French & Francophone Studies

Transferable Skills
A liberal arts degree in general, reflects a comprehensive education emphasizing analytical skills, critical thinking and communication skills; abilities in high demand for all employers. Concentrating your studies in a major allows you to also gain specific transferable skills of interest to particular employers and industries. Graduates with a major in French & Francophone Studies are attractive to employers due to their abilities in the following areas:

- Acknowledging value systems
- Acquiring new perspectives about one’s own culture
- Adapting to other cultures
- Collaborating as part of a team
- Communicating between cultures
- Determining the needs of others
- Establishing hypotheses
- Evaluating information and evidence
- Explaining complex concepts
- Interpreting data
- Reading critically
- Reading for content and structure
- Summarizing ideas
- Understanding and appreciating diversity
- Understanding historical language change
- Understanding how ideas shape cultures & vice versa
- Working with original sources in many fields
- Writing clearly

Range of Example Positions held by French Majors
Please note that some of these positions require an advanced degree. For more information and descriptions of these careers, visit O*NET On-line.

- Actuarial Analyst ’92
- Architect ’82
- Community Service Coordinator ’98
- Corporate Finance Analyst ’05
- Director of Marketing ’92
- Editor ’00
- Engineer ’92
- English Teacher in France ’06
- Film/Videotape Editor ’78
- Health Data Analyst ’88
- High School French Teacher ’02
- Intelligence Officer ’01
- Investment Analyst ’00
- Librarian ’87
- Lobbyist ’83
- Military Intelligence Officer ’01
- Musician ’91
- News Anchor/Reporter ’78
- Paralegal ’03
- Physician ’91
- Psychologist ’96
- Research Analyst ’06
- Ski Instructor ’05
- Social Worker ’98
- Tour Consultant ’05
- Web Master ’01
- International Trade Economist
- Interpreter
- Linguist
- Minister
- Professor
- Speech Pathologist
- Teacher
- Tour Guide

Other Job Titles for French Majors
- Attorney
- College/University Official
- Foreign Correspondent
- Foreign Diplomat
- Foreign Service Officer
- Intelligence Specialist
- International Banking Officer
- International Relations Specialist
Types of Employers

- Academic & Professional Journals
- Advertising & Public Relations Firms
- Airlines
- Banks
- Business & Industry
- Educational Institutions
- Film Companies
- Fund-Raising Firms
- Government Agencies
- Hotels
- Import/Export Companies
- Investment Firms
- Magazines & Newspapers
- Museums
- Publishing Companies
- Travel Agencies
- United Nations

Professional Associations

Professional associations or organizations can be a great way to meet, learn from and network with professionals in your field of interest. Inexpensive student memberships are often available. These are only a sampling of professional associations. Be sure to search for others that may be applicable or helpful.

- American Association of Teachers of French
- American Translators Association
- Modern Language Association of America
- OverseasJobs.com
- Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
- Institute of Translation and interpreting
- The Linguist List
- University of North Carolina Wilmington Career Services