



# THE DISTINGUISHED MAJORS PROGRAM IN FRENCH

The Department of French is now accepting applications for its Distinguished Majors Program for the 2012-2013 academic year. We encourage outstanding third-year students to consider joining this rigorous and exciting program!

- ❖ Have you ever wondered how much more there is to know about something you hear in class or read about? Distinguished majors pursue in depth any acceptable topic that has touched their curiosity.
- ❖ Would you like an intensive exchange of ideas with a member of a leading language, literature, and civilization department? Distinguished majors work one-on-one with a member of our nationally ranked faculty for an entire academic year.
- ❖ Would you like to improve your writing? Distinguished majors write an extensive thesis in French under close and active supervision.
- ❖ Would you like to develop transferable skills by working with documents and ideas? The program teaches skills in both research and critical thinking that are not taught in the same way in any courses.

For more information on the process of admission to the Distinguished Majors Program and the degree requirements, please see the reverse side of this flyer or contact **Professor John Lyons, Director of the Undergraduate Program in French, 202 Levering Hall, 924-4636, [jdl2f@virginia.edu](mailto:jdl2f@virginia.edu).**



More details on opposite side →



# The Distinguished Majors Program in French

## *Admission*

In consultation with the Committee on Undergraduate Studies, the Director of the Undergraduate Program will admit applicants, normally in the spring of their third year, on the basis of the following factors:

1. An overall GPA of at least 3.4, evidenced by a current college transcript or SIS form.
2. A Departmental GPA of at least 3.5 in courses on the 3000 level or above.
3. Recommendations from three members of the University of Virginia French faculty.
4. A letter from a French Department faculty member agreeing to direct the applicant's thesis.
5. A pledged 500-word statement of purpose composed in French.

Prospective applicants planning to be abroad during the application period should contact the Director of the Undergraduate Program for further information before departure if possible.

## *Required Course Work and Thesis*

The DM program consists of 36 semester hours. The core is the standard 30-hour major. In addition to the assigned work, the candidate will complete an approved project, normally a substantial paper. The candidate will also take French 4998 (Pre-thesis Tutorial), in which background reading, research, and a thorough working outline of the thesis will be completed under the thesis director's supervision; and French 4999 (Thesis), in which the candidate will, under the director's supervision, draft and revise the work, defined as a 30-50 page study, in French, demonstrating mastery of relevant theory, research techniques, appropriate methods of analysis and interpretation, as well as expository writing. Two readers will examine the document: the thesis director and either the Director of the Undergraduate Program, another member of the French faculty, or a qualified professor from another UVA department. The final version of the thesis will be prepared according to the *MLA Handbook*.

## *Continuance*

The DUP will monitor each candidate's progress on a term-to-term basis. Failure to maintain the overall or departmental GPA required for admission, or failure to complete program requirements on time, will result in probation for one semester. If the candidate's record is then cleared, good standing will be restored; otherwise, the candidate will be dropped from the program.

## *Degree of Distinction*

The DUP, in consultation with the thesis director and, if required, the Committee on Undergraduate Studies, will recommend conferral of Distinction, High Distinction, or Highest Distinction. The basis for judgment will be the quality of the thesis and work in the Distinguished Majors Program, the major, and the College. All queries concerning the program should be addressed to the Director of the Undergraduate Program.

## *Deadlines:*

*Third Year:*       **Applications for Admission: April 25, 2012**  
Admission announced by letter: May 4, 2012

*Fourth Year:*     First draft of thesis: early February 2013  
Revision of thesis: late March 2013  
Public presentation of results: mid-April 2013  
Final version of thesis: mid-April 2013

