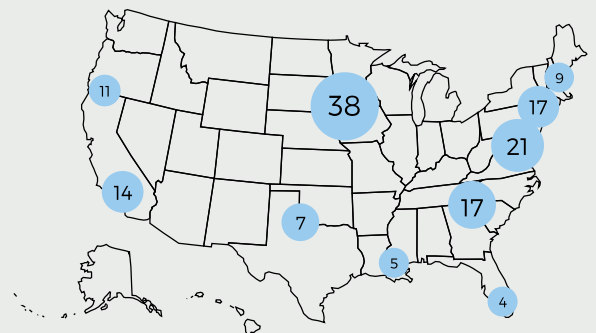
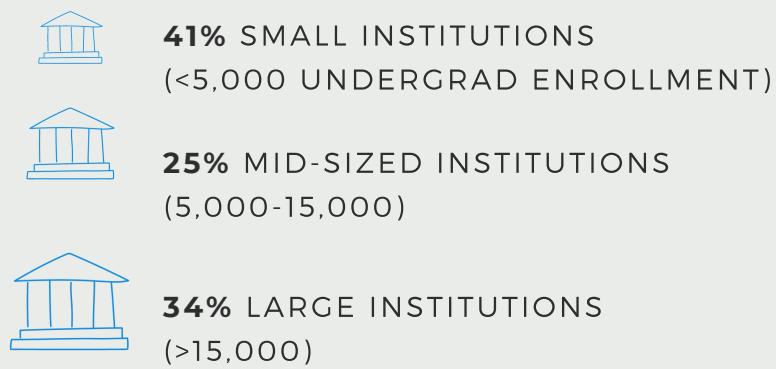


# SURVEY OF FRENCH DEPARTMENTS IN US COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

SNAPSHOT OF ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS, PARTNERSHIPS, CURRICULA, AND THE IMPACT OF COVID-19  
DECEMBER 2020

## 143 COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY RESPONDENTS



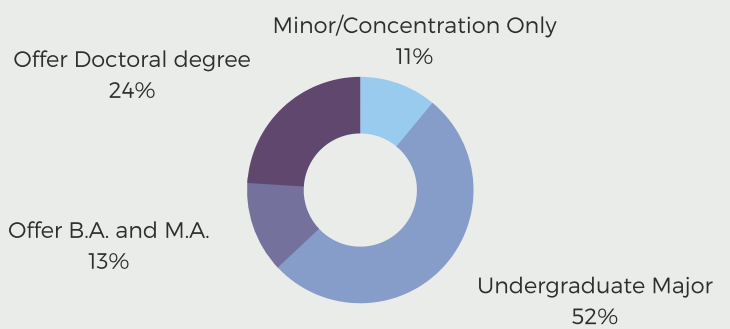
NUMBER OF RESPONDING INSTITUTIONS IN EACH OF THE 10 FRENCH CONSULAR JURISDICTIONS

**5 OUT OF 10** DEPARTMENTS REPORT THAT THEIR CURRICULUM BALANCED FOCUS BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE REST OF THE FRANCOPHONE WORLD



4 out of 10 focus on France, and a small number focus on la Francophonie

**54%** of French departments concentrate on French language courses, while **40%** have an even distribution of language courses, and courses on history, culture, and civilization.

