

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

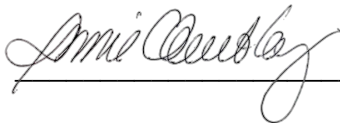
APPROVAL PAGE

Proposal Title: Certificate in French

College: Liberal Arts Department: Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics

DEPARTMENT CHAIR – Dr. Annie C. Tremblay

I have read the enclosed proposal and approve this proposal on behalf of the department.



1/13/2025

Signature

Date

COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR – Dr. Selfa A. Chew-Melendez

I have read the enclosed documents and approve the proposal on behalf of the college curriculum committee.

Signature

Date

COLLEGE DEAN – Dr. Anadeli Bencomo

I have read the enclosed documents and approve the proposal on behalf of the college. I certify that the necessary funds will be allocated by the college in support of this proposal.

Signature

Date

CURRICULUM CHANGE MEMO

Date: 1/9/2025

From: Dr. Brenda Cervera-Saenz, Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics

Through: *B.Saenz*
Dr. Annie C. Tremblay, Chair, Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics

Through: *Annie C. Tremblay*
Dr. Selfa A. Chew-Melendez, Chair, Liberal Arts Curriculum Committee

Through: Dr. Anadeli Bencomo, Dean, Liberal Arts

To: Dr. Methaq S. Abed, Chair, University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Proposal Title: Certificate in French

Select the proposal content (select as many as apply) and provide the rationale.

Content

- New program or Program Change
- Bachelor's
 - Master's
 - Doctoral/Professional
 - Certificate
 - Fast Track
 - Minor
 - Concentration/Track
- New Course
- Closure (program, certificate, minor, concentration)
- Change
- CIP Code
 - Program/certificate SCH
 - Course Title
 - Course Description
 - Graduate Program Admission Requirements

Rationale

We propose to create a French certificate to increase enrollment in second-year French classes. This certificate may attract students from other disciplines and possibly other Colleges. Students who complete a minor in French may also be able to get this certificate as part of their degrees. We anticipate that this certificate may also attract working professionals who already have a degree but seek to enhance their resume. The courses included in the certificate are taught regularly by French faculty for students needing to meet their foreign language requirement, and in some cases for students pursuing a minor in French. They are already offered on a regular basis and won't

need to be offered more frequently because of the certificate. Hence, faculty will not be spending additional time teaching courses specifically for the certificate, and no additional funding is thus required.

New Certificate Request Form

College: College of Liberal Arts

Department: Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics

Certificate Name: Certificate in French

Proposed CIP Code: 16.0901

Required Number Semester Credit Hours (SCH): 12

Proposed Implementation Date: Fall 2025

Brief Program Description: We propose to create a French certificate to increase enrollment in second-year French classes. This certificate may attract students from other disciplines and possibly other Colleges. Students who complete a minor in French may also be able to get this certificate as part of their degrees. We anticipate that this certificate may also attract working professionals who already have a degree but seek to enhance their resume.

Is the certificate stackable? Yes No

Job Market Need

Provide short- and long-term evidence of the need for graduates in the job market

Short-term effects: French is a commonly taught language in local high schools, making the proposed certificate particularly valuable for students aspiring to become educators. By obtaining this certification, they will enhance their qualifications and significantly increase their chances of securing employment as French teachers in local schools. Moreover, French is a popular language of study in Mexico. Students from Mexico who acquire this certificate will gain the necessary skills to teach French in their own communities, thereby contributing to the growth of French language education in the region. This dual focus not only addresses local educational needs but also supports cultural exchange and communication within diverse communities.

Long-term effects: Proficiency in a second language, particularly French, can significantly enhance our students' job prospects both within El Paso and beyond, as many employers highly value multilingual employees. This certification will enable students to access a broader market and communicate effectively with international clients and partners. Individuals proficient in French can pursue diverse career opportunities in fields such as travel and tourism, where they engage with French-speaking clients; law enforcement and government, where they serve diverse communities; and education, where they can teach French in local schools. Furthermore, proficiency in French opens doors in global business trade by facilitating negotiations and partnerships with French-speaking companies, as well as in interpretation and translation roles that provide essential language services. Additionally, students can thrive in sales and marketing by effectively reaching and engaging French-speaking markets, and in healthcare by communicating with French-speaking patients and their families. By equipping students with these essential skills, we can help them thrive in an increasingly globalized job market.

