

2nde to 1ère in the Anglophone Section

Presentation for 2nde students and parents

19 March 2024

Presentation outline

1. Introducing the *Baccalauréat Français International* (BFI) programme for 1ère and Terminale
 - British & American Options
2. BFI subjects in more detail
3. Planning for your post-Bac study options

1. Introducing the *Baccalauréat Français International*

What is the BFI?

- The *Baccalaureat Français International* (BFI) has replaced the OIB (*Option Internationale du Baccalauréat*).
 - Information from the Ministry of Education (in English) [here](#)
- The BFI includes core elements of the reformed French *baccalauréat* along with subjects taught and examined in the Section language at a high academic and linguistic level.
- The study programme covers the last two years of school and prepares students to take the BFI exams in *Terminale*.
- Your year group will sit the BFI exams in *Terminale*:

May / June 2026

*The International
French Baccalaureate
(Baccalauréat français
international – BFI)*

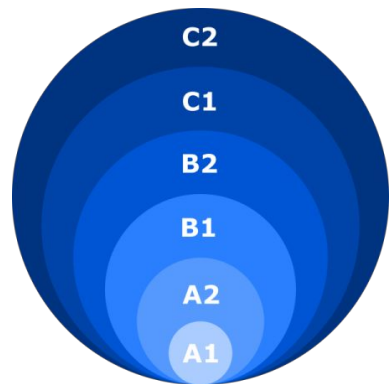


**MINISTÈRE
DE L'ÉDUCATION
NATIONALE
ET DE LA JEUNESSE**

*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*

Language requirements of the BFI

- Students in the International Sections at the CSI Lyon will all take the ‘**Bilingue**’ option of the BFI.
- The “Bilingue Option” means that students will pursue their studies in French and the Section language (LVA - *langue vivante A*).
- Students will need to have the CEFR* level B2+ to be accepted for the BFI programme in 2nde and are expected to have achieved the C1 level by the time they graduate.



*Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)

BFI: subjects and allocation of hours in 1ère & Terminale

Three **subjects** are taught in the BFI:

- **ACL:** *Approfondissement, culturel et linguistique*
 - Language & Literature (LL)
- **DNL** *Discipline non-linguistique*
 - History/Geography (HG)
- **CdM:** *Connaissance du monde*
 - Contemporary studies / Global issues

Allocation of **hours**:

