In 2018, the number of French-speaking people in the world was 274 million, with 125 million learning French or using it in the classroom. Additionally, 30 million students use French in their studies.

Several worldwide organizations are devoted to the use of French, often in cooperation with France’s overseas networks. These organizations include:

- Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF): [www.auf.org](http://www.auf.org)
- Alliance française: [www.fondation-alliancefr.org](http://www.fondation-alliancefr.org)
- AIME (international association of French-speaking mayors): [www.aimf.asso.fr](http://www.aimf.asso.fr)
- Campus FLE/ACUFEE (association of directors of universities for French studies centers for international students): [www.campus-fle.fr](http://www.campus-fle.fr)
- CNED (national center for distance learning): [www.cned.fr](http://www.cned.fr)
- Summer schools and short programs in France: [http://ecolesdete.campusfrance.org](http://ecolesdete.campusfrance.org)
- FIPF (international federation of professors of French): [www.fipf.info](http://www.fipf.info)
- FDLM (French in the world): [www.fdlm.org](http://www.fdlm.org)
- Franc-Parler: [www.francparler-oif.org](http://www.francparler-oif.org)
- France Alumni: [www.francealumni.fr](http://www.francealumni.fr)
- 2IF (Institut International de la Francophonie): [https://2if.universite-lyon.fr](https://2if.universite-lyon.fr)
- INA (national media institute): [www.ina.fr](http://www.ina.fr)
- OIF (Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie): [www.francophonie.org](http://www.francophonie.org)
- TV5 Monde: [www.tv5monde.com](http://www.tv5monde.com)
- FDLM (French in the world): [www.fdlm.org](http://www.fdlm.org)
- Franc-Parler: [www.francparler-oif.org](http://www.francparler-oif.org)
- France Alumni: [www.francealumni.fr](http://www.francealumni.fr)
- 2IF (Institut International de la Francophonie): [https://2if.universite-lyon.fr](https://2if.universite-lyon.fr)
- INA (national media institute): [www.ina.fr](http://www.ina.fr)
- OIF (Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie): [www.francophonie.org](http://www.francophonie.org)
- TV5 Monde: [www.tv5monde.com](http://www.tv5monde.com)
- Usefull Links

French as a World Language (Francophonie)

It was in 1889 that the French geographer Onesime Reclus first used the term *Francophonie* to refer to French-speaking people and countries. When spelled with a capital F, the term alludes to French as a world language spoken by more than 274 million people on five continents. With a capital F, *Francophonie* designates the institutions that deal with relations among francophone countries, such as professional associations, writers’ groups, and networks of libraries, academics, journalists, lawyers, nongovernmental organizations, and, of course, teachers of French.

**Francophonie** as an institution promotes the French language and advances cooperative relations among the 84 states and governments that are full members or observers of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie. Courses with content relating to the French-speaking world are found in programs in arts and letters, language science, linguistics, French language and civilization, French as a foreign language, education, multiculturalism and multilingualism, and diplomacy and international relations.

Most such programs fall within the broad fields of (i) arts, letters, and languages; (ii) humanities and social sciences; or (iii) law, economics, and management. Majors, concentrations, and specialized tracks in various aspects of francophone studies are offered in these areas.

Master’s programs in francophone institutions are offered in both traditional and continuing-education formats.
In the area of foreign and regional languages, literatures, and civilizations, there are several opportunities to specialize:

- **Licence**
  - **Diplôme d’études en langue française (DELF)**
  - **Diplôme approfondi de langue française (DALF)**
    - (Baccalauréat + 1–2 years of postsecondary study) – L1-L2
  - The nationally and internationally recognized DELF and DALF diplomas are harmonized with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages and offered by university language departments, French studies centers, and CNED, the French national center for distance learning. Exams for the diplomas are administered in more than a thousand test centers in France and 170 other countries. Test centers include secondary schools, language schools, universities, Institutes français, Alliances françaises... Candidates register directly with their chosen test center.
  - **Diplômes universitaires d’études françaises**
    - (Baccalauréat + 1 year of postsecondary study) – L1-L2
    - Offered by some forty university French studies centers, DUEF diplomas at levels B2, C1, and C2 of the European common framework are recognized by French universities for entry into years 2 and 3 of Licence programs and years 1 and 2 of Master’s programs.
    - **Campus FLE:**
      - www.campus-fle.fr/fr/formations-diplomes-fle/les-diplomes-fle/

