Sciences Po Strasbourg
École de l'Université de Strasbourg

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

TO STUDY AT SCIENCES PO STRASBOURG AS A VISITING STUDENT

Students who wish to study at Sciences Po Strasbourg for a semester or a year as exchange students, Erasmus+ Students or free-movers need to have **advanced skills (B2 or more) in French and/or English**.

To take classes in English, students need to certify a B2 level in English.

To take classes in French, students need to certify a B2 level in French.

To take classes in French and in English, students need to certify a B2 level in *both* French *and* English.

Students with **French language skills below B2** are very welcome to apply, provided they have **B2 English skills**.

Depending on your languages skills and the number of credits you need to take during your semester/academic year at Sciences Po Strasbourg, we can recommend which programme is best suited to you.

Sciences Po Strasbourg's course offer in French, English, German and Spanish:

The main language of tuition at Sciences Po Strasbourg is French, but we have an important number of modules taught in English, as well as a programme fully taught in English, the Certificate of European Studies.

Each semester, two connected modules (worth 5 ECTS each) are taught in French and accessible to students with B1 French skills.

Sciences Po Strasbourg offers a couple of **classes in German and/or Spanish**; the required level to take these classes is B1 to C1. Students interested in taking classes **in German and/or Spanish** will be addressed to the coordinator for German and/or Spanish, who will orient them to the class best suited to their level.

We offer **French language classes** free of charge, either as an **intensive pre-semester module** (late August-early September or early January) and/or as an **extensive module** (semester 1 and /or semester 2). Different levels are available from full beginner to advanced. The advanced French language module focuses on French politics and society through the press ("Actualités françaises"). Students are affected to the group best suited to their level following a placement test.

Students may also take **German or Spanish language classes** at Sciences Po Strasbourg. German is taught from beginners to advanced level and Spanish at lower intermediate, intermediate or advanced level.

How can I certify my B2 English language skills?

- If **English is your main language of tuition** at your home institution, **you do not need to certify your English language skills**. If this is not clear on your grade report, ask your home university to certify that your programme is taught in English.
- For exchange / Erasmus+ students: we can accept **a certificate established by your home university**. This certificate needs to attest you have **English skills equivalent to a B2 level (or higher)**; it should be recent (not established more than 2 years before the start of your programme) and bear the stamp of your home university.
- For all students, including free-movers: we accept the following tests:
    - **TOEFL IBT (taken before Jan. 2026)**: min. 80 overall (no less than 19 for any component)
    - **TOEFL IBT (taken after Jan. 2026)**: min. 4 overall (no less than 4 for any component)
    - **IELTS**: min. 6.0 overall (no less than 5.5 for any component)
    - **Cambridge B2 first**: min. 169 (no less than 162 for any component)
    - **Duolingo**: min. 115 (no less than 100 for any component)

- For the CES, we expect a strong B2-C1 level in English, corresponding to the following test scores:
    - **TOEFL IBT (taken before Jan. 2026)**: min. 89 overall
    - **TOEFL IBT (taken after Jan. 2026)**: min. 4.5 overall
    - **IELTS**: min. 6.5 overall (no less than 5.5 for any component)
    - **Cambridge B2 first**: min. 170
    - **Duolingo**: min. 120

  Exchange/Erasmus+ students may testify their level of English through an official test score or a certificate established by their home university.

  Free-movers need to provide an official test score.

The tests must not have been taken more than two years prior to the application.

How can I certify my B2 French language skills?

- If **French is your main language of tuition** at your home institution, **you do not need to certify your French language skills**. If this is not clear on your grade report, ask your home university to certify that your programme is taught in French.
- For exchange / Erasmus+ students: we can accept **a certificate established by your home university**. This certificate needs to attest you have **French skills equivalent to a B2 level (or higher)**; it should be recent (not established more than 2 years before the start of your programme) and bear the stamp of your home university.
- For all students, including free-movers: we accept the following tests:
    - **DELF B2**
    - **DALF C1 or C2**
    - **TEF** (min. score B2, min. 315 points or 14/20)

  The tests must not have been taken more than two years prior to the application.

Which programme should I choose depending on my French/English language skills?

- **I have French B2 language skills (or more) and English B2 language skills (or more):** You should opt for the regular exchange programme, which will offer you the widest choice of modules, you may freely combine modules taught in French and modules taught in English, provided your home university agrees with your selection. We do NOT recommend the Certificate of European Studies programme in your case.
- **I have French B2 language skills (or more); my English language skills are below B2:** You should opt for the regular exchange programme, which will offer you the widest choice of modules, selecting French-taught modules only. You do NOT meet the requirements for the Certificate of European Studies programme.
- **I have English B2 language skills (or more); my French language skills are below B1:**
    - If you need to obtain **30 ECTS per semester**, we strongly recommend you apply for the Certificate of European Studies programme; alternatively, you may opt for the regular exchange programme, especially if your university does not recognize credits obtained through language classes or one of the other compulsory modules of the programme
    - If you plan to obtain **less than 30 ECTS per semester**, you should opt for the regular exchange programme.
- **I have English B2 language skills (or more); my French language skills are between B1 and B2:**
    - If you need to obtain **30 ECTS per semester**, you can either opt for the Certificate of European Studies programme or for the regular exchange programme, selecting all or most of your modules from our

English-taught modules (you may choose up to 4 classes taught in French to complement your programme if you feel up to it)

- If you plan to obtain less than 30 ECTS per semester, you should opt for the regular exchange programme, selecting all or most of your modules from our English-taught modules (you may choose up to 4 classes taught in French to complement your programme if you feel up to it)

- **My English skills are below B2 and my French language skills are below B1:** Unfortunately, you *cannot* study at Sciences Po as a visiting student.
- **My English skills are below B2 and my French language skills are between B1 and B2:**

  You can only study at Sciences Po Strasbourg **if you do not need to obtain more than 20 ECTS**. In that case you will need to select the following modules:

  - French language: pre-semester intensive course (September and/or January), 5 ECTS
  - French language module (semester 1 and/or semester 2), 5 ECTS
  - La puissance française (semester 1), 5 ECTS
  - Méthodologie appliquée à La puissance française (semester 1), 5 ECTS
  - La France et l'Allemagne en Europe (semester 2), 5 ECTS
  - Méthodologie appliquée à La France et l'Allemagne en Europe (semester 2), 5 ECTS

  You should certify your B1 language skills through a certificate established by your home university (if you come on an exchange) or through an official test (DELF B1, TEF B1).