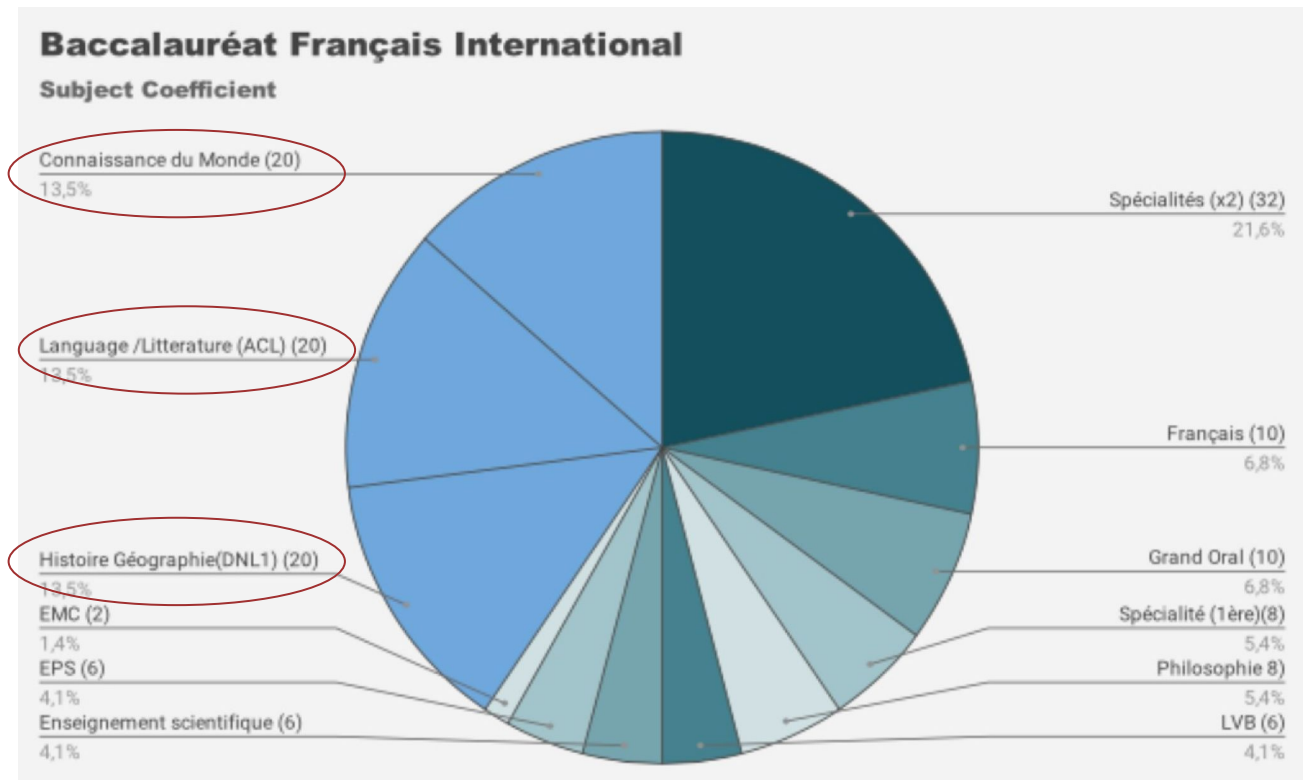
	1ère hours	Term hours
ACL	4,5	4
DNL (H/G)	2*	2*
CdM	2	2

*Plus 2 hours with the French teachers

Final written and oral exams at the end of Terminale

BFI subject coefficients

- The full coefficient for BFI subjects is 60 (ACL 20 + DNL (H/G) 20 + CDM 20) out of a possible 148.
- The BFI-specific subjects' coefficient represents **40.5%** of the overall BFI result at the end of Terminale.



British and American Options

- Choice between the British and American BFI Options.
- Survey will be sent out soon to all students, allowing you to pre-register your choice.
- When re-enrolling for CSI, be sure to select the appropriate option.
- The option choice cannot be changed once validated by the CSI Lyon.



Any questions?

2. Programmes of study in 1ère & Terminale

British & American Options

ACL / DNL - HG / CDM

BFI Subject:

ACL - Approfondissement, culturel et linguistique
Language & literature

ACL - Language & Literature teachers

- Nicola Hill
- Lorna Cassan
- Francesca Doggart
- Karine Empana
- Laura Kincade
- Lola Seraff
- Sarah-Jane
Whittock-Judge

ACL - British & American Options

British Option

- 6 texts are studied – 4 in 1ère and 2 in Te.
- Genre: prose, poetry and drama.
- Written exam 4 hours and Oral exam 15 minutes
- Some texts are only for use in the written exam and others are exclusively for the oral.

American Option

- 9 texts are studied – 6 in 1ère and 3 “in depth” texts in Te.
- Genre: novels, drama, poetry and world literature
- Written exam 4 hours and Oral exam 30 minutes
- All texts can be used for both the oral and written examinations.
- Optional commentary

ACL - British Option: texts for 2025 (2026 texts have not been announced yet)

Written

- Shamsie – *Home Fire*
- Churchill – *Top Girls*
- Shakespeare - *Antony and Cleopatra*

Oral

Synoptic Topic: **Gothic Writing**

- Shelley - *Frankenstein*
- Carter - *The Bloody Chamber*
- Selected Gothic Poems

ACL - American Option: texts (TBC for 2026)

General texts (studied in 1ère)

Things Fall Apart - Chinua Achebe

Intimate Apparel - Lynn Nottage

The Handmaid's Tale - Margaret Atwood

A Streetcar Named Desire - Tennessee Williams

The Reluctant Fundamentalist - Mohsin Hamid

A Selection of Women's Poetry

“In depth” texts (studied in Te)

