Sustainability in France Undergraduate Research Award

Are you taking, or have you taken recently, a class about sustainability issues in France and/or the Francophone world? The Paris Accords, nuclear power, food sustainability, sustainable tourism, eco-technologies, eco-philosophy, eco-art: what does “Green” and “French” or “francophone” mean to you? Thanks to the generosity of our community of donors, the Department of French and Italian is offering awards of $1,000 to support original undergraduate research in topics related to sustainability in French-speaking world regions, or France. Funds may be used to support summer student research, conduct field work, write an Honors thesis, do archival work, or craft a creative project. The project has to be completed during Spring semester or summer.

• Project proposals can be research-oriented or creative and conducted in French or English
• Projects must engage with some aspect of sustainability and French-speaking regions or countries, or France
• Team or pair projects will be considered
• Award funds will support expenses including travel and living costs and/or materials for research or creative work. Projects can “add on” to a study abroad experience. Proposals may be part of an Honors thesis project
• Projects must have a tangible outcome (paper, creative production, film, website, translation, Honors thesis, etc.)
• Non-French majors may apply!

French faculty are here to help you! All students who are awarded a French Undergraduate Research Award will choose or be assigned a faculty mentor to support them in their project.

How to apply?

1. Write a 225-500 word typed description in English of your proposed project. This proposal should: present your research question or describe your proposed creative work; identify what texts/documents/objects/films you will be researching; explain how your project engages with sustainability and French/French-speaking world regions/France; identify what your project goals are and detail how you expect to realize them; identify how and when you will present your research/creative work

2. Fill out the French Undergraduate Research Awards Application Form.

3. Submit your proposal and application form by email attachment (Word or PDF) to Dr. Giuseppina Mecchia, mecchia@pitt.edu by February 1, 2024. Your proposal will be evaluated by the Sustainability in France Selection Committee. Awards will be assigned in late February and projects completed by August 30.