

Module Title: Language and Society in the French Speaking World

Module Code: FRE6200

Credit Value: 15

Level: 6

Pre-requisite modules:

Content Description

This module focuses on questions of language and society in the French-speaking world, both from the macro and micro sociolinguistic perspectives. Topics include: the emergence of French as the national (standard) language of France; the expansion of French abroad and the notion of *la Francophonie*; so-called language policy and planning, including policies towards other (minority/regional) languages spoken in France; varieties of French spoken in regional areas and in other countries (e.g. Canada); French-based creoles (e.g. Mauritian Creole); and social and stylistic variation in French according to factors such as age, register and social class.

Module Aims

On completion of the module, you will have acquired:

Knowledge outcomes

- an understanding of how language interrelates with societal issues as relevant to the French-speaking world
- an appreciation of linguistic variation as relevant to the French-speaking world
- an ability to analyse the various social functions attributed to language by a variety of parties

Discipline-specific skills

- an ability to think systematically about the 'social life' of French and variation in French
- greater competence in French (especially comprehension)

General intellectual attributes

- heightened sensitivity to the social functions of language and linguistic variation