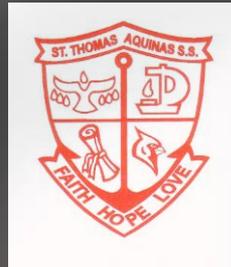


Modern Languages Department

The French Program at St Thomas Aquinas



“To have
another
language is to
possess a
second soul.”

—**Charlemagne**



Why continue in French?

- French is one of Canada's two official languages, and one of Ontario's two official languages of instruction.
- Knowledge of a second-language strengthens first-language skills.
- The ability to speak two or more languages generally enhances reasoning, problem-solving, and creative-thinking skills.
- Research shows that children educated in content subjects (science, geography, history etc.) in two languages develop higher reasoning and analytical skills.
- Knowledge of French provides students with an advantage in a number of careers both in Canada and internationally.

The Goals of our French Programs

- To develop strong skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in French.
- To provide students with an understanding of cultures of French-speaking societies by integrating cultural study into daily language instruction.
- Students who successfully complete all courses of the Extended French Program will receive a Certificate of Concentration in Extended French in Grade 12.
- To be functionally bilingual by the end of Grade 12.

✦ There is a difference between being bilingual and being functionally bilingual! ✦

- ★ **Bilingual:** Complete fluency in a second language. This includes 100% mastery of ALL grammatical structures, vocabulary words, and language conventions. The language skills of the second-language must be at the same level (or close to) those language skills of the first-language.
- ★ **Functionally Bilingual:** Enough knowledge of a second language to express oneself in a situation (whether it's orally, in written-form or through reading).



What type of learning environment will I be in?

- Always a welcoming, friendly, and positive work space!
- An opportunity to make a tightly-knit group of friends!
- Capable of getting involved in the Aquinas community while managing the French workload!
- Teachers who are always willing to help, and willing to make learning French as enjoyable as possible!



What does the **Core French** Program at St Thomas Aquinas look like?



GRADE 9

- Three options:
 - Academic French (FSF1D1)
 - Applied French (FSF1P1)
 - Open French (FSF101)

*please speak to a French teacher to make your grade 9 selection

GRADE 10

- One option:
 - Academic French (FSF2D1)

GRADE 11

- One option:
 - La langue française (FSF3U1)

GRADE 12

- One option:
 - La langue française (FSF4U1)

What does the **Extended French** Program at St Thomas Aquinas look like?



GRADE 9

- Two French courses/credits (one per semester):
 - La langue française (FEF1DF)
 - La géographie (CGC1DF)

GRADE 10

- Two French courses/credits (one per semester):
 - La langue française (FEF2DF)
 - L'histoire (CHC2DF)

