



"The French professors at Centre are passionate about French language and culture...and their passion is contagious! French is not only about grammar and writing — it's also about literature, history, conversation, music, politics, cuisine, and French identity.

Various experiences at Centre have helped me to hone my French skills, and I look forward to reaping the benefits as I pursue a career in international business."

EMMA HOENEMEYER

Centre Class of 2018

French Major

DENIS DIDEROT, THE 18TH-CENTURY FRENCH PHILOSOPHER, SAID WE MUST CHANGE THE COMMON WAY OF THINKING ("CHANGER LA FAÇON COMMUNE DE PENSER"). IF YOU STUDY FRENCH AT CENTRE, YOU WILL ACCEPT HIS CHALLENGE. YOU WILL CHANGE YOUR MIND. YOU WILL STUDY A MELODIC LANGUAGE WITH A GRAMMAR REMARKABLY DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF ENGLISH, BUT WITH A VOCABULARY THAT HAS ENORMOUSLY ENRICHED OUR OWN.

TEACHING AND LEARNING FRENCH AT CENTRE

The study of French is more than the study of language. It is about people and places, too. Our students travel to France and French-speaking regions. They harvest grapes and climb mountains. They study in our abroad program in Strasbourg. Recently, many French majors have won the prestigious Fulbright scholarships for study overseas and have been named teaching assistants by the French government in places like Dijon, Paris, Rouen, Strasbourg, and Toulouse.

The French program at Centre strives to cultivate an understanding of the Francophone world through language acquisition, culture, and communication.

Beyond these broad goals, our French program is marked by the skill of our professors. Professor Connolly, who joined Centre College in 2007, directed the Strasbourg program for academic year 2010-11 and visits France annually. Professors Svendsen and Wood have lived and studied in Europe. Their

enthusiasm for French has prompted them to conduct all departmental business in French, speak with majors and minors in French, and enjoy meeting students in the library or for coffee to converse *en français*.

On campus, our majors and minors tutor students, meet with faculty in round-table discussions and seminars, do independent research in the John C. Young honors program, or present papers at the RICE symposium. Frequently among the best at Centre — including the 2000, 2002, and 2014 valedictorians — they currently study for master's degrees and doctorates at Johns Hopkins, The University of North Carolina, The University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Vanderbilt.

Centre's curriculum for French is strengthened by a common vision. Initial courses emphasize daily communication. Second-year courses take the form of workshops in the fall and spring, where students gain practical experience in French history, painting, cinema, music, or current political events. At the next level, our program highlights conversation and composition, in courses such as French for International Relations or the Francophone World.

During the January CentreTerm, students can travel to France, study French Cinema, Algerian Culture, or engage in internships and other immersion experiences.

For the advanced level we have chosen the following themes and questions to guide our work together over the next years: French gastronomy, French Thought, and Beauty. Senior majors participate in a final seminar where they prepare a conference presentation with the assistance of all French faculty members.

STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES

Centre is strongly committed to international study, and the College maintains a permanent, residential program in Strasbourg, France. Students apply for a semester of study based in Strasbourg, and a faculty member lives in Strasbourg for the semester to coordinate the program and teach courses. A French native also teaches in the program. Some students live in apartments, and others opt to live with local families on a home-stay basis. Virtually all participants travel extensively in Europe during the course of their semester.

INTERSHIPS

An internship provides valuable experience that is important in securing future employment. French majors have participated in internships in Francophone areas such as the Centre de Linguistique Appliquée in Besançon, France; and the Institut de Génétique in Strasbourg, France.

FRENCH MAJORS AND CAREERS

A sampling of Centre alumni and their post-graduate pursuits:

- Emily Hooker '16 — teaching assistant in Toulouse, France
- Erica Ribenboim '16 — University of Kentucky College of Dentistry
- David Gill '15 — Ph.D. in French and Francophone Studies, University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill)
- Claire Konieczny '15 — Ph.D. in French, Johns Hopkins University
- Emily Stephenson '15 — M.S. in Public Health, University of Sheffield (England); Fellowship at Center for Infectious Disease Research of Zambia, Global Health Corps
- Lauren Fall '14 — medical student at Dartmouth University
- Meredith Daugherty '13 — professional French master's program at University of Wisconsin (Madison)
- Kaitlyn Lee '13 — Fulbright teaching fellowship in Bulgaria; M.A. in linguistics at University of Kentucky
- Rachel Tapley '07 — Fulbright recommended Teaching Assistantship in Dijon, France; Ph.D. in French literature, University of Wisconsin (Madison); visiting lecturer in French, Amherst College
- Sarah Eskridge Demetz '02 — professional French master's program at University of Wisconsin (Madison); Global Studies Certificate Program Coordinator, Baruch College
- John Goodman '00 — Fulbright Scholar in La Réunion; J.D., University of Kentucky; Ph.D. in international history, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (Geneva, Switzerland); Associate Director for Africa in the Conflict Resolution Program, The Carter Center

VISIT CENTRE

The best way to judge Centre is to tour the campus, talk with the professors and students, attend a class, and spend the night in a residence hall. We invite you to visit and encourage you to contact the Admission Office if you have any questions.



WHO TEACHES FRENCH AT CENTRE?

ALLISON CONNOLLY (Ph.D., University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill), Associate Professor of French, winner of Tanner Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching at University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, 2009 recipient of the Kirk Excellence in Teaching Award, specialist in contemporary Francophone literature. Book: *Spaces of Creation: Transculturality and Feminine Expression in Contemporary Francophone Literature*.

CHRISTINA SVENDSEN (Ph.D., Harvard University), Visiting Assistant Professor of French and German, recipient of multiple Certificates of Excellence in Teaching from Harvard University, former Mellon Junior Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania, Fulbright Scholar, Literary Translator for Wakefield Press, specialist in modernism and critical theory.

KAREN TUBB (M.A., University of Wisconsin-Madison), Visiting Instructor French. Specialist in world language education.

CHRISTIAN WOOD (Ph.D., University of New Mexico); Visiting Assistant Professor of French, specializing in 20th- and 21st-century French and Francophone literature and philosophy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE FRENCH PROGRAM AT CENTRE, CONTACT:

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TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH A CENTRE STUDENT MAJORING IN FRENCH, CONTACT:

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FRENCH PROGRAM WEB PAGE

www.centre.edu/academics/majors-minors/french