Student Demand

Provide short- and long-term evidence of demand for this certificate

Short-term: Students and professionals have voiced interest in receiving a certificate that attests to their having learned French. A certificate in French provides formal recognition of language proficiency, which can be a significant asset on resumes. Employers often look for verified skills, and a certificate serves as proof of a student's commitment and expertise. In a competitive job market, having a specialized certificate can differentiate candidates from others who may only have general language skills.

Long-term: French is spoken in many countries across different continents, including Europe, Africa, and parts of the Americas. As businesses expand globally, employees who can communicate in French will have a competitive edge in international markets. The U.S. has significant trade relationships with French-speaking countries. Understanding French can facilitate better communication and partnership opportunities in sectors like technology, tourism, and manufacturing. Organizations that operate internationally or with immigrant populations often require French speakers. This is particularly relevant in the border region, where some immigrants and refugees come from French-speaking regions of Central America (e.g., Haiti).

Enrollment Projections

Use this table to provide the estimated cumulative headcount and full-time student equivalent (FTSE) enrollment for the first five years of the minor.

YEAR	1	2	3	4	5
Headcount	5	5	5	5	5
FTSE	1	2	2	2	2

Degree Requirements

Use this table to summarize the degree requirements. Full curriculum will be entered as catalog copy at the end of this document.

Category	SCH
Required Courses	12
Prescribed Electives	0
Free Electives	0
TOTAL	12

Faculty

List the faculty for the program and the expected percentage of time assigned to the certificate

Name	Department	Expected % Time in Program
Ms. Valerie Rasmussen	Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics	0%
Dr. Jane Evans	Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics	0%
Dr. Lowry Martin	Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics	0%
Dr. Elizabeth Mayne	Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics	0%
Mr. Christus Alapini	Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics	0%

Students

Describe general recruitment efforts.

Current students will be recruited through events like Study Abroad fairs, department campus tabling events, CoLart Chalk the College, and current and/or upcoming courses (ESOL, Chicano Studies, Spanish, Translation, Linguistics) in the department. Incoming freshmen will be recruited through events like Orange and Blue Day and visiting local high schools in El Paso. Professionals in the community will be recruited through events held at the Mexican Consulate in Downtown El Paso.

Library

Explain whether additional library resources are needed for this certificate, and if so what.

No additional resources will be needed outside of the requirements for each course.

Facilities and Equipment

Explain whether additional resources are needed for this certificate and if so what.

No additional resources will be needed outside of the requirements for each course.

Evaluation

Describe the evaluation process that will be used to assess the quality and effectiveness of the new certificate

The quality and effectiveness of the Certificate in French will be evaluated by the ratio of students/professionals registering and completing the certification courses. Another form of evaluation will be evaluating how many students/professionals pass the required French courses with a B or above.

Costs and Funding

Use this table to show five-year costs and sources of funding for the certificate

Five Year Costs		Five Year Funding	
Personnel ¹	\$0	Reallocated Funds	\$0
Facilities and Equipment	\$0	Anticipated New Formula Funding	\$0
Library, Supplies & Materials	\$0	Special Item Funding	\$0
Other ²	\$0	Other ³	\$0
Total Costs	\$0	Total Funding	\$0

1. Report costs for new faculty hires, graduate assistants, and technical support personnel.
2. Specify other costs her such as administrative costs and travel.
3. Report other sources of funding. In-hand grants, “likely” future grants, and designated tuition and fees can be included.

The proposed certificate does not incur any cost, because we already offer French classes to students across campus.

Certificate Catalog Copy

Certificate Name: Certificate of French

Certificate Description: The certificate consists of 12 credit hours. Students will take the 4 required courses and maintain a minimum B average.

Additional Relevant Information: Students may substitute one of these courses for a study abroad experience in a French-speaking country offered by a certified academic program.

Degree Plan

Note new courses with an asterisk (*).

Section Heading		
Subheading: 'Required'		
Course Prefix & Number	Course Name	Course SCH
FREN 1301	French One	3
FREN 1302	French Two	3
FREN 2301	French Three	3
FREN 2302	French Four	3