

#### FRENCH AND BEYOND AT NORTH PHOENIX

You will have the opportunity to study French for four years. This is enough time to begin reading and enjoying the highest literary expressions of French civilization and culture. Once you begin to learn French you should devote yourself to it with all your strength, so as to develop fluency before you graduate. You may continue to learn your French by studying overseas, and you may later wish to return to Latin, in order to master the foundations of your French; Spanish, to experience the flavour of another Romance language; or even Mandarin Chinese, to expand your linguistic palette beyond the margins of the western world.

#### FRENCH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES OF WORLD

France, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Canada, Madagascar, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, Niger, Senegal, Mali, Rwanda, Belgium, Guinea, Chad, Haiti, Burundi, Benin, Switzerland, Togo, Central African Republic, Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Djibouti, Luxembourg, Vanuatu, Seychelles, Monaco.



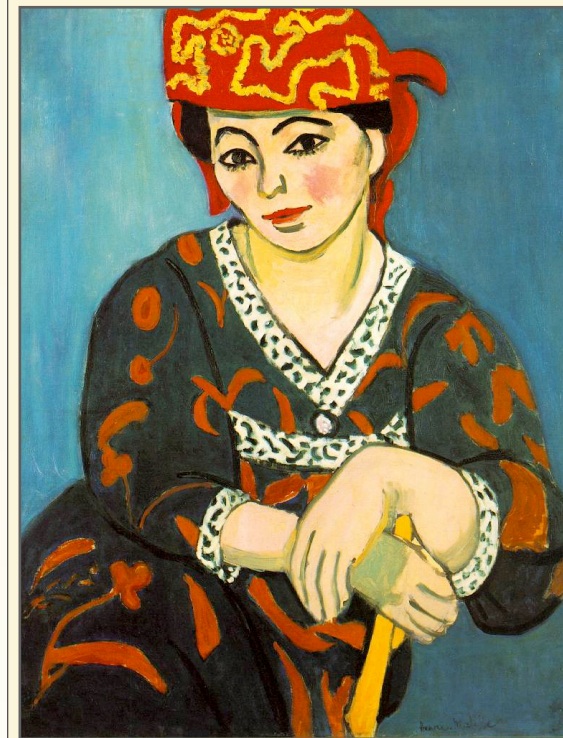
FOR MORE INFORMATION

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# FRENCH

NORTH PHOENIX PREP



❖ MME MATISSE ❖

You already speak the most practical & useful language in the world: English. Which language should you learn next? It is a tough decision, but don't worry, there is no wrong choice. They are all beautiful; they *will* all change you; & we hope that you will persist until in the end you learn them all. Which do you most *want* to learn right now? This pamphlet explains why that choice might be French. Ignoring the practical, we emphasize the beautiful, the good, the true.



# Why you should learn French.

## A GUIDE FOR ENGLISH SPEAKERS

French and Latin have both had such a pervasive influence on English vocabulary that today, lexically speaking, English is more similar to French than it is to German, even though English is a Germanic language. The effects of French on our own language during the middle ages were enormous. Had it not been for French, English today would be something else; the writings of Chaucer and Shakespeare, our greatest poets, would not be known to us. French philosophical ideas played a dominant rôle among the Founding Fathers of our nation in the 18th century. Without the help of the French, the first and truest ally to the United States of America, we could not have won our Revolutionary War and gained our independence from England.

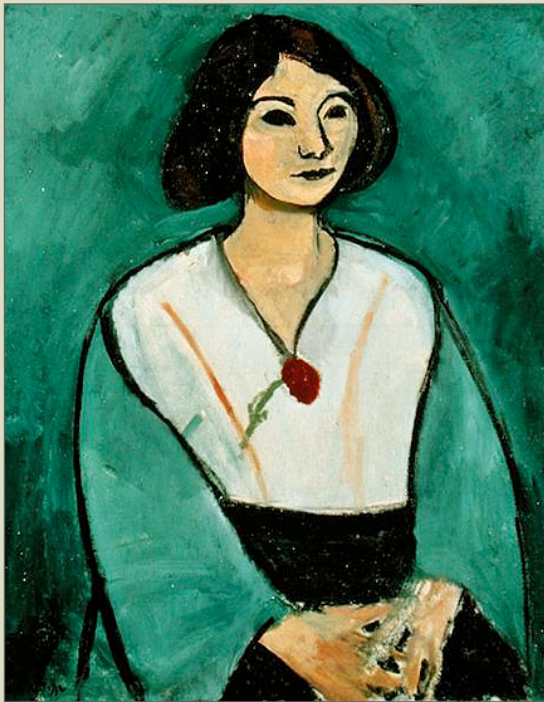
Learning French you will soon come to understand the variation in spelling between English words like *honour* and *honor*; *colour* and *color*. Noah Webster, the American lexicographer, reformed the original British spelling, which used to reveal the French origins of the words imported by the Normans after the battle of Hastings in 1066. The Norman-French vocabulary did much to enrich the Anglo-Saxon wordhoard, and greatly increased the descriptive subtlety, and the flavour of the English language. For this reason, all who would well know English should learn their French. Knowledge of French will make you a more sensitive and sophisticated writer of English.

The French language is one version of modern Latin; having changed a lot over the centuries, Latin slowly became French in the Roman province of Gaul, a new and beautiful language, at once melodious, expressive, clear, rich, and deep, it has often been called the language of love, of philosophy, and of diplomacy. To learn French is really something special.

## INSPIRING CULTURE AND LITERATURE

Culturally French is recognized as the international language of cuisine, fashion, theatre, the visual arts, dance, and architecture. Furthermore, the best fount of culture lies in literature; French will allow you to read the great literary works of the following outstanding authors, among many many others, from the middle ages to the present.

AUTHOR	WORKS
ANONYME	<i>La chanson de Roland</i>
SAINT-EXUPÉRY	<i>The Little Prince; Citadelle</i>
EDMOND ROSTAND	<i>Cyrano de Bergerac</i>
ALEXANDRE DUMAS	<i>The Count of Monte Cristo; The Three Musketeers</i>
VOLTAIRE	<i>Candide</i>
MAUPASSANT	<i>Short Stories</i>
CHRISTINE DE PIZAN	<i>The Book of the City of Ladies</i>
GEORGE SAND	<i>La petite fadette</i>
COLETTE	<i>Gigi</i>
VICTOR HUGO	<i>Les Misérables; Notre Dame de Paris</i> ( <i>The Hunchback of Notre Dame</i> )
RACINE	<i>Phèdre; Andromache; Iphigénie</i>
CHRÉTIEN DE TROYES	<i>Lancelot; The Knight of the Cart</i>
ALBERT CAMUS	<i>L'Étranger; La peste</i>
GUSTAVE FLAUBERT	<i>Madame Bovary; Trois contes</i>
MAETERLINCK	<i>La vie des fourmis</i>
ALPHONSE DAUDET	<i>Tartarin de Tarascon</i>
GÉRARD DE NERVAL	<i>Voyages en Orient</i>
LA ROCHEFOUCAULD	<i>Maximes</i>
JULES VERNE	<i>Around the world in eighty days</i>
STENDHAL	<i>Le rouge et le noir; De l'amour</i>
ANATOLE FRANCE	<i>Les dieux ont soif; La révolte des anges</i>
DE TOCQUEVILLE	<i>De la démocratie en Amérique</i>



## FRENCH IMPRESSIONISM

The contributions of the French impressionist painters, like Matisse, whose portraits are featured in this pamphlet, are admirable & inspiring.

