



2024-25 FACULTY AND STAFF GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

Name of Project/Program: French Bootcamps Date: 05/23/24

Applicant's Name: Mécheneau Sarah

GCC Position: Associate Professor of French Department: Language Arts

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Please check which category best describes your project:

- Arts & Culture, Athletics & Fitness, Career & Work Training, College Operations & Facilities, Humanities/Social Sciences, Science & Technology, Other

Amount requested: \$ 25,000

Please attach a one- to two-page typed request that provides a comprehensive summary of your project/program and establishes the need. Please include the following:

- What do you propose to do? Who will be involved in the project/program? What are the benefits of this project/program to the students, college, and the community? How does this project/program support the College's Institutional Strategic Plan? Timeline for the project/program. How do you propose to use the funds requested? Please include specific budget information. Please list any other sources of funding you have applied for and include dollar amounts if already awarded. How will the Foundation's support be recognized? How do you plan to evaluate this project's success? If your project/program is successful, how will it inform your practice moving forward?

Please email this completed and signed form along with your proposal to zjacobs@glendale.edu

Submission Deadline – Thursday, May 30, 2024 by 5:00 PM PST

Your signature indicates approval of this request to the Glendale College Foundation

Applicant's signature

Chair or Department Head Signature

Print name of Chair or Department Head

Lourdes Girardi, Chair-language Art Division

Grant Review Committee comments and/or recommendations:

This grant was denied/approved on The amount awarded is \$

Purpose of my application:

My application for the grant from the Foundation is driven by a desire to propose a new program at Glendale Community College that will offer our students a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and help our college build on a prestigious program aligned with our strategic goals for years to come.

Project Summary:

The French Bootcamp program is offered by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy. It consists of two weeks of immersion in a French university, where students complete intensive innovation bootcamps on various topics related to DEI and Sustainability. Each summer, 4 to 6 different locations are available to students, including France and its territories such as Réunion Island, Guadeloupe, and Martinique. During these two weeks, students explore the local area, meet with local experts on their study topics, and collaborate with local students and professors to create projects or products. All classes are taught in English, and no prior knowledge of French is required to attend these camps.

Goals and Benefits of the Project:

Firstly, it provides community college students the opportunity to study abroad at a French university. Over one-third of U.S. undergraduate students attend community colleges, yet fewer than 2% of study abroad participants are community college students. This program can increase students' intercultural awareness and significantly improve their transfer opportunities. Additionally, it offers future graduates the chance to transfer directly to a French university, business, or engineering school.

Secondly, this program allows our campus to stand out. Students and faculty will be invited to join these bootcamps, with the hope of hosting one at GCC in the next few years. Hosting bootcamps on AI or STEM topics would showcase our upcoming VR center and potentially attract international students from France.

Furthermore, these bootcamps provide an excellent opportunity for various campus divisions to collaborate and recruit students if they integrate these bootcamps into their curriculum and programs. Students can earn university credits recognized in the European Union, legitimizing the quality of education received during these two weeks.

Lastly, most bootcamp topics focus on Climate Change, AI, and Innovation, which are becoming central to education. Climate Action is a priority for GCC as part of the Chancellor's Strategic Plan for 2030.

Actors Involved in this Project:

This project involves students and faculty members interested in attending or hosting bootcamps on our campus. Given the nature of topics like climate change, innovation, and AI, STEM students are likely to show high interest. However, as topics and themes change yearly, more faculty and departments may find relevant matches for their students.

As this program functions as a partnership, I have been responsible for coordinating with all involved parties, including:

- The Cultural Service of the French Embassy
- The Community College Abroad Program of the French Embassy
- Faculty promoting the program and potentially including it in their curriculum
- The French universities hosting our students

Dr. Cornner has also been part of the initial discussions leading to this proposal.

Timeline for the Project/Program:

If funds are approved, we will start advertising the program at the beginning of the fall semester, with a deadline for bootcamp applications on January 10th. Students will receive acceptance letters by March and will attend their chosen bootcamp in June or July for two weeks.

Details of the Funding:

The two-week immersion program costs \$2,400 per student, covering courses, housing, food, cultural visits, and local transportation. It does not include airfare. The French Embassy has approved a \$1,400 scholarship for 10 students.

The goal of this proposal is to fully fund the camps for our students, covering the remaining \$1,000 of the program cost and the airfare, making the camps free of charge for our students.

- Cost of the program: \$2,400
- French Embassy Scholarship: \$1,400
- Remaining program cost: \$1,000
- Estimated plane ticket: \$1,500
- Number of students: 10
- Total proposed funds from Foundation: \$25,000

Recognition of the Foundation:

The French Embassy will acknowledge the Foundation's support in providing this opportunity to our students. If successful, we may also host bootcamps at GCC for French students and faculty, promoting our campus and the Foundation.

Evaluation of the Project's Success and Long-Term Influence:

Participants will be surveyed, and their journeys closely followed by the French Embassy, which will highlight success stories. If integrated into GCC programs, the project's success will be easily tracked and evaluated. Faculty have already seen the benefits of experiential learning through the Internship program, and a study abroad experiential learning program will significantly enhance our college's reputation and our students' potential. Topics like climate change and innovation will soon be essential in students' majors and universities overall.