Why Study French?

Our undergraduate program offers a broad exposure to French language, literature, and culture. A comprehensive language sequence, at the 100, 200, and 300 levels, will develop your linguistic competence in oral and written expression, as well as introduce you to Francophone cultures around the world. Further, the French program places a strong emphasis on communicative skills, thereby building your confidence should you wish to study abroad. At any point in your studies, you may choose to take advantage of our excellent programs in Paris, Nantes, or Martinique, where you will be able to earn credits toward your degree.

As you progress in your studies, you will have the opportunity to study French literature from the Middle Ages to today, taking both survey and seminar classes. Specialists in the field will present important literary works along with their relevant historical and cultural contexts. You will also have a chance to discover the thriving discipline of Francophone literature, coming from regions such as the Caribbean, North Africa, Canada, and Guadeloupe. In addition, students will be encouraged to participate in such departmental functions as visiting guest lectures, the French conversation club, the Study Abroad Photo Contest, and the Annual Graduation Gala.

We believe that your immersion into the linguistic, cultural, and literary richness of the French speaking world will broaden your personal horizons and make you better-informed citizens of the world. Further, your mastery of French will open many doors to you professionally. Recent graduates who have majored and minored in French studies have found challenging and rewarding careers in teaching, business, international relations and the arts.

We very much hope that you will join the growing community of French students at the University of Washington. Please take the time to browse through our web site or come visit us in Padelford Hall, C-254.

A bientôt!

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