What you can do with your FRENCH MAJOR

French Major Skills:

Global & Intercultural Fluency
You learn to value, respect, and learn from diverse cultures, races, ages, genders, sexual orientations, and religions, demonstrate openness, inclusiveness, sensitivity, interact respectfully with all people and understand individuals’ differences.

Teamwork & Collaboration
You build collaborative relationships with colleagues and clients from diverse backgrounds, work within a team structure, negotiate and manage conflict or competing visions.

Analytical Thinking
You analyze rhetoric, media, and other forms of communication using research, examine the significance of communication for individuals, publics, politics, and in complex organizations.

Emotional Intelligence
You learn to examine issues from multiple perspectives with a sensitivity to complex issues affecting diverse populations.

Critical Reading & Thinking
You understand divergent perspectives, identifying and questioning assumptions, and recognizing the implications of texts.

Public Speaking & Oral Communications
You learn to present and respond to ideas with attention to different audiences, contexts, perspectives and purposes.

Supplement Your Skills With:

Career & Self Development, Job Shadowing & Networking
Internships & Part-Time Work

Data Analysis & Interpretation
Experience Fostering Professional Equity & Inclusion

Leadership On & Off Campus
International Study, Internships & Language Study

Chart Your Path Forward
Activate Your Handshake Account for connections to jobs, internships, employer & alumni networking.

Explore Career Communities to discover a wide variety of fields where you can turn your major into success.

Get Career & Internship Advising from SuccessWorks to make a plan, whether you’re a first-year student or about to graduate.

Get Started: successworks.wisc.edu
Put your French major to WORK

Sample US Job Titles of Alumni:
- Account Manager/Executive
- Attorney
- Business Development Manager
- Business Owner/Founder
- Chief Development Officer
- Chief Executive Officer
- Executive Director/Director
- Flight Attendant
- Global Implementation Manager
- Head of Marketing
- Language Assistant

Top US Employers of Alumni:
- American Express
- Apple
- Big Think
- Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Bunker (Entertainment)
- Business France
- California State University, Fresno
- Delta Air Lines
- Denver Health
- DocuSign
- Epic
- ETS (Educational Testing Services)
- Foley & Lardner LLP
- Kimberly Clark
- Loyola University Chicago
- Madison Metropolitan School District
- Teaching Assistant Program in France (USA)
- Thresholds
- Trek Bicycle
- University of Wisconsin-Madison

Recent Grads’ Career Plans:
- 73% Employment
- 20% Continuing Education or Grad School
- 4% Volunteer/Service Program (i.e. Peace Corps)
- 3% Other

Industry of Employment:
1. Education
2. Non-Profit
3. Government
4. Arts & Entertainment
5. Information Tech
6. Aviation & Aerospace
7. Consulting
8. Consumer Goods
9. Retail
10. Automotive

Where Alumni Live & Work:
- 25% Wisconsin
- 9% California
- 9% Illinois
- 7% New York
- 5% Minnesota
- 45% Other (including international)

“Fluency in French, and the cultural competency and empathy that is part and parcel of language fluency, has been an indispensable asset throughout my career. For example, if I had not been fluent in French when I was building Pfizer’s access to medicines initiative, we would not have built trusted relationships and partnerships with key stakeholders such as INGOs and Ministries of Health essential to program success and patient access.”

Paula Luff, 1982
Director of ESG Research & Engagement, DSC Meridian Capital
New York, NY

“Majoring in French helped me to develop my interpersonal and intercultural communication skills, adapt to different environments, and to appreciate and value diverse cultures and worldviews. As an educator on NATO’s military headquarters, these skills are critical as I work with students from over 30 different countries from our NATO allies and Partner for Peace nations.”

Douglas Lechner, 2012
Educator, Department of Defense Education Academy
Mons, Belgium

Career Communities for French Majors
SuccessWorks has eight Career Communities to connect you with career advising, resources and programs. Here are a few suggestions on where French majors can start.

Not inspired by these options? Visit SuccessWorks to explore more widely.

successworks.wisc.edu