

Department of French and Francophone Studies

Major Portfolio Requirement 2018

In addition to satisfying the course requirements listed in the catalogue, all majors submit a portfolio of their work in French and discuss it with the members of the French faculty during the last semester of their senior year.

Purpose

The portfolio both encourages a synthesis of a students' work in the major, and provides an appreciation of the many ways in which their knowledge of the French language and Francophone literatures and cultures has been acquired and has proven to be transformative. It allows students to demonstrate a range of



learning in multiple curricular and co-curricular experiences such as study abroad, classroom learning, work, internships, research projects, travel, writing, and performance. With the portfolio we require that students reflect upon the meaning and the trajectory of their major. After completion of the major, certain components of the portfolio are very useful in applying to graduate schools or for employment.



Procedure: Students work with an advisor as they create their portfolios. Portfolios normally include the following:

1.) A list of courses in French and relevant courses in other disciplines. Syllabi may be included, especially for courses taken outside of Bates.

2.) A personal statement, that may include (but is not limited to) a discussion of the genesis, motivation and evolution of one's language acquisition, insights into literary texts and other forms of cultural production, and reflections upon study and experience in Francophone cultures. This personal statement should attempt to synthesize the student's experience in French and be built around *two or three inspirational quotes* from French or Francophone authors or filmmakers; as a complement to these quotes, students may also select *one or two inspirational or representative images* (pictures, photos, or other visual icons) that help explain their experience in the major. (4-5 pages)