The Bluest Eye - Toni Morrison

The Tempest - Shakespeare

Selected Poems - Robert Frost

Summary of American v's British Options - ACL

	American	British
Shakespeare	Yes	Yes
Genre	Poetry, Prose and Drama	Poetry, Prose and Drama
Cultural Focus	American and world literature	British and world literature
No. of Texts	9 in total (written and oral)	6 in total (3 for written and 3 for the oral)
Written Examination	2 essays	2 essays & 1 commentary on a Shakespeare extract
Oral Examination	Commentary on a passage from one of the core texts + discussion of all set texts 30 minutes	Discussion of the synoptic topic key issues 15 minutes
Analysis	In depth analysis of 3 core texts and a more general approach to the others.	In depth analysis of 3 texts for the written exam. A more general approach to the synoptic topic
Pace	Tends to be faster as there are more books to get through	Tends to be more steady as there are fewer books to get through.

ACL - Choosing between the **British** & **American** Options

- Both options have the same Bac coefficient and support entrance into universities throughout the world
- Cultural identity: a cultural affinity with one option or the other but a **British** student can do the **American** option and vice versa!!
- Independent reading: there's more reading to do at home with the **American** option but that doesn't mean that there's less work to do at home in the **British** option!
- Pace: the **British** option spends more time on each text. Some students like this whereas others may find it frustrating to spend so much time on one book. Some like the faster turnaround of texts in the **American** option whereas others find that it's too fast!

BFI Subject:

DNL - *Discipline non-linguistique*
History / Geography

History / Geography: background & teaching teams

History/Geography Teachers

- Chelsey David
- Alan Geary
- Neil McKain
- Sean Rattos
- Kat Weinert

The BFI programme for 1^{ère} and Terminale is established by the French Ministry of Education and adapted to the specifications of either the UK or US options.

The course content is divided between the French and the Anglophone section H/G teachers.

General Aims of the H/G programme in 1ère & Terminale

- To develop students' knowledge and understanding of the identified themes.
- To aid the development of general study skills e.g. research, writing, presentation, ICT, time management.
- To encourage students' to think as both geographers and historians.
- To support students' use of the English language, both written and oral.
- To provide situations which develop interpersonal skills e.g. group work, debates.

History Programme

Political, economic and social change, and the nature of war from the mid C19th to the end of the C20th.

Première History

- Revolutionary Europe (1789 – 1848)
- Economic and social transformations (1848 – 1914)
- French Third Republic: politics, society and the new imperialism
- The First World War and the end of European Empires

Terminale History

- Challenges to democracy, rise of totalitarianism, and World War II (1929 - 1945)
- The post-war bipolar world and challenges to bi-polarization
- Post-war economic, political, and social transformations: causes and consequences

Geography Programme

Geographical process: the study of geographical themes such as demography, migration, urbanism, industrial change, agricultural development, globalisation and sustainable development using various examples across the globe.

Première Geography

- Urbanization: changing nature, inequalities and spatial analysis
- Diversification of production and productive spaces
- Rural Areas: multifunctional or fragmentation?
- China: spatial reconfigurations (urban, rural, productive)

Terminale Geography

- Seas and oceans at the core of globalization
- Territorial dynamics, cooperation & tensions in globalization
- The European Union & globalization

History/Geography: the **British** & American Options

The difference between the **British** and American options in H/G is not so pronounced as it is in ACL and generally the same topics are studied in both.

- However, some of the history topics and the geography case studies used in each Option may be chosen from the UK or the US perspective.
- Students may feel drawn to one Option or the other, culturally.

BFI Subject:

CdM - Connaissances du monde
Contemporary studies / Global issues

A new subject for the BFI

Connaissances du monde is focused on three distinct 'pathways' of study:

- *Penser la société*
- *Habiter le monde*
- *Construire un avenir commun*

CdM focuses on research skills and developing an awareness of the cultural characteristics of the Section / Option (UK or US). Students will also work on an individual research project throughout 1ère and Terminale to be carried out with an 'international partner'. This experience will form the basis of the final assessment: an oral exam at the end of the Terminale.

