

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION OF THE FRENCH MAJOR AND MINOR

THE FRENCH MAJOR

A minimum of 27 credit hours in French beyond Intermediate French (FLF 203) constitutes a major. Courses must include French Composition and Conversation (FLF 204), Approaches to French Literature (FLF 220), all three courses in the French Texts and Society series (FLF 351, 352, 353) and Senior French Seminar (FLF 493).

THE FRENCH MINOR

Students take French Composition and Conversation and Approaches to French Literature, plus enough elective credits to total at least 14 credit hours (4-5 courses total).

STUDY ABROAD We strongly encourage our students to spend a semester or an academic year in a French-speaking country. [VU is affiliated with five programs that offer study in France](#). One exchange program, just inaugurated in 2006, allows students to take French-language and other classes along with French students at Université de Cergy-Pontoise. A second program offers a traditional course sequence in language, civilization, and literature (either spring semester or academic year). A third offers students the opportunity to do a work internship in a French business, NGO, or government office as part of the academic program (either fall or spring semester). Courses you take in France may count toward the French major or minor, or toward certain General Education requirements. You will work closely with your French advisor to determine the appropriate semester for you to study abroad and the appropriate courses to take.

CAREERS & COMPLEMENTARY MAJORS FOR FRENCH MAJORS Many students combine a foreign language major with a second major program. Some of the most common combinations are French and [International Economics & Cultural Affairs \(IECA\)](#); [International Service](#); [Modern European Studies](#); [Political Science](#). VU recently began offering an option for students who want to combine Engineering with French through the VIEP Program -- [Valparaiso International Engineering Program in French](#). Some students choose to hold a second major in [International Business](#) or complete a [International Business and Global Studies Minor](#) or a [Liberal Arts Business Minor](#) if they are planning to enter the business world after graduation. If you plan to teach at the high school level, you will major in French and in [Secondary Education](#).

SCHOLARSHIPS The Department offers competitive scholarships of \$1,000 for freshman students who will major in French. These merit awards are renewable three times for a total of \$4,000 if the student remains a French major and makes satisfactory academic progress. Scholarship holders may have two majors.

There are [three steps](#) to the application process. Additionally, the Department offers two awards designated specifically for French students:

- *The Professor Carol Petersen Scholarship* is awarded to an incoming student majoring in French or German.

- *The Patterson McLean Friedrich French Scholarship* is awarded to a Junior student majoring in French.
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CAMPUS ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS OF FRENCH There are numerous ways for students to use their French outside the traditional classrooms: • Join the Cercle français for activities with other French students-making *crêpes* or a *bûche de Noël*, viewing French films, celebrating Mardi Gras or *la Chandeleur*, visiting special exhibits at the Art Institute of Chicago, attending professional theater in Chicago, or just hanging out at the [French House](#) with other speakers of French. • Join the Valparaiso International Student Association (VISA) and help plan activities involving VU students from around the world.

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