So, I’m a French major...

What now?

Career Options in French

Dr. B. Guenther, ROCS (French)

Are you a BGSU alum (undergraduate or graduate)? We would love to add you to our LinkedIn Group: Bowling Green State University French Alums. Contact: bguenth@bgsu.edu.
Why learn French?

Is it on the decline? ....

- In the last 50 years: # of French speakers has tripled to **175 million**
- *World’s 9th language for # of speakers but world’s second international language*
- **33** Francophone countries in the world
- *Used in international institutions* [UN, IMF, EU, Int’l Red Cross, Interpol...*]
French Major = Versatility

- Foreign Correspondent, Foreign Service Peacekeeper, Peace Corps worker, UNESCO official, Teacher, Professor, Translator, Interpreter, Corporate Lawyer…

- *Other options*: Int’l Consultant, Banking Officer or Int’l Account Manager, Travel Writer, Travel Agent, Customs or Immigration Officer, Court Interpreter…
BGSU French Alumni/Alumnae
Where are they now?

- Business Careers:
  Program Director;
  Graphic Designer;
  Customer Service Team Leader;
  Financial Agent;
  Sales Director;
  Administrative Assistant in Marketing;
  Coach for Writers and Artists ...
  and also Helicopter Pilot;
  Attorney; Writer;
  and Assistant Editor at McGraw-Hill

- Business and French:
  Int’l Customer Service Representative;
  Global Consignment Manager;
  Bilingual Loan Support;
  Intl Sales Manager;
  Marketing Analyst

Jessica Shelley ‘92 and Irwin Commercial Finance (Canada)
BGSU French Alumns & Education

- **Teaching Positions**
  - over **fifty recent graduates**
  - Includes Assistant Chair in Humanities (Owens); Instruction Librarian; Program Coordinator; Study Abroad Advisor; tripforteachers.org

- Gina Johnson ‘98: *International Baccalauréat*; chaperones month-long stay in France; Toni Theisen accompanies summer homestays, also Co-author of *Bon voyage!*
French and Graduate School

- 7 recent grads Ph.D candidates (Boston U; Johns Hopkins; Madison-Wisconsin; OSU; Penn State…)
- 2 Travel Grants for doctoral students to France & Geneva, Switzerland
- Mulhouse, France; English teacher in Japan; M.A. in English at BGSU… and Kevin Kane, BGSU Resident Director in Tours, France [M.A.,French & German]
French and life à l’étranger

- Martina Hanulova (2008) recently completed her M.A. in Development at the American Univ, D.C. She has been involved in development aide in Ghana, Liberia, and Burkina-Faso.
- Christine Tomasek-Guillemin (1998), Paris
  -- American University, Associate Registrar [started by teaching English to corporate executives at private language institution]
- Allie Carter, Peace Corps in Burkina-Faso, worked as Health & Community Dev. Volunteer: “French became a basis to learn the other local languages that were spoken throughout my community.”
Preparing for *une carrière bilingue*

- Did you know… that Canada/U.S. trade yields $498 billion/year--$1.4 billion/day--$1 million/minute? Ohio is Canada’s second most important trade partner after Michigan. [source: C. Drennen, Administrative Director, CAST/BGSU]

- In 2002 Quebec imported $83.363 billion and exported $92.125 billion to and from the U.S.
What to do with my Major in French: Websites from Other Universities

- Virginia Tech/”French, the most practical language”: 
  http://www.fll.vt.edu/French/whyfrench.html
- University of North Carolina at Wilmington/”Why study a foreign language?”:  
  http://www.uncw.edu/fll/about-why.html
- Ball State University/”Career Options with a Language Major”: 
  http://www.bsu.edu/languages/article/0,,40798--,00.html
- Check out the BGSU French and Francophone LibGuide, Jerome Library for links to French culture, language, and literature: 
  http://libguides.bgsu.edu/content.php?pid=28928&sid=211316
Useful Websites

- *Here are some websites (cf. handout):*
  - [http://www.toplanguagejobs.co.uk/](http://www.toplanguagejobs.co.uk/)
  - [http://www.internationaljobs.org/](http://www.internationaljobs.org/)
  - [http://www.overseasjobs.com/](http://www.overseasjobs.com/)
  - [http://www.state.gov/aboutstatedepartment/](http://www.state.gov/aboutstatedepartment/)
  - [http://www.firmafrance.com](http://www.firmafrance.com) [link to French Consulate]