The Option (UK or US) that you choose will determine the focus of your research project in Terminale.

- if you choose the US option, you'll need to find an 'international partner' connected to the US and it must focus on a contemporary issue affecting the modern-day US.
- if you choose the UK option, you will need to find an 'international partner' connected to the UK and it must focus on a contemporary issue affecting the modern-day UK.



Any questions?

3. Planning for post-Bac studies

University Guidance Service

Planning for post-Bac study options

The **University Guidance Service** is here to help!

- Unifrog: a comprehensive platform for research & organising your choices
- Advice about *specialité* choices to support your future study and career plans.
- Information, deadlines, providing key documents for student applications.



Countries Covered by the University Guidance Service

- The UG Service provides support for applications to the following regions:
 - The **United Kingdom**, via the **UCAS** application service
 - The **United States**, via the **Common Application** process plus MIT (individual application directly to the institution).
 - **Canada**, by application to individual institutions.
 - **Ireland**, via the **CAO** process.
 - **Netherlands** via **Studielink** process.
 - Some **Science Po Dual Diplomas**, depending on the partner institution.
- The UG service does **not** provide support for applications to institutions in France and the rest of Europe: this applies equally to courses being taught in English, French or any other language.
- Applications to **French** institutions are managed through *Parcoursup*, overseen by the CSI Lyon (*specifically the proviseur-adjointe du lycée, Mme Jarre*).

Number of Applications

- The UG Service will support applications to up to **3 countries per student**.
- **One application to either the UK OR the US** (these are big, time-consuming applications)
- Plus **one OR two of the following** (these are lighter applications):
 - Canada
 - Ireland
 - Netherlands
 - Science Po Dual Diploma
- The aim is to ensure a sustainable workload for students and enhance the quality of applications especially during the intense 1ère and Terminal years.
- It is important to have targeted and well researched applications rather than ‘casting the net’ as wide as possible

Registering with the UG Service

You should manage your applications in the following manner:

- Create a **'shortlist' of 3 countries** you are applying for.
- **Register** with the UG service at your **first meeting** with the UG adviser.
- Both parents and students will need to **sign the UG Fair Use Policy** which clearly outlines the responsibilities of the student and the UG advisers / Anglophone Section.

The above steps will form the basis of your agreement with the UG Service.

Regular & Early Admissions Deadlines

- For **regular admissions** (most courses) you will prepare your application in Première & submit it in Terminale.
 - Register with the UG service by May of 1ère at the latest. You will be able to make changes to the shortlist at the start of your T° year.
- The UG service will inform you of all the deadlines but it is **up to you** to meet them!
- You also need to be aware of the **early admissions procedures** if you want to apply for the following subjects and/or institutions:
 - **medicine, veterinary science, dentistry**
 - **Oxford, Cambridge or elite US institutions,**
- Please make yourself known to the UG Service asap if interested.
 - **UK early admissions:** register & confirm your plans by October of in 1ère. Planning in 2nde.
 - **US early decision:** register & confirm your plans in 2nde.

Top Tips for University Applications

- Use **Unifrog** to explore your options and start creating a shortlist from 3ème onwards.
- If you need more help to explore courses, subjects, institutions before making up your shortlist: you can contact the UG service at any point during 2nde and 1ère.
- **Be aware of the deadlines in 1ère & 2nde:** compared to *Parcoursup* / French post-bac system, you will need to start the process of research, making choices, confirming your shortlist, etc **much earlier**. While students in France often don't start thinking seriously about *Parcoursup* until their Terminal year, applications to the UK / US / Canada / Ireland / Netherlands will need to be worked on during 1ère (and 2nde if applying to early admissions).
- Avoid any **last-minute changes / late applications / too close to deadlines:** this are highly stressful for all concerned and we may not be able to accommodate your request for help in this respect.



Any questions?

Thank
you!