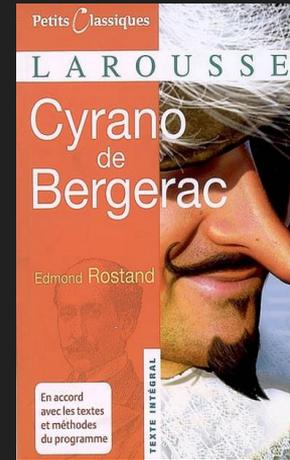
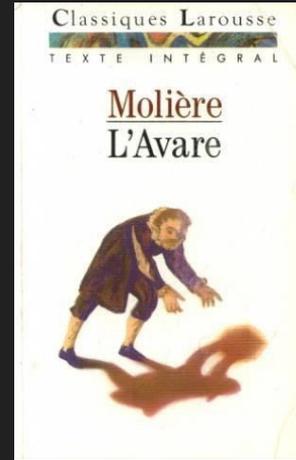
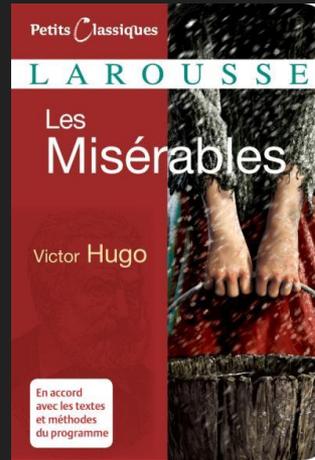
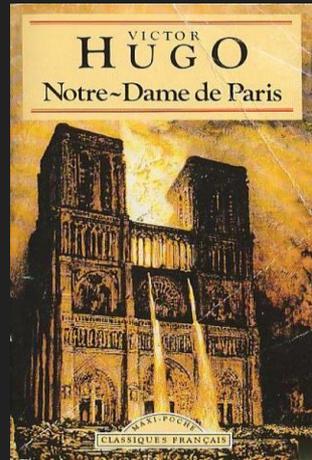
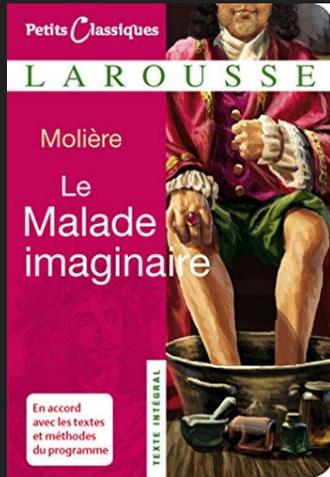
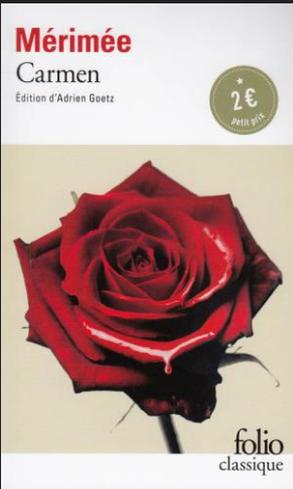
GRADE 11

- Two French courses/credits (one per semester):
 - La langue française (FEF3UF)
 - Les grandes religions (HRT3MF)

GRADE 12

- One French course/credit (first semester):
 - La langue française (FEF4UF)

Some of the classic French stories, operas, and plays that you will be reading and learning about!



What in-school French opportunities are offered at St Thomas Aquinas?

- Explore Program - study program funded by Canadian government, providing you with the opportunity to live in a French speaking region for 8 weeks, expenses paid !
- French Speech Competitions
- Internships in Ottawa at Parliament
- DELF Exam Field Trips
- French Debate Club
- If you have an idea about another French extra-curricular activity that you would like to start up, speak to one of the French teachers and they can help you get it started!



What is the DELF Exam ?



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- DELF (Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française) is an official qualification awarded by the French Ministry of Education to certify the competency of French speakers from outside of France. **This certificate is valid for life and is recognized all over the world!**
- The DELF Exam tests all 4 language categories: Reading, Writing, Listening, and Oral.
- The DELF Exam is written in Grade 12 by students who are interested in writing the exam. The exam is usually written in the spring (April/May).

DELF Exam Candidates are Qualified in ONE of the Following Levels:

BASIC USER:

- **A1: This level recognises basic knowledge. It is the most basic level at which a language is used. At this stage, the learner can interact in a simple way: he/she can speak about him/herself and his/her immediate environment.**
- **A2: A basic user. The user can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring the most common polite phrases and exchanges of information.**



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INDEPENDENT USER:

- **B1: At this level, the user becomes independent. He/she can maintain interaction: he/she can understand and maintain a discussion and give his/her opinion. He/she is capable of dealing with situations likely to arise in daily life.**
- **B2: At this level, the user has a degree of independence that allows him/her to construct arguments, viewpoints, and negotiate. At this level, the candidate has a degree of fluency and spontaneity in regular interactions and is capable of correcting his/her own mistakes.**

PROFICIENT USER (If you decide to continue your French studies in post-secondary):

- **C1: At this level, the user is independent. They can express themselves fluently and spontaneously. They have a large vocabulary and can choose the appropriate expression to introduce their comments. They can produce clear, well-structured conversation without hesitation, which shows controlled use of language structures.**
- **C2: This level is categorized by precision, appropriateness, and fluency of expression. Users are capable of using the language for academic and advanced-level purposes.**

Questions?



Please feel free to reach out to one of our french teachers by calling the school and asking for the Moderns Department