

# French

## STUDY ABROAD INFORMATION FOR FRENCH CONCENTRATION STUDENTS

Studying abroad through the University of Michigan's programs in the Francophone world is one of the unique benefits for students with French concentrations or minors. Taking advantage of *in situ* language instruction and cultural immersion, French concentrators or minors can continue to make progress towards their U-M degrees while spending part of their U-M academic career studying in another country. Students are not limited to language and literature courses during their study abroad experience. Dual concentrators could thus have a valuable opportunity to explore their other concentration from an international perspective.

The University of Michigan's Office of International Programs (OIP) administers French -language programs in Europe (France and Switzerland) as well North America (Canada) and Africa (Senegal). Courses taken in these programs may be used to satisfy French concentration requirements at the pre-concentration and upper-division levels. In addition, with direct enrollment at host universities in Aix-en-Provence, France, and Lausanne, Switzerland, and at either the Institut Catholique de Paris or the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris, students may elect courses to satisfy concentration requirements in other academic departments in the social sciences, humanities, art history, and sciences.



## GETTING STARTED

<p>1.) Plan early: Talk to your concentration advisor about your interest in studying abroad.</p>	<p>Department of Romance Languages &amp; Literatures 4108 Modern Languages Building Telephone: (734) 764-5344 Fax: (734) 764-8163 <a href="http://www.lsa.umich.edu/rll/concminors/french.html">http://www.lsa.umich.edu/rll/concminors/french.html</a></p>
<p>2.) Visit the OIP: Learn about program offerings and attend the OIP study abroad fair and information sessions.</p>	<p>OIP's Study Abroad Fairs: Fall Fair – Mid September Summer Fair – Mid January</p>
<p>3.) Narrow down your program options: Review course offerings and how they can satisfy concentration and distribution requirements.</p>	<p>See OIP's website: <a href="http://www.lsa.umich.edu/oip/oip-study-abroad.htm">http://www.lsa.umich.edu/oip/oip-study-abroad.htm</a></p>
<p>4.) Research program costs: Review OIP information on program costs; learn about scholarship options and financial aid for which you may be eligible.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.lsa.umich.edu/oip/financial.htm">http://www.lsa.umich.edu/oip/financial.htm</a></p>
<p>5.) Apply for your program.</p>	<p>Online application: <a href="http://www.lsa.umich.edu/oip/applying.htm">http://www.lsa.umich.edu/oip/applying.htm</a></p>

## FACTORS TO CONSIDER

**Timing:** The summer programs are open to all students who have completed their first year at U-M.

Preference may be given to upperclassmen in the event of a shortage of space. The programs in Aix, Lausanne, Senegal, and Paris require junior standing.

*"Most necessary challenging experience everyone should have."*

*~Karuna S.*

*Aix-en-Provence '07*

### Satisfying distribution and general LSA requirements with courses taken abroad:

- ◆ **Distribution Credit** – To use a course or courses taken abroad to satisfy Humanities, Social Science, Natural Science, or another distribution category, you should meet with your LSA advisor before going abroad. Take detailed course descriptions or as much information as you can gather to the advising appointment. If you are unable to get this information ahead of time, or if your course elections change while abroad, bring back as much course information as you can, so that your advisor can effectively evaluate the course upon return.
- ◆ **Race and Ethnicity** – It is generally advisable to take R & E class on campus. However, if you want to use a course taken abroad to satisfy this requirement, you need to petition the LSA Academic Standards Board upon return. As part of your petition, you need to provide a syllabus for the course and write an argument explaining how you felt the course met the spirit of the requirement. Petition forms with the R & E criteria are available on the web or at the Newnan LSA Advising Center. Keep in mind that you may not be able to get a syllabus for the course, so you should bring back as much course information as you can—e.g. reading lists, coursepacks, papers, etc. If the syllabus and/or course materials are not in English, contact the Academic Standards Board to see if you need to have them translated. Board members can translate Spanish, French, and German.
- ◆ **Quantitative Reasoning** – To use a class taken abroad to satisfy the Quantitative Reasoning requirement, you need to petition the LSA Academic Standards Board upon return. You need to present a course syllabus as well as materials showing the type of work done in the course (homework, quizzes, exams, and textbooks are helpful.)
- ◆ **Upper Level Writing Requirement** – It's extremely rare for a study abroad course to be approved for Upper-Level Writing. Generally these courses must be taught on campus by U-M faculty. If you want to request an exception, contact the Sweetland Writing Center, but keep in mind that such approvals are not likely granted.

### Counting courses taken abroad towards French

**Concentration requirements:** The French Department maintains a list of updated course equivalencies which indicates courses students have taken on U-M programs and how they satisfied concentration requirements. Keep in mind that all pre-approvals are conditional, and are only final after the advisor has a chance to review course materials (syllabi, course work, etc.) upon return.

