French

Overview

Major in French at Connecticut College and you will develop linguistic and cultural fluency, regardless of your starting point. The benefits of studying French extend far beyond knowledge of the language and the Francophone world. When you speak only one language, it’s hard to grasp the extent to which language itself shapes our thoughts, perceptions and values. As a French major, you step outside your own linguistic framework and acquire a different view of the world. You learn to recognize and value cultural differences and to look at issues from different perspectives. With this understanding, you are well-prepared for advanced studies and career opportunities in a limitless range of fields.

Special Opportunities

Many courses are co-offered with other academic departments, including anthropology, film studies, Africana studies, and gender and women’s studies. Classes are small and faculty are attentive. You are challenged to hone your critical thinking skills and augment your language study with the perspectives and analytical modes of many disciplines. Some French majors pursue a certificate with one of the College’s interdisciplinary centers or with the museum studies program.

International Opportunities and Study Abroad

You can hone your language skills on campus in the language lab or at the French table in the dining hall. As a French major, you study abroad for at least one semester and possibly an entire year. Many students go to France, but in recent years, others have studied literature and native crafts in Senegal and Cameroon, family health and economic development in Mali, and environmental issues in Madagascar.
WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A MAJOR IN FRENCH?

Trademark Attorney, U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
Communications Professional, Bloomberg LP
French Teacher, Farnsworth Middle School
Attorney (International Law), Haight Gardner Holland & Knight
President, Vermont Butter and Cheese Co.
French Social Media Associate, Maclaren USA Inc.
Professor of French, St. Olaf College
Vice President, JP Morgan Chase
Recruiting Coordinator for Business Operations, Google Inc.
Associate Curator of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art
Senior Art Buyer, Saatchi & Saatchi Worldwide
Communications Manager, Arts, MIT

EXAMPLES OF STUDENT RESEARCH IN FRENCH

Norah Hannel '14
The Role of Language in Shaping Emotional Phenomenology

Lauren Potter '14
The Impact of French Culture on the LGBT Movement in France

Megan Maffucci '13
Historicizing Vichy: Holocaust Memory and French National Identity

Faculty

James Austin, Associate Professor of French
B.A., Pomona College; M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D., Yale University
French film; Proust

Ronan Chalmin, Senior Lecturer of French
“Diplôme d’Études Approfondies,” Université Charles de Gaulle-Lille III, France; Ph.D., Yale University
18th-century literature, philosophy and science; the French and Atlantic Revolutions; Revolutionary Eloquence

Nathalie Etoke, Associate Professor of French and Africana Studies, French Department Chair
B.A., M.A., University of Lille III, France; Diplôme d’études approfondies, University of Cergy-Pontoise, France; Ph.D., Northwestern University
Africana studies, LGBT in the Afro-diasporic context; Melancholia Africana; cultural studies (immigration, post-Colonial French identities, French Hip Hop and urban films)

Benjamin Williams, Visiting Assistant Professor of French
B.A., University of Virginia; Ph.D., Princeton University
French cultures and literatures of the 19th and 20th centuries

Selected Courses

The French Cultural Experience; Words in Translation; Civilization Through Conversation; French Cinema; Cities On the Screen: Constructing Urban Space in the Cinema; New Wave Film; Then And Now; Black Blanc Beur Cinema/Literature

About Connecticut College

Connecticut College is a private, highly selective liberal arts college with 1,900 students and more than 40 majors in the arts, sciences, social sciences and humanities, as well as the option for students to self-design majors. The College offers a high level of intellectual challenge, a campus culture that supports students to tailor their educational experience to their own interests and goals, and a four-year career development program that teaches students how to translate a liberal arts degree into a first job or graduate school admission. Connecticut College is situated in the small New England seaport of New London.

Connecticut College Office of Admission 270 Mohegan Avenue New London, CT 06320 Tel: 860-439-2200 admission@conncoll.edu

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.CONNCOLL.EDU/ACADEMICS/