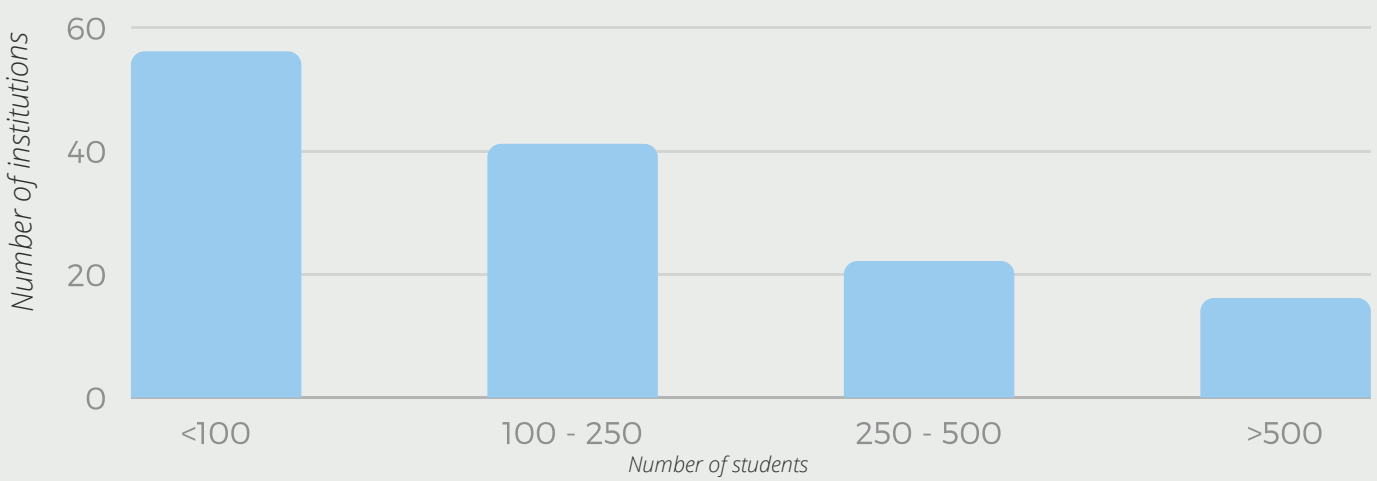


**38%** Collaborate with other departments to offer degree programs (Ex. European Studies)

**60%** of departments offer courses in French for professional purposes.

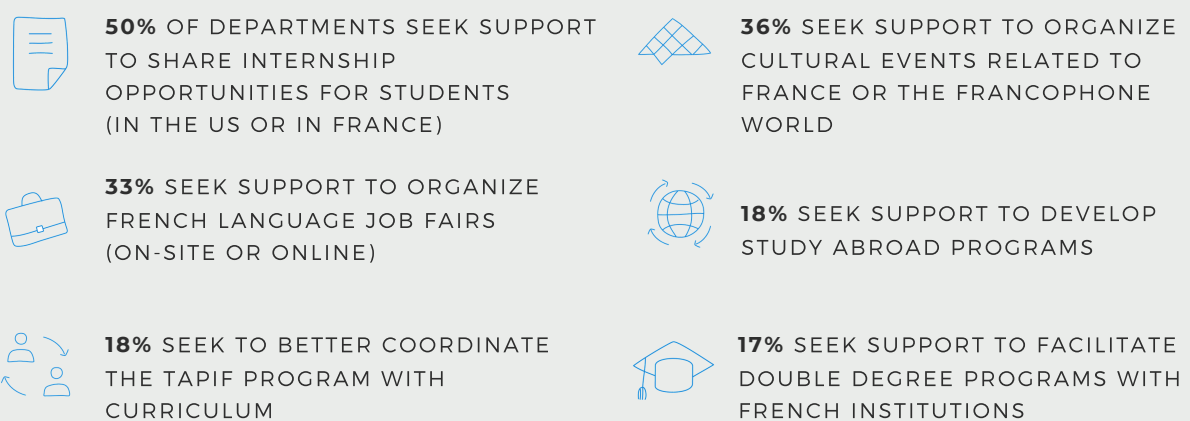
## NUMBER OF STUDENTS TAKING CLASSES IN THE FRENCH DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT SIZE OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS



### INSIGHTS

## DEPARTMENTAL NEEDS



# IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON FRENCH DEPARTMENTS IN US COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

INSTITUTIONS WITH SMALL FRENCH DEPARTMENTS ARE DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED BY COVID-19



**48%** of departments overall report a hiring freeze during COVID-19

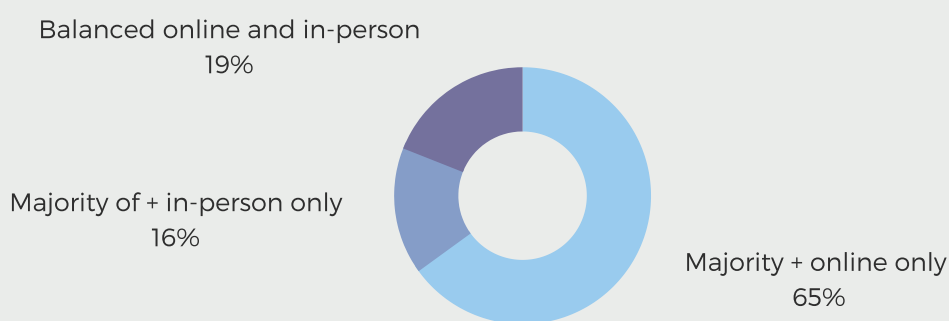
**13%** of departments overall, and **21%** of small departments (fewer than 100 students taking courses), report job cuts



**7%** of departments overall report a French Major program closure (of the 10 program closures reported, 9 were in small departments)