Before going abroad, students need to meet with a concentration advisor; appointments are made through the Romance Languages Department (4108 MLB). All programs listed below offer French-language courses that can be used to satisfy French concentration requirements for both the major and the minor (not all courses offered are eligible). The general rule is course content must be 50% or more French or francophone and taught in French. For example, a modern day French politics or francophone Caribbean literature course can be eligible to receive concentration credit while a course in Roman art, although taught in French, cannot. Courses on the European Union usually count towards concentration credit. The requirements of the course (reading, assignments) must be sufficiently advanced to merit upper-division credit.

After returning from a study abroad program, students in non-U-M programs are responsible for applying for transfer credit through the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. Once credits appear on the transcript, students on both U-M and non-U-M programs need to make an appointment with a French advisor to determine which credits may count for the concentration or minor and at which levels. While this decision is not made until credits appear on the transcript, it is important to see an advisor quickly thereafter to determine how many credits remain to be completed for the concentration/minor.

**Funding study abroad:** Declared French majors may apply for study abroad funding through the department; [www.lsa.umich.edu/rll/studyabroad/images/vincenti%20form.pdf](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/rll/studyabroad/images/vincenti%20form.pdf).



## ACADEMIC YEAR, TERM-LONG (FALL OR WINTER), SPRING AND SUMMER PROGRAMS

The Office of International Programs offers over 80 study abroad options. Credit from these programs appear on your U-M transcript as in residence credit and can be used to meet any College requirements. It is wise to discuss your possible programs with your concentration advisor before you select the program right for you.

### QUEBEC, CANADA – SUMMER

Students with at least one year of university-level French enroll in classes offered through the Université Laval in Quebec. Students at the beginning and intermediate levels are placed in intensive language classes, while for those at the advanced levels there are classes focusing on Quebec history and culture as well as advanced grammar and writing courses. Students earn 6 to 8 credits for the six-week program.

*"It doesn't get any better  
than that education-wise."  
~Ann B.  
Paris Art History*

### AIX-EN-PROVENCE, FRANCE – ACADEMIC YEAR AND WINTER

After an intensive language program in September, students enroll in classes at the Université d'Aix-Marseille, where a full range of offerings in the social sciences and humanities is available to them. Both year-long and Winter only options. For the year-long program, students must have completed fifth-semester French at the college level, or its equivalent; for the Winter program, six semesters of college-level French are required.

### GRENOBLE, FRANCE – SUMMER

The six-week summer program offers fourth-semester French (French 232), taught by a U-M instructor, as well as more advanced courses in French at the Centre Universitaire d'Etudes Françaises (CUEF) at the Université Stendhal in Grenoble. CUEF courses, taught in two-week modules and for which students may earn concentration credit, include "Civilisation française contemporaine," and 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century French literature. Students earn 8-9 credits for the program (depending on level of French-language courses).

### INSTITUT D'ETUDES POLITIQUES, PARIS (SCIENCES PO) – ACADEMIC YEAR ONLY

Sixth-semester proficiency in French is required for this exchange program with the world-renowned Sciences Po. As undergraduate students at Sciences Po, Michigan students are enrolled in the International Program in Political and Social Sciences, which focuses on a comparative approach to present-day issues and concerns facing European countries. The required special topics seminars provide additional language training and a chance to perfect both written and oral French skills.

### INSTITUT CATHOLIQUE, PARIS (ART HISTORY) – WINTER

Two semesters of French are required (three semesters preferred) for this program, designed especially for students with interests in art history and the French language. Participating students will take three courses, each of which may be counted towards both the concentration and the minor in the History of Art. Students have an unprecedented opportunity to study directly from works of art housed in any number of Parisian museums. Students earn 16 in-residence U-M credits for the term.

### DAKAR, SENEGAL – WINTER

After a week-long orientation in Dakar, where they are housed with local families, students take regular classes, in French, at the Université Gaston Berger de St. Louis. They also take tutorial classes in Wolof language and complete an independent study project, with fieldwork, culminating in a 30-50 page paper.



### LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND – ACADEMIC YEAR AND WINTER

Students may enroll in a full range of courses at the Université de Lausanne; this program is especially recommended for students with a second concentration or minor in the sciences and wishing a less structured program than that at Aix. The Université de Lausanne offers a wide range of coursework in the humanities, social sciences, theology, and natural sciences. To be eligible, students must have completed French 235 or equivalent.

## NON-U-M STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

Students considering non-U-M study abroad programs for French concentration credit should consult internet materials and the Department of Romance Languages & Literatures (4108 MLB). Students should be aware that not all non-U-M programs offer courses for which students may obtain upper-division credit.

