



THE FUTURE OF FRENCH ~~X~~ EN ÉCOSSE

The way ahead

Join us for a free in-person
conference for teachers
and lecturers

23 June 2025
University of Edinburgh

Book your place:
<https://shorturl.at/vFqai>





Welcome: 10:00	Stéphane Paillet, <i>Consul général de France à Édimbourg et Glasgow</i> Message from Jenny Gilruth, <i>Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills</i>	
Presentation 10:15	Learner voice: Survey outcome	Cédric Moreau, <i>University of Strathclyde</i> Sheena Bell, <i>SCILT, Scotland's National Centre for Languages</i>
Panel discussion 10:30	Overview and outlook: where are we now and where are we going?	Dr Fiona Barclay, <i>Senior Lecturer in French, University of Stirling</i> Laura Morris, <i>Principal Teacher of Languages, Mintlaw Academy</i> Dr Jayne Duff, <i>Research Fellow, Queens University Belfast</i>
Workshops 11:15	Transitioning towards more meaningful activities	Transitioning from one phase to another
12:45 LUNCH	Le marché - networking and stalls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institut français d'Écosse • Alliance française de Glasgow • Franco-Scottish Society • French Film Festival Learning Programme • Maison des Langues (publisher) • Campus France (studying in France) • Association Fleur • Edinburgh College • La Belle Adventure (bookshop) • L'École Buissonnière de Glasgow • La Petite École d'Édimbourg
Workshops 13:45	Transitioning towards more meaningful activities	Transitioning from one phase to another
Roadmap 15:15	Creating a roadmap for a better future Collectively defining a direction for the way ahead.	Cédric Moreau, <i>University of Strathclyde</i> Sheena Bell, <i>SCILT, Scotland's National Centre for Languages</i> Prof Lorna Milne, <i>President of the Franco-Scottish Society</i>
Event close 16:15 Networking 17:00	Networking and cocktails at the Institut français d'Écosse, featuring a short talk on Creative Puppetry toolkits by Tania Czajka	



Workshop information - sessions will be repeated in the afternoon

Morning session - 11:15
Afternoon session - 13:45

Transitioning towards more meaningful activities:

In this workshop we will look at examples of activities designed to engage learners and promote language learning.

Ruth Gallacher will reflect on her experience of leading Project-Based Learning with BGE (S1 to S3) learners at Paisley Grammar School.

Sue Parsons and Louise Robertson from Doune primary school will talk about their participation in the "Concours de la Francophonie", a competition open to primary and secondary schools across Scotland organised annually by the Institut français d'Écosse.

Dr Elise Hugueny-Léger and Audrey Debard will share ways that creative writing has been used to enhance language learning at the University of St Andrews and the University of Edinburgh. Elise will give an interactive presentation, and Audrey will present the Modern Languages creative writing magazine of the University of Edinburgh.

The presentations will be followed by group discussions.

Transitioning from one phase to another:

In this workshop we will look at initiatives designed to ensure, ease and enhance the transition experience between each phase of language learning.

Joanne Curran will present Larbert High School's Lingo Leader programme where senior phase learners are trained to deliver sessions in their cluster primaries, building relationships and language confidence.

Pamela Tosh will showcase a series of initiatives carried out in collaboration with the University of Edinburgh. These are designed to encourage senior phase learners to pursue language learning at university level and to support primary and secondary schools through working with university students.

Dr Caroline Cordier will share the work of Edinburgh College, which has been delivering online Modern Languages courses at Higher and Advanced Higher level to keep languages accessible to high school learners across Scotland.

The presentations will be followed by group discussions.



Panel members

Dr Fiona Barclay is Senior Lecturer in French at the University of Stirling. Her research focuses on memories of France's empire in North Africa and she is also interested in questions of language policy in Scotland and further afield.



Dr Fiona Barclay

Senior Lecturer,
University of Stirling



Laura Morris

Faculty Head of Modern
Languages, Mintlaw Academy

Laura is the Faculty Head of Modern Languages in a rural school in Aberdeenshire, a role she has held for nearly a decade. She studied French and English at Aberdeen University and has been passionate about language education since spending a year abroad as a Language Assistant in Rennes and Quimper. Her love for France and its culture began even earlier, sparked by a school trip to Normandy in 2001.

