

# French



at the  
**George  
Washington  
University**

## What Can You Do with a Degree in French?

Recent French majors and minors have gone on to careers across the globe in a number of fields, including economics, politics, law, journalism, publishing, education, business, government and international relations. Many have also enrolled in a variety of graduate programs at world-class institutions. These are just a few of the exciting careers our recent graduates are pursuing:

- Study economics at Université de Paris-Dauphine
- Study law at Georgetown and UVA
- Study theology at Yale Divinity School
- Study conflict resolution at the London School of Economics
- Study International Public Health at Yale University
- Study French Language and Culture at NYU in Paris
- Study Art History at CUNY
- Join Teach for America
- Work at the State Department

(Sources: *Education Office of the French Cultural Services* and *The World Speaks French*)

## French Literature and Culture Courses

Here are some of the upper-level courses we have offered in recent years:

- *Marriage and Adultery in French Literature*
- *Devenir français à la Renaissance*
- *Fairy Tales*
- *Writing Women : Medieval and Early Modern Women Writers*
- *France/Algeria: Between Two Worlds*
- *Medieval and Early Modern Literature : Blood, Love, and War*
- *From Page to Screen: French Novels and Their Adaptations*
- *Writing the City: Paris and the Nineteenth Century*
- *Mothers and Daughters, Fathers and Sons*
- *Representation of Revolutions, Revolutions of Representations*
- *Virtue and Vice in Nineteenth-Century French Literature*
- *La Francophonie: Le Maghreb d'aujourd'hui*
- *Contemporary France*
- *Business French*

*For more details on the French program and on the major and minor in French check out our website:*

*<http://www.gwu.edu/~rgsll/french/index.html>*

*Call us at: 202-994-6330*

*Or email us at: [rgsll@gwu.edu](mailto:rgsll@gwu.edu)*

# WHY STUDY FRENCH?

## Be Understood by 200 Million People

- 200 million people in 55 countries currently use French in business, education, and daily life
- 32 countries recognize French as an official language
- French is growing: The International Organization of Francophonie estimates that there could be **700 million French speakers by 2050**

## Make the Most of Your Student Performance

- Learning a foreign language like French develops critical and analytical skills.
- 50% of English vocabulary comes from French. Learning French will help you on standardized tests such as the GRE, LSAT, and GMAT.

## Access International Organizations

- French is an official language of:
  - The United Nations
  - NATO
  - The European Union
  - Doctors Without Borders
  - The International Red Cross
  - The International Olympic Committee

## Compete in the Global Market

- Applicants who are proficient in two languages have a significant advantage in the global market.
- French is instrumental in many domestic and international careers in business, medicine, aviation, law, transportation,

technology, international affairs, luxury goods, and banking.

- France is a leader in civil engineering, space and aeronautics, medical technologies, scientific research, information technology, telecommunications and computer animation
- Scores of major international businesses and organizations, as well as American companies, recruit candidates who know French

## Travel and Become a Global Citizen

- Speaking French enhances communication in travel and work abroad
- France is the number one tourist destination in the world
- French language is also vital in Canada, the Caribbean, Europe, Southeast Asia, West and Central Africa, and North Africa

## Open doors to Art, Sports, Music, Philosophy, Architecture, Literature, Cinema, Food and Fashion

- Enjoy great works of French literature, Quebecois music, or African Art.
- French is the language of the French Open, the Tour de France, the Cannes Film Festival, and Paris Fashion Week
- It is the language of great writers, artists, philosophers, and political voices, including: Montaigne, Descartes, Voltaire, Rousseau, Camus, De Beauvoir, Sartre, Derrida, and Djébar.

# Major or Minor in French at GW

## French Major

-- *The B.A degree* requires 10 French courses beginning at French 2006 (Language, Culture, and Society II) or above, and includes a capstone experience in the senior year.

The *major in French* will give you a solid background in French language, literature, and culture that could lead to a rewarding career in international affairs, business, government, or teaching, and to studies at the graduate level in a variety of fields.

A *double-major in French and another field* is highly impressive and will give you a competitive edge over other students as you enter the workforce.

## French Minor

-- The *minor in French* requires only 7 French courses beginning at level 2005 or above.

The *minor in French* will demonstrate your competence in a foreign language and culture, which is vital to employment in today's global economy.

## Awards and Honors

The Goddard prize in French is awarded to a graduating major who has shown outstanding academic achievement in French literature and culture. Senior majors may also be invited to compete for Special Honors in French.