

Department of Romance Languages and Literatures

Doctoral Program in French

Registration Instructions

While taking seminars

While taking seminars, you will ordinarily register for three 400-level seminars per semester, or four if you are on fellowship rather than teaching. This will provide you with at least the minimum of nine credits you ordinarily need each semester to maintain full-time student status. You may also register for language courses or other courses outside the department, with approval from the Director of Graduate Studies.

Beyond seminars

Once finished with your 60 units of seminars, you may obtain part or all of the remaining 12 units you need (to make 72 overall) with units of L34 590, "Dissertation," of which you may obtain a total of 12 (or 9 if you obtain the Second Language Acquisition Certificate).

If in your last semester of seminars you take fewer than nine credits at the 400 level, you should make up the balance of the nine you need to maintain full-time status with units of 590. In the next or subsequent semesters, you should use up the rest of your allotment of 590 credits. If in any semester this does not yield a total of nine credits, then register as an auditor for L34 884, "Doctoral Continuing Student Status." Note that although this class carries no credits, it nonetheless suffices to give you full-time status.

There is no reason not to use up your allotment of 590 credits in the first semesters following completion of regular seminars.

Beyond 590

Once you have used your allotment of 590 credits, and until you finish your degree, you should register as an auditor for L34 884, if you are receiving funding from the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (and in most cases, even if you are not: see below). This will suffice to maintain your full-time status.

Beyond funding

If you are through all of your seminars and 590 credits, and are not receiving Graduate School of Arts and Sciences funding, you have a choice. You may register as an auditor either for L34 884 or L34 886 "Doctoral Non-Resident " (which, like 884, carries no credits). By doing so, you continue your candidacy for the degree, but lose your full-time status. This could affect your visa status and student loan repayment schedule, if applicable.

Registering for L34 886 may save you several hundred dollars per semester. However, you will lose library privileges, insurance, and most if not all other student benefits. Before making this decision, you may wish to consult Ann Cooper, Registrar of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, about benefits you may lose.