With extensive experience working with the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) in various roles, she also currently serves as Co-Chair of LANGS and contributes as an Education Scotland Associate for Modern Languages. Additionally, she led the Aberdeenshire Curricular Network Group for over 5 years. In these roles, Laura works collaboratively with colleagues at a local and national level to support and enhance language education across Scotland. Laura is committed to fostering the sharing of knowledge and ideas within the language teaching community and passionately advocates for language learning as a vital life skill for all.


Jayne is a Research Fellow and one of the report authors of the British Council's Language Trends series, comprising research reports on the current situation for language teaching and learning in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Jayne is a language teaching assistant in QUB, where she currently teaches PGCE French grammar revision classes, and has previously taught French Level 1 and 2 Grammar and Comprehension to undergraduate students in QUB.



Dr Jayne Duff

Research Fellow, School of
Social Sciences, Education and
Social Work (SSESW), Queen's
University Belfast (QUB)

Plenary




Professor Lorna Milne FRSE, Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques is the incoming President of the Franco-Scottish Society of Scotland, an organisation that has existed since 1895 with the aim of fostering good relations between the French and the Scots through cultural, social and educational activities. The Society has a particularly strong record in the latter area, and regularly supports young Scottish residents to improve their French language skills in a variety of ways.




Prof Lorna Milne

President,
Franco-Scottish Society



A Professor Emeritus of French at St Andrews University, Lorna has a particular interest in modern and contemporary French metropolitan and Antillean fiction. She also spent many years at St Andrews in senior management, latterly (2019-2023) as Deputy Principal.

Exhibitors

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- Institut français d'Écosse
 - Alliance française de Glasgow
 - Franco-Scottish Society
 - French Film Festival Learning Programme
 - Maison des Langues (publisher)
 - Campus France (studying in France)
 - Association Fleur
 - Edinburgh College
 - La Belle Adventure (bookshop)
 - L'École Buissonnière de Glasgow
 - La Petite École d'Edimbourg

Speakers



Cédric Moreau

Senior Language Teaching
Fellow, Course Co-ordinator
and Schools Liaison Offer,
University of Strathclyde

Cédric is a graduate of the Université de Picardie Jules Verne (DUT Génie Civil, Licence Langues et Cultures Étrangères, Anglais) and the University of Strathclyde (MPhil in lexicology). He first joined the Department of Modern Languages at Strathclyde in 1990 where, after a few years, he embarked on a research project under the supervision of Dr Keith Foley and obtained an MPhil diploma in 1998. Over the same period, he worked as a technical translator / interpreter for a variety of companies including John Brown Engineering for whom he was involved in a series of training missions both in Glasgow and in Mohamedia (Morocco). In recent years, his main interest has been the use of technology and innovative teaching approaches to enhance the quality and effectiveness of language teaching and learning.

He is also a professional interpreter in the field of sport (football, rugby), regularly working with Celtic FC and Rangers FC for various UEFA competitions (Champions League / Europa League) or other assignments, as well as the Scottish Rugby Union (Six Nations Championship).

Sheena joined Scotland's National Centre for Languages (SCILT) at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow as a Professional Development Officer in October 2019. She is an experienced secondary teacher of French, Spanish and Italian, and now supports language learning and teaching across the country. In addition, she is an SQA marker for French at Higher and Advanced Higher levels and was one of the organisers of last year's first Future of French en Écosse forum.



Sheena Bell

Professional Development
Officer, Scotland's National
Centre for Languages (SCILT)

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Ruth is a graduate of the University of Glasgow (LLB (Hons) with French (2002) and a former solicitor. She now works as a teacher of Modern Languages (French and Spanish) at Paisley Grammar School, Renfrewshire, since August 2018.



Ruth Gallacher

**Teacher of Modern Languages,
Paisley Grammar School**



**Sue Parsons and
Louise Robertson**

**Primary 7 teachers,
Doune Primary School**

Louise and Sue team teach Primary 7 at Doune Primary as well as having the wider responsibility for leading languages in the school. Both have been participants in the TELT Open University course and the Languages Leadership Programme.

