

What Can You Do with a French Major?

Did You Know?

French is spoken by 321 million people all over the world.

This means that every industry needs to hire French speakers! Studying French is an asset for any career path you choose.

Source: Organisation Internationale De La Francophonie



Skills of a French Major

Multilingualism

You can interact with members of the worldwide French community. Learning a foreign language also improves your brain's cognitive skills in general!

Analytical & Critical Thinking

You can approach complex questions, do research, evaluate the legitimacy of sources, and understand them in context. You can build arguments based on logic, evidence, and good rhetoric.

Emotional Intelligence

You learn to identify, understand, and express emotions through verbal and nonverbal cues, enabling you to collaborate easily with others.

Written & Oral Communication

You can convey information to a variety of audiences, while maintaining a high standard of grammatical correctness and style.

Creativity

You can think outside the box, inspired by the iconoclastic artists and writers whose works you have studied. You become comfortable expressing your personal, unique point of view.

Global Fluency

You appreciate the value of all cultures, gain knowledge about the global community, and skillfully interact with people from diverse backgrounds comfortably and respectfully.



Connect with Career Communities

Communities at the UVA Career Center are designed to give you the best information and opportunities to prepare for the industry you want to work in. Sign up for community newsletters for updates on events, jobs, and internships in the field. **The Career Center can help you put your French major to work!**



Get Started
virginia.joinhandshake.com

- Log in to Handshake
- Sign Up for Community Newsletters
- Meet with a Career Counselor

What Can You Do with a French Major?

Where are They Now? French Major Alumni

Consultant **BCG** | Associate **Bond, Shoeneck, & King PLLC** | President **Pratt Modular Homes**
International Researchers Support Manager **Université PSL Paris** | Literary Programs Fellow **PEN America**
Senior Compliance Specialist **Chemonics** | Novelist & Professor **University of Richmond**
Data Scientist **Guidehouse** | Head of Content Strategy **Havas** | Head of Marketing **Fongit**
Fixed Income Associate **JP Morgan** | Partnerships Officer **World Food Programme**
Emergency Management Specialist **FEMA** | Senior Compliance Specialist **Chemonics**
Assistant Professor of Art History **Colgate University** | Anesthesiologist **Northside Hospital**
Global Account Director **Sisense** | Rhinologist & Skull Base Surgeon **University of Pennsylvania**
Upper School French Teacher **Roland Park Country School** | Senior Manager **Charles Schwab**



Annelise Bederman MD MSc, 2013

Psychiatry Resident

Washington University | Saint Louis, MO

I consider my time in the French department as essential preparation for my role as a doctor. The skills of critical reasoning, analysis and interpretation, learning how to express myself in another language (and thus better in English) and cultural awareness, lend themselves daily to my practice of medicine. But more important than all that, being a French major was fun!



John Vick, 1993

AVP - Head of Inbound Business

N2G Worldwide Insurance Services LLC | Tempe, AZ

I studied French and music at UVA, which are both languages. Languages are at the heart of human relationships and connections. Language skills have helped me connect in teaching, performing, and in a 21-year career in insurance, a 'people' business. In my current role I leverage my US insurance market knowledge to help partners from around the world (including France, Italy, & Spain) write large multinational programs. My language skills are essential!

Connect with Alumni

Virginia
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Learn more about how alumni use their French major through networking platforms designed just for you!



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