



## French Teacher, Program Lead

### Woodberry Forest School

Woodberry Forest, Virginia

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Woodberry Forest School is an exceptional private school community for high school boys in grades nine through twelve. One of the only all-boys, all-boarding schools in the country, Woodberry's 1,200-acre campus is the largest boarding school campus near Washington, D.C. and one of the largest private school campuses in the country.

**The Woodberry Forest School seeks an experienced French Teacher, Program Lead to join the world languages department effective August 2023, and take on a dynamic, holistic role coaching and advising students, in addition to leading the French program at the school.**

## About the Position

### *Core Responsibilities*

The successful French Teacher, Program Lead at WFS will:

- Serve as the architect of the French program at Woodberry Forest. Following general ACTFL-based guidelines embraced by the WFS language department, the Lead French Teacher will have sole responsibility for constructing and delivering the school's French program, from the first lessons in French I through advanced work in literature and culture in French IV/V. This role comprises a four-section course load.
- Collaborate enthusiastically with teachers of other languages in the language department to share best practices and brainstorm ongoing innovation in both curriculum and pedagogy
- Advocate for and lead summer and co-curricular programming involving the Francophone world: international travel, field trips to Washington, D.C., and other off- and on-campus opportunities (films, fishbowl discussions, etc.).



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## ***Key Qualities and Qualifications***

The next French Teacher, Program Lead at WFS should:

- Possess at least three years' experience teaching French, ideally at the upper school level.
- Possess French language skills of a native speaker, OR hold a master's degree in French Language/Literature, OR have extensive experience living in France or a French-speaking country.
- Understand contemporary best practices in foreign language instruction, capable of leading the French program while also collaborating with colleagues in the department.
- Connect with Woodberry students outside the classroom as an advisor, coach/director, mentor, and dorm parent.

## ***What makes teaching and living at Woodberry Forest special?***

### ***Three things: People, culture, and place.***

The student body at Woodberry Forest is all-boarding, and more than 90 percent of faculty live on campus, creating an intimate, tight-knit community. As an all-boys school, Woodberry Forest is focused on developing young men who are lifelong learners with strong moral character. One of the school's defining characteristics is its 120-year old student-run-honor system.



The campus is set on 1,200 acres in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. This is a place where faculty can focus on teaching and learning without distractions. Students, faculty, and faculty families take full advantage of our safe and beautiful campus, enjoying hiking and biking trails in the woods or the natural beauty of the Rapidan River, which borders our land.

The culture is based on moral integrity, intellectual thoroughness, a reverence for things sacred, and good sportsmanship. Woodberry seeks faculty who are passionate about and trained in their discipline—but who are equally committed to working with boys on stage, on the athletic fields, and in a dorm. Living and learning at Woodberry don't just take place inside our classrooms.



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## About the School

### ***Classroom Life***

Woodberry teachers set high standards for their students. Woodberry Forest runs two daily schedules simultaneously—one for underclassmen and introductory courses, the other for upperclassmen. Classes for underclassmen, as well as all music ensembles, meet five times a week for forty-five minutes. Classes for upperclassmen, along with all science classes, meet for forty-five minutes on Mondays followed by two ninety-minute sessions the rest of the week. Both this daily schedule and our curriculum emphasize structure and a focus on developing basic skills and study habits during a student's first two years. Older boys are given more freedom to control their schedule and develop an expertise in topics that interest them. Classes for all students are held on Saturday mornings to allow for shorter days on Tuesdays and Fridays, when athletic teams travel to away games.



### ***Extracurriculars***

Responsibilities for boarding school faculty don't stop when the school day ends. Faculty serves as coaches, drama directors, or program advisors during two of our three trimesters. If you've never coached before, we'll pair you with an experienced mentor who will help you develop new skills.



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### ***Advising***

All Woodberry faculty serve as advisors to a small group of students and serve as the first point of contact for parents and students when a boy is facing a personal or academic challenge. Advisors eat a family-style, coat-and-tie dinner with these students once a week before chapel. You'll get to know these students very well and will find these relationships to be some of the most important you form at Woodberry.

### ***Duty***

All faculty are on duty slightly less than once a week. During duty days you will spend time on dorm, particularly to ensure study hall periods are used well. This time on dorm is a great way to get to know students outside of the classroom, whether you're stopping to chat before lights out, helping with homework, or watching TV with boys in the common room.

### ***Terry Dining Hall***

The Terry Dining Hall is the center of campus life for Woodberry boys, faculty members, and families. It serves three meals a day - all of which are open to faculty and their families - during the school year. Three of the dinners each week are called "seated meals" and served family style. The rest are buffet. Stop by the dining hall and you'll find families lingering together over a Tuesday night dinner or Sunday brunch. At lunch faculty catch up on news or discuss the boys they're teaching.

### ***The Honor System***

A pillar of Woodberry's community is the honor system. Each spring the headmaster, after a student vote and faculty discussion, selects a group of seniors to serve as prefects. The prefects collectively administer the honor system. They take this responsibility extraordinarily seriously. Students promise not to lie, cheat, or steal. If found guilty of doing so, they can be dismissed from Woodberry by the headmaster at the recommendation of the prefects. The honor system creates an unusual and priceless sense of trust and respect between the students and faculty. As a teacher, you won't need to worry about watching over their shoulders during exam periods or worrying that answers are passed around before homework is due.



### ***What is it like to live here?***

Whether you live on dorm or elsewhere on campus, working at Woodberry is a demanding job. Between teaching, coaching, and regular dorm duty, long days are the norm. But this is also a place where you develop deep friendships with colleagues and students. Housing and meals for you and your family are part of your compensation. The campus is truly idyllic. Faculty and their families enjoy



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access to a pool, two gymnasiums, squash and tennis courts, and a nine-hole golf course. Faculty children roam free with their friends, wandering from the athletic fields to the river and back to the dining hall without their parents worrying about their safety. If you have children, they're sure to find close friends among the other fifty-five school-age children on campus.

Woodberry is in a rural location. The town of Orange, about ten minutes away, has a pharmacy, grocery store, and a few restaurants. Culpeper, a larger town, is twenty minutes away and has a small hospital, as well as more extensive shopping and dining options. Charlottesville, home to the University of Virginia, is forty-five minutes from campus. Washington, DC is between ninety minutes and two hours away, depending on traffic and where in the DC area you're headed.

## How to Apply

Feel free to contact the consultant confidentially if you're considering applying to discuss this opportunity. Applicants will need to submit PDF versions of the following:

- Resume/CV
- Letter of intent
- List of five references with contact information (May be supplied later. References will not be contacted without notifying the candidate.)

Send materials as email attachments to:

**Leslie Ganson | Placement Associate**

Carney, Sandoe & Associates

[leslie.ganson@carneysandoe.com](mailto:leslie.ganson@carneysandoe.com)

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*Please do not contact the school directly.*



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