In arts, letters, and languages, there are several opportunities to specialize:

- In the area of foreign and regional languages, literatures, and civilizations, the French as a foreign language track offers majors in language teaching (including French as a foreign or second language)
- In modern literature: teaching of French as a foreign language
- In language sciences: majors in French as a foreign language, French sign language, and applied linguistic theory.

**Licence**

- **Baccalauréat + 3 years of postsecondary study** – L3

- **Master**
  - **Baccalauréat + 5 years of postsecondary study** – M2

French’s universities offer many Master’s programs relevant to French as a world language and the French-speaking world. (The Master is a French national diploma.)

- In the broad field of arts, letters, languages, one finds concentrations, tracks, and options in cultural studies, applied foreign languages, literature, French as a foreign language, modern literature, and language sciences—among others.
- Offerings include: multilingualism and francophone studies; intercultural relations and cooperation (with specializations in Africa and the Arab world, Latin America, Asia, or francophone studies); modern literature (with specializations in French language, French literature, comparative literature, or francophone studies); modern international literature; international French studies; literatures, modes of discourse, and francophone studies; editing and translation professions; francophone studies, multilingualism, and intercultural mediation; general French studies; literature-culture-entreprise; learning and teaching French as a foreign language; French and francophone studies; literary creation; literature applied to professional editing; linguistics and stylistics of literary texts; discourse, culture, and media; studies of francophone literature and genres.

Research Master in arts, letters, and languages, with concentration in specialized literature (European curriculum in French and francophone studies):

- **Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle (Paris 3)**
- **In the broad area of law, economics, and management:** concentration in international relations and various tracks, among them culture and francophone studies; sustainable development and francophone studies; international relations and francophone studies; the French-speaking world, the new economy, and socially conscious economics; management of international, intergovernmental, and nongovernmental projects; diplomacy and international relations; and defense and international security.
- **In sciences humaines et sociales:** concentration in educational sciences; tracks in diversity, education, and francophone studies.

**Master**

- **Baccalauréat + 5 years of postsecondary study** – M2

**INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL POUR LA FRANCOPHONIE (2IF)**

- **Lyons**

2IF, the international francophone institute at the Université de Lyon, is dedicated to research, understanding, and dissemination of French as a world language. It has three missions:
- Traditional and continuing education in francophone studies
- Research on French as a world language
- Stimulation of ideas, discussions, and forecasts on French as a world language.

2IF offers specialized training in French as a world language and international relations:

- **At the two-year Master level:**
  - Cultures of the French-speaking world
  - The new economy and socially conscious economics in the French-speaking world
  - Sustainable development and the French-speaking world.

Three Diplômes d’Université (university-specific diplomas, as opposed to regulated national diplomas such as the Licence and Master):

- The new economy and sustainable development in the French-speaking world
- Economics in the French-speaking world
- Health and shared development in the French-speaking world.

Since 2003, ten-day “francophone universities” have been organized in late June / early July by the Institut International pour la Francophonie at the Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3, in partnership with AIRF and OIF.

Programs are taught by university faculty and professionals. Topics include:

- The history, principles, and goals of French as a world language and the institutions, actors, and programs that sustain it
- The foundations, principles, and legal and institutional aspects of models of decentralized development and their economic, social, and cultural impact
- Best practices in decentralized cooperation for development; finding partners, identifying cooperative themes, negotiating agreements, and developing action plans and modes of implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

**Institut International de la Francophonie:**

https://2if.universite-lyon.fr > Formation