

# *Language Placement Policy in French for the Abbey Program at Pontlevoy*

If students have studied French in high school they *SHOULD NOT* begin again in FRE 101. The following chart shows appropriate placement as per language experience.

1 year of high school study or 1 semester of college study	Enroll in FRE 102 or 130 (130 is not yet available at the Abbey)
2 years of high school study or 2 semesters of college study	Enroll in FRE 102 or 201
3-4 years of high school study or 3 semesters of college study	Enroll in FRE 201 or 202
Any student who has completed 4 or more years of high school study or four semesters of college study may enroll in an upper level course at the 300 or 400 level with permission of the French Abbey instructor.	Enroll in a 300 or 400 level French course

## ***COURSE INFORMATION:***

**FRE 101:** This course is for true beginners in the language. If you have studied the language in high school 101 is *not* the course for you. Consider taking the CLEP and enroll in either 102 or 130 (see below).

**FRE 130** (not currently offered at the Abbey) This is a course designed for students who have had some previous language study (a semester or a year of high school). It reviews the basic concepts of 101 and builds from there to cover the major concepts of 102. This course is equivalent to 101 and 102; after this course, students should enroll in 201. In French 130 is offered only in the spring at USM.

**FRE 102** This course is designed for students who have had two years of high school study or for students continuing from 101. It presumes knowledge of basic greetings, numbers, etc.

**FRE 201** This course is designed for students who have had three or four years of high school study or for students continuing from 102. It presumes knowledge of basic vocabulary and present tense communicative functions.

**FRE 202** This course is designed for students who have had four years of study and/or have taken AP language courses in high school. It is also designed for students continuing from 201. It presumes knowledge of vocabulary appropriate to a range of real-world contexts as well as present, future, and past tense communicative functions.

**FRE 300-level and beyond** These courses require the completion of 202 or the equivalent. Usually one upper division (300 or 400-level) course in French is offered at the Abbey.

***A French minor:*** USM students can receive with only six additional hours after 202 (18 hours total, up to 12 of which may be awarded by CLEP).

***A French major:*** USM students: you can complete a major with 30 hours of courses at the 200-level or above in a single language or with 30 hours in two languages. For more information on these policies please contact the chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.

**USM students** may receive college credit for prior language study via the CLEP exam. Up to 12 hours of credit in a foreign language may be earned through the CLEP. These hours will then count toward the foreign language requirement in the College of Arts and Letters as well as toward a foreign language major/minor. Students with two years of high school study generally receive 3-6 hours of college credit, while students who have studied a language for 3-4 years generally receive 6-12 hours of credit. Heritage/native speakers should take the CLEP to receive credit for 101-202 (12 hours).

**CLEP score equivalencies at USM:**

40-44 = 101 or 3hrs

45-51 = through 102 or 6 hrs

52-61= through 201 or 9hrs

62-80 = through 202 or 12hrs

**CLEP test:** The College Level Examination Program in languages is an option about which you should be aware if you have already had several years of language study. The CLEP is used to award up to 12 hours (the equivalent of FRE 202) of college-level credit for pre-existing language knowledge, whether from high school study, foreign study, or home environment use. It is a multiple-choice exam testing reading and listening comprehension. You can take the CLEP exam on the USM campus in the Testing Center in the Walker Science Building. Phone: 601-266-6123 for more information. Additional information is available at <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/clep/about.html>