The doctoral program in French seeks to offer broad exposure in the field of French Studies and French Linguistics as well as more specialized training in the student’s chosen area. We place great emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches to French literature, culture, and linguistics, and our students are required to pursue coursework with faculty in affiliated fields (History, Art History, Philosophy, Linguistics, Psychology, Comparative Literature, etc.). We strongly encourage research abroad, in particular at affiliated institutions such as the ENS Lyon. Students are also invited to complete interdisciplinary portfolios in area studies such as Women’s and Gender Studies, Cultural Studies, European Studies, Romance Linguistics, Romance Studies, African/African-American Studies, and Arts/Cultural Management and Entrepreneurship.

**Admission Requirements**

http://utex.as/go/fritadmissions

Admission to the doctoral program is based on the candidate’s potential for original work in French Studies or French Linguistics. The college record should include substantial advanced course work in French. Students already holding an MA are welcome as applicants. The program is not designed for students seeking only an MA.

**Financial Support**

http://utex.as/go/fritsupport

The Department of French and Italian is home to the generous Julia Emerson Walther endowment. Outstanding students in French Studies and French Linguistics may qualify for our Walther scholarships offering highly competitive stipends and funding for professional development, summer research, and extensive study in a francophone country. We also provide financial assistance and pedagogical training in the form of teaching assistantships and assistant instructorships. Students can normally expect support for up to six years.

**Resources @ UT Austin**

The UT campus includes exceptional library and computer facilities in the humanities. The Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center (HRC) houses an internationally recognized collection of rare books, manuscripts and ephemera from medieval texts to the papers of contemporary writers; the Carlton Lake Collection at the HRC is one of the finest research collections of modern French materials in the world. The Blanton Museum of Art, located on the University campus, has a world-renowned assemblage of European and Latin American art, with particular strength in French printmaking of the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries. Finally, UT Austin is home to the France-UT Centre Pluridisciplinaire which sponsors a broad range of French lectures, film festivals, and exchanges.

**Placements**

http://utex.as/go/fritjobs

Our students hold positions at universities such as: Harvard University, Université Paris III – Sorbonne Nouvelle, Wake Forest University, Pepperdine University, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, SUNY Binghamton, Southern Methodist University, University of Delaware, University of Cincinnati.

**Faculty**

**French Studies**

Marc Bizer
- early modern reception of classical texts
- self and nation in early modern France
- early modern gender
- cognitive approaches to literature

Karen Pagani
- 17th and 18th-century moral theory (British, French, German)
- 18th-century French novel
- secularization

Hervé Picherit
- 20th-century French fiction
- 20th-century French film
- literature and the social body
- philosophies of fiction

Hélène Tissières
- African and Caribbean francophone literatures
- African and French film
- African contemporary art & music
- biennale of Dakar

Alexandra Wettlaufer
- 19th-century literature, culture, painting
- interdisciplinary studies in literature, visual arts, film
- comparative literature (French, British, American)
- gender studies

**French Linguistics**

David Birdsong
- second language acquisition
- psycholinguistics
- bilingualism
- experimental design and methods

Cari Blyth
- pragmatics
- cross-cultural communication
- discourse analysis

Barbara Bullock
- bilingualism and language contact
- language variation and change
- laboratory phonology & sociophonetics

Jean-Pierre Montreuil
- phonetics and phonology
- morphology
- optimality theory
- Romance dialectology

Cinzia Russi
- historical linguistics
- grammaticalization
- Italian dialects
- comparative Romance linguistics