They are passionate about language learning and seek to embed French and Spanish into the life of the school. Both came into teaching later after careers in the Police and the tourism industry respectively. Doune Primary has engaged with the Concours de la Francophonie over several years as a means of engaging and motivating learners to develop their spoken French skills. As a result the school has built up a bank of films and also a great library of French books and games which it has received as prizes!

Elise Hugueny-Léger is a Senior Lecturer in French at the University of St Andrews. She has published extensively on recent life-writing and autofiction, notably on the works of Annie Ernaux. She has gained formal training in delivering writing workshops from ALEPH écriture and during a Leverhulme international Fellowship at CY-Cergy Paris Université (2022-23). She is the author of the article 'Translingual Creative Writing in, and beyond, Modern Languages' (Modern Languages Open 2024) and a work of creative non-fiction, *Twenty twenty. Petites traversées franco-britanniques* (Créaphis, 2024). At St Andrews, she created and coordinates the module 'Creative Writing in French' which was shortlisted for a THE award (Innovation in the Arts category).



Dr Elise Hugueny-Léger

**Senior Lecturer in French at the
University of St Andrews**

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Born and raised near Saint-Etienne (France), Audrey studied English and Language didactics in Lyon. Working in Scotland since 2007, she has acquired extensive experience in teaching her native language and obtained her PGDE in 2012. She has worked at the university of Edinburgh since 2015 where she currently teaches classes in oral, written language and literature. She takes an active part in the Department of European Languages and Cultures creative writing magazine, Babble.



Audrey Debard

Teaching Fellow, University of
Edinburgh



S. Charlotte Hyvernaud Ning

Education Attachée and
Director of Studies,
Institut français d'Ecosse

Joanne is Principal Teacher (PT) of Languages (BGE) at Larbert High. She has been at Larbert High for 9 years and has been lucky to be a part of the exciting curricular changes and new courses that have been introduced over the years, including the Languages Academy programme. Following the success of the Lingo Leaders programme in session 2023-24, this year she has developed Larbert's new course, Advanced Languages in Practice, which allows pupils to continue their language learning journey in S6 and study a language at Level 7 alongside undertaking a Languages focused work placement.



Joanne Curran

PT Languages (BGE)
Larbert High School

Speakers



Pamela Tosh

Curriculum Leader for
Modern Languages,
Broughton High School and
Subject Co-ordinator for
Modern Languages,
City of Edinburgh Council

Pamela began her career as a French and Spanish teacher at Queensferry High. She then moved to Broughton High School, where she has worked in a variety of roles: as PT Modern Languages, acting Deputy Head teacher, and currently as Curriculum Leader, as well as leading the Learning and Teaching School Improvement Group. Over the past ten years Broughton's Languages faculty has changed and grown enormously, and it now offers French, Spanish, Mandarin, German and Italian as its main languages, as well as a bilingual programme where students take early qualifications in these languages along with Italian, Cantonese, Polish and Arabic; the Languages Baccalaureate; and a Languages Leaders programme to S6 students.

Pamela is also subject co-ordinator for Languages in the City of Edinburgh, where she works closely with a range of partners to provide languages related opportunities, training and activities to teachers and students.

Dr Caroline Cordier is Curriculum Manager for Modern Languages at Edinburgh College, where she also teaches Advanced Higher French and is the tutor for the SWAP Access to Languages course for adult returners. She and her team collaborate with around 100 schools every year to deliver online language courses in 4 languages to about 200 senior school pupils across Scotland. Caroline originally qualified as a secondary school English teacher in France and has lived in Scotland for 20 years. Before moving to further education, she worked part-time in higher education (University of St Andrews and Newcastle University). She has a PhD in second language acquisition and her research focused on the role of formulaic sequences in advanced learners of French and their impact on fluency and lexical diversity. She is passionate about equity of access to language learning.



Caroline Cordier

Curriculum Team Manager
for Modern Languages,
Edinburgh College

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