

## What you can do with a major in

# French

## Transferable Skills

In addition to the specific subject matter that French majors learn, they acquire many skills that can easily *transfer* to any subject matter. The following is a list of transferable skills that French majors develop:

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

## Sample Job Titles of Davidson Alums Who Majored in French

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

## 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  
International Trade Economist  
Interpreter  
Linguist  
Minister  
Professor  
Speech Pathologist  
Teacher  
Tour Guide  
Translator  
Writer

## 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

## Resources in the Career Services Library

Over 1200 books and periodicals are available in the Career Services Library to help you with self-assessment, career exploration, the job search, and graduate school planning. Some Career Services Library books you can use to explore French include:

*The Big Guide to Living and Working Overseas*  
*Careers for Foreign Language Aficionados & Other Multilingual Types*  
*Careers for Patriotic Types & Others Who Want to Serve Their Country*  
*Careers for Talkative Types & Others with the Gift of Gab*

*Careers in Foreign Languages*  
*College Majors and Careers*  
*Great Jobs for Foreign Language Majors*  
*Great Jobs for Liberal Arts Majors*  
*How to Get a Job in Europe*  
*Opportunities in Foreign Language Careers*  
*Travel Writer's Handbook*

## Other Sources of Career Information

Career counselors, alumni, and faculty members are great resources. Visit the Careers Office early and often, and talk to professors in your major and related fields. Ask at the Careers Office for help locating Davidson alumni in career fields that interest you and set up informational interviews with them. Professional associations are excellent sources of career and employment information, and many of them have websites. Surf the internet, keeping in mind that many colleges and universities have websites for their Career Centers and for each academic major. Many of these sites include career and employment information as well as links to other useful websites. Below is a sample list of these types of websites:

American Association of Teachers of French  
<http://www.frenchteachers.org>

Modern Language Association of America  
[www.mla.org](http://www.mla.org)

American Translators Association  
[www.atanet.org](http://www.atanet.org)

OverseasJobs.com  
[www.overseasjobs.com/do/where/jobtree/france](http://www.overseasjobs.com/do/where/jobtree/france)

Davidson College French Dept.  
<http://www3.davidson.edu/cms/x3691.xml>

Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)  
[http://www.tesol.org/s\\_tesol/index.asp](http://www.tesol.org/s_tesol/index.asp)

Institute of Translation and interpreting  
[www.iti.org.uk](http://www.iti.org.uk)

University of North Carolina Wilmington Career Services  
<http://www.uncwil.edu/stuaff/career/Majors/index.htm>

The Linguist List  
<http://www.linguistlist.org/>

Davidson College Office of Career Services  
Telephone: (704) 894-2132 Fax: (704) 894-2493  
Email: [careers@davidson.edu](mailto:careers@davidson.edu)  
[www.davidson.edu/careers](http://www.davidson.edu/careers)

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