La Maison Francaise

Charles-Louis Morand-Metivier, Faculty Director
Joseph Acquisto, Faculty Director
Ayla Yersel, Student Director
Mi Jo Mucklow, Student Director

OVERVIEW

Our vision for La Maison Française is to bring together students who are interested in French language, culture, literature, and traditions. This program will help students immerse themselves in different aspects of Francophone way of life in an engaging and educational way. The Living/Learning Center creates a vibrant community for students to explore other cultures and to share their experiences, and La Maison Française reinforces this kind of environment. Each member will be given the opportunity to speak French in various environments, participate in communal events, share their ideas and experiences, and take on leadership positions for projects that interest them. Our role as program directors will be to organize a variety of activities, ranging from films to lectures to other cultural events in order to fully expose members to diverse aspects of francophone culture. Students who are studying French will have an opportunity to learn outside the classroom in order to fully understand and to learn a language in a social, communal setting. Part of learning a language is being pushed outside of your comfort zone, and we hope to give members support and challenges along the way.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Learning Objective #1
To help students improve their fluency in French.

Action Steps

- Create an environment where French is spoken both casually in the suites and at specific functions such as communal meals, meetings, and discussions.
- Provides students access to magazines, websites, books, TV programs, and dictionaries.
- Establish contact with International Students, in particular those from
Francophone culture, by inviting them to meals and discussions.
• Initiate communication with Francophone speakers and professors from the University, as well as members of the Burlington community.
• More advanced French students can aid and share knowledge with others.

Learning Objective #2
To make accessible the Francophone intellectual and artistic resources in our region.

Action Steps
• Films: A variety of great and educational French films are available on and off campus. Previous events include the Burlington International Film Festival and several French films showings at the Roxy Movie Theater.
• Art exhibits: The Fleming Museum frequently has exhibits or lectures involving art of the Francophone world.
• Lectures: Converse with French-speaking UVM faculty, collaborate with other Global Village houses (potentially Caribbean house, Canada house, and Africa house), and to bring in guest speakers.
• Visits to Montreal: to explore the architectural heritage of the city, to attend concerts, book exhibits, museums, theater, ballet, etc.
• Video and Television resources such as French CBC and Radio Canada.
• Magazines and newspapers, such as Le Monde.
• Music involving classic and contemporary French artists.

About the Global Village
This program is part of the Global Village Residential Learning Community (RLC). For UVM students interested in exploring other cultures, studying abroad, or pursuing lives and careers in an increasingly interconnected world, the Global Village may be just the place for you! Drawing on the resources of the Living/Learning Center and its dynamic network of student- and faculty-led programs, the community of learners that make up the Global Village will be engaged in coursework, lectures, concerts, exhibits, faculty and peer mentoring, social connections with international students, group meals, and trips that:
• Explore the many connections among language, art and culture at regional, national, and international scales.
• Share disciplinary expertise within an environment that values a holistic approach to “living and learning.”
• Encourage formal and informal contacts among students, faculty, and staff within the Global Village, the Living/Learning Center, the other Residential Learning Communities, and the university as a whole.
• Aim to be a complement to existing international and cross-cultural programs at UVM.
• “Think globally and act locally” by outreach to the international community at UVM and within the greater Burlington area.

More information about the Global Village RLC can be found at: http://www.uvm.edu/globalvillage

GRS 025: The Global Village Seminar

GRS 025: The Global Village Seminar is a largely self-paced, one-credit course designed to help you get the most out of your experience as a citizen of the Global Village Residential Learning Community. All new Global Village residents must enroll in GRS 025 for one credit during the fall semester or spring semester. (Returning Global Village students who have not yet satisfactorily completed the class must enroll in GRS 025 during the fall semester.) This course will be graded on a “Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory” basis. The course will be partly comprised of a series of “Common Hour” community gatherings held on Thursday afternoons. The primary purpose of the Common Hour meetings is to build a stronger sense of community among the members of the many Global Village houses and programs. As well, the Common Hour gatherings will help Global Village citizens build a common knowledge and skill set, including such topics as intercultural communication, globalization, etc. A variety of program offerings will take place during Common Hour meetings, such as special guest lectures, interactive dialogue and social gatherings. During weeks when the Common Hours are not held, you are expected to participate in one educational event or activity with a global cultural theme. We’ll provide you with a list of suggested events and activities, or you can identify other events/activities with a global cultural theme; you choose which ones you wish to attend.

We’ll provide you with a Global Village Passport; use it to keep track of your activities and explorations. In addition to documenting participation in Common Hours and the educational events/activities, you will need to do reflective writing in the form of five short journal entries on the cultural/educational events that you participated in, along with a lengthier essay looking back on your most meaningful experience of the semester within the Global Village.

Returning Global Village students are also invited (but not required) to enroll in GRS 025 during the fall semester or spring semester.

If you anticipate a problem with fulfilling this course expectation (such as if you will already be enrolled in 18 credits), please contact Prof. Joseph Acquisto, Faculty Director of the Global Village, at Joseph.Acquisto@uvm.edu

For more details about this course, visit: http://www.uvm.edu/~gvrlc/?Page=passport/passport.html&SM=passport/sub-menu.html