## COVID-19 IMPACT ON INSTRUCTION

% Institutions reporting evolutions in instruction due to COVID-19



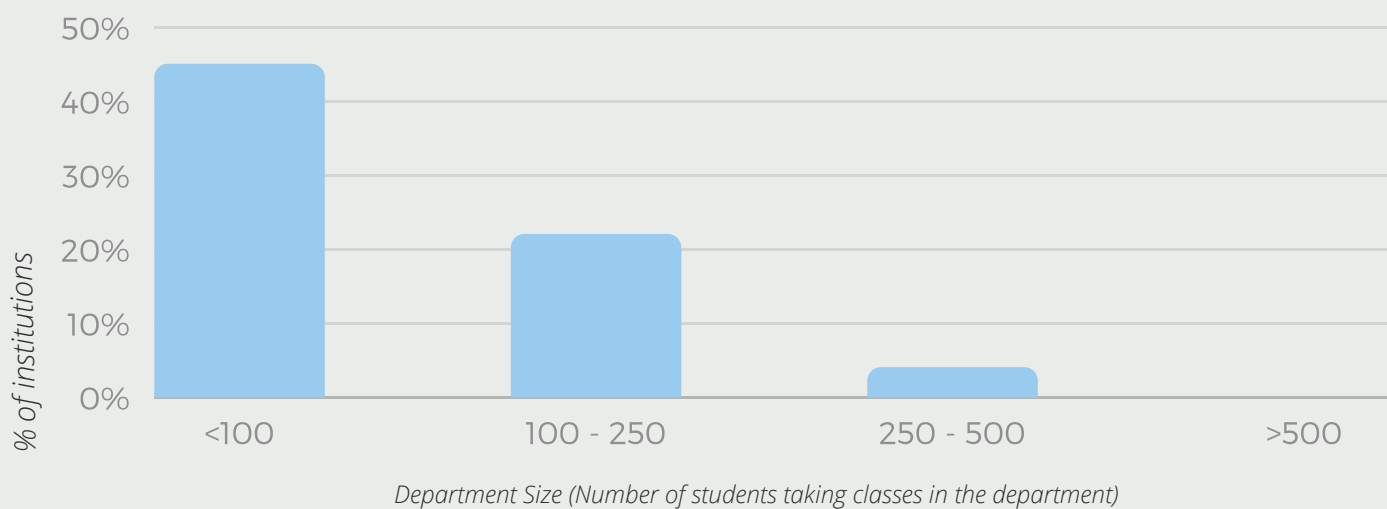
**80%** of large French departments (500 students or more) offered majority online or online only courses, while around **54%** of small departments (100 students or less) did so. Small departments were more likely to maintain mostly in-person courses or maintain a balance between online and in-person courses.



**19%** of French departments overall were unable to offer all the classes they would have in a typical year, while **25%** of small departments were unable to offer classes vs. **13%** of large departments.

## 25% OF DEPARTMENTS OVERALL REPORT THAT FRENCH HAS BEEN MORE NEGATIVELY IMPACTED BY COVID-19 THAN OTHER LANGUAGES IN THE INSTITUTION

**45% OF SMALL DEPARTMENTS, 0% OF LARGE DEPARTMENTS**



### INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATIVE DEGREES PROMOTE RESILIENCE OF FRENCH AT SMALL INSTITUTIONS

While small departments disproportionately report that French is under threat, small institutions offering collaborative interdisciplinary degrees in partnership with other departments were 20% less likely to report that French was more negatively impacted by COVID-19 than other languages as compared to institutions without collaborative degrees.

## INSIGHTS

# BEST PRACTICES TO STRENGTHEN FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE STUDIES PROGRAMS

**COLLABORATE WITH HIGH SCHOOLS** TO REACH STUDENTS PRE-COLLEGE

**OFFER GATEWAY COURSES** WITH NO LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENT

ACTIVELY **RECRUIT FRENCH MINORS**

**PROMOTE STUDY ABROAD** OPPORTUNITIES IN FRANCOPHONE COUNTRIES, OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS

OFFER **FRENCH FOR PROFESSIONAL PURPOSES** COURSES

OFFER **1-CREDIT POP-UP COURSES** IN INTERESTING TOPICS

**CULTIVATE PARTNERSHIPS** WITH EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS IN FRANCOPHONE COUNTRIES

FOSTER AN **ACTIVE FRENCH CLUB** AND FRENCH NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

**PROMOTE PROFESSIONAL POST-GRADUATION OPPORTUNITIES**, ASSIST STUDENTS WITH APPLICATIONS TO GRAD SCHOOL, FELLOWSHIPS, PEACE CORPS, TAPIF, ETC.

SEEK **INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION** AND DESIGN **DOUBLE MAJORS** WITH GLOBAL AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES