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French V

The course content varies from year to year, as the curriculum is largely shaped by student interest, and is conducted entirely in French. For example, students were interested in reading the novella, *Carmen*, by Prosper Mérimée, then watching a few arias from the opera. The iconic, absurdist novel, *L'étranger*, by Albert Camus was read prior to our study of the Maghreb and its importance in French and Francophone history. The primary emphasis of French V is honing verbal communication skills via literature, and students are expected to participate fully in all class discussions in French. In addition to reading, students view video clips and films, listen to music, and explore gastronomy, games, and other cultural elements. There is a student-crafted, original play in French presented at Polyglot in December.