The French Studies minor prepares students to thrive as globally competent citizens through an in-depth encounter with French and Francophone cultures and literatures. Minors develop language proficiency and communication skills as they study literatures, films, and cultures of the French-speaking world.

Why UMD

The French program at UMD is committed to an interdisciplinary curriculum that focuses on the literature, history, and politics of French-speaking cultures and societies. Students are also encouraged to study abroad, with opportunities in both France and Morocco. Many choose to minor in French to enhance their pursuits in other disciplines like business, biology, politics, art and history, acknowledging that competence in the French language and knowledge of French-speaking cultures enhances their career opportunities.

Acquired Skills

- Functional oral and written communication skills
- Skills in another language
- Analytical, creative, and critical thinking skills
- Intercultural competence

Career Possibilities

- Any discipline with an international presence: Doctors Without Borders, Engineers Without Borders, Accountants Without Borders, etc.
- Peace Corps (Africa is most common placement for French speakers)
- International business
- Organizations such as the United Nations, Amnesty International, and the World Health Organization
- Nonprofits with an international focus (e.g., American Refugee Committee, Global Minnesota)
- Law or medical school
- Graduate school in fields such as linguistics, museum studies, communication, international affairs, etc.

Scholarships

- Alayne and Charles Berkins Scholarship
- Angela Marinelli Scholarship
- Frances A. Knobloch Scholarship
- Friends of Milan Kovacovic Scholarship

Student Clubs

- Club de Français

What you can do with this degree?

In a highly competitive job market, having a foreign language is an important and useful tool to set yourself apart. French makes it possible to do good in the world in places you had only dreamt of.
Where the possibilities are endless. We will be your compass.

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