

The John Philip Couch Scholarship for Study in France

The John Philip Couch Scholarship was created through a generous gift to the North Carolina chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French (**NC-AATF**) in the will of Dr. “Phil” Couch, a longtime professor of French at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro who passed away on March 12, 2006.

The scholarship is used to support study in France for deserving college or university students of French. The NC-AATF has created an educational endowment fund that will normally produce funds for several scholarships to be awarded each year. **Preference will be given to students applying to yearlong programs** (although **semester awards** are common), and whose families have **resided in North Carolina for a substantial number of years**. The scholarship may not be used for participation in a summer program.

The amount and number of the scholarships may vary according to the performance of the endowment fund. It is anticipated that a **\$6,000 scholarship** will be awarded to a student enrolled in a yearlong program. A student in a semester program will receive **\$3,500**. Multiple scholarships have been awarded in recent years, increasing the chances of all applicants.

The **2017-2018** scholarships will be awarded to **undergraduate students** who will have declared a **French major** and completed at least two French courses beyond the intermediate level in an accredited college or university in North Carolina. The above requirements must be met before the student begins an organized study abroad program in France approved by the student’s school. The study program must yield **academic credit** in the candidate’s home university. A minimum **2.75 accumulative average** (on a 4.0 scale) is required for application.

Candidates for a John Philip Couch Scholarship must be **nominated by their major department** in their home institution. For the **2017-2018** year, one undergraduate student may be nominated per institution.

The applicant must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident and a **non-native speaker of French**.

If an institution wishes to nominate for a John Philip Couch Scholarship an outstanding French student who may not meet fully all of the above criteria, please contact the NC-AATF Administrator of the Couch Scholarships, Dr. Alan Singerman: alsingerman@davidson.edu or (704) 892-5264.

The application file must contain:

a) a completed application form (available through your major department on campus);

- b) a 250 to 500-word essay by the candidate, in French, explaining the candidate's reasons for planning to study in France, including career goals.
- c) two letters of recommendation, preferably from French professors in the candidate's department;
- d) an official academic transcript from the home institution;
- e) a statement from the Registrar that the candidate is in good academic, financial, and disciplinary standing with the home institution, and that the program of studies in France in which the candidate is enrolled will yield academic credit at that institution upon successful completion.

Requests for further information may be addressed to Dr. Alan Singerman, Richardson Professor Emeritus of French, Davidson College, at: alsingerman@davidson.edu. Completed applications must be sent (postmarked) by **March 1, 2017**, to:

Dr. Alan Singerman
NC-AATF Administrator, John Philip Couch Scholarships
190 Canterbury Place Rd.
 Mooresville, NC 28115

The winner(s) of the award will be announced no later than **April 15, 2017**.

*Please note that any scholarship monies will be **paid directly to the study abroad program** in which the recipient is enrolled and may be used to cover tuition, fees, room, and board, and travel expenses related to that program.

Upon return from their study abroad program in France, recipients of a John Philip Couch Scholarship will be invited to either write a short article about their experience (to be published on the NC-AATF webpage or blog) or to make a presentation at a NC-AATF session at a meeting during the year following their return.

The NC-AATF reserves the right not to award a scholarship in any given year.

