in such a way that students have fulfilled the following requirements through Stages 1 and 2:
  - At least one course in the literature of each of the six periods of French Literature. Courses taken at the M.A. level may be counted to fulfill this requirement.
  - Modern foreign language requirement. Students are expected to demonstrate a reading proficiency in one modern foreign language (other than French and English). The list of options may be found on page 10 of the Graduate Student Handbook. In addition, students specializing in medieval or sixteenth-century studies must demonstrate an equivalent reading knowledge of Latin.
  - One course in French Linguistics or linguistically oriented textual theory.
- Preliminary examination. As soon as possible after admission to Stage 2 students will choose an advisor who will serve as the chair of their doctoral committee. The committee will consist of the chairperson, who must be a member of the graduate faculty, and three other professors, one of whom should be chosen from a different program within the
department, from a different department, or from another campus. At least three of the members must be graduate faculty; at least two, tenured. The committee must be approved by the Graduate College. In consultation with the committee, the student will prepare a list of topics germane to the candidate's future thesis research.

- Guidelines for the preliminary examination in French Studies may be downloaded by clicking here.

**STAGE 3: THESIS**

- The thesis committee should normally be the same as the committee for the preliminary examination. A change in the committee must be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies and by the Graduate College. The thesis will develop some aspect of the area of research of Stage 2.

**Note:** Teaching Assistants are required to take FR 505 (Techniques in Teaching College and Secondary French, 4 hours) as part of their contractual obligation. Students are required to take FR 505 once (in their first year in the program) and the course does not count toward the degree.