

# STUDY Abroad

UNIVERSITÉ PAUL VALÉRY (MONTPELLIER III)

Beginner to Advanced French Language Program

# FRANCE

with



## LOCATION

Only 6 miles from the Mediterranean coast, Montpellier is a vibrant city with a large university population. Montpellier also offers a rich medieval history and a unique mélange of Mediterranean cultures.



## PROGRAM DETAILS

This program offers intensive French language and culture courses at the Institut d'Etudes Françaises pour Etrangers (IEFE). Benefits include on-site orientation, excursions during the semester, organized activities, and tutor assistance. Students also choose additional electives that are taught in French and designed for American students. Course options include Grammar, Phonetics, Politics, Area Studies, Literature, and Art History. Students with advanced language skills can take one or two regular university courses in French.

The program includes a minimum of 15 – 16 hours of instruction at the IEFE per week for 13 weeks (195 – 208 hours in total depending on the level). Students usually receive 12 – 13 US credits based on local transfer policies. For an additional cost, ISEP-Direct students for the Fall semester can also join the 3-week pre-session organized before the beginning of the regular semester for other American exchange students.

**Eligibility:** A proficiency test for language level will determine the content of language courses and electives. Placement based on test is non-negotiable.

## HOUSING AND MEALS

Students are generally housed in single rooms in residence halls but may have to share a double room. Meals are not included.

## DATES

Academic year: September – May  
Semester 1: September – December  
Semester 2: January – May

## ISEP-DIRECT COST

ISEP-Direct costs are very affordable. See the ISEP website for current prices.

## WE ARE AN ISEP MEMBER:



The Experience of a Lifetime

[www.isep.org](http://www.isep.org)

# FRENCH LANGUAGE COURSE OPTIONS

## CORE FRENCH LANGUAGE COURSES

All students enroll in one of the following core French language courses. Courses start at complete beginner level. After taking a proficiency test, students are placed in one of the following language levels. Please be aware that the European Frame of Reference (CECRL) may differ from the ACTFL. For more details, see <http://iefe.univ-montp3.fr>.

<b>Basic User</b>	<b>A1</b>	<i>Study of the basics of French and introduction to life in France.</i> Understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed to satisfy concrete needs.
	<b>A2</b>	<i>Study of the basics of French and introduction to life in France.</i> Understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance on familiar and routine matters.
<b>Independent User</b>	<b>B1</b>	<i>Study written and oral practice in modern French and aspects of French civilization.</i> Understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar topics regularly encountered in work, school or leisure.
	<b>B2</b>	<i>Study perfection of written and oral linguistic skills and aspects of French literature and civilization.</i> Understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions. Produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and varying viewpoints.
<b>Proficient User</b>	<b>C1</b>	<i>Study perfection of written and oral linguistic skills, modern French civilization, and history of French literature.</i> Understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognize implicit meaning. Use language flexibly and effectively in a variety of contexts. Produce clear, well-structured, detailed text.
	<b>C2</b>	<i>Study perfection of written and oral linguistic skills, modern French civilization, and history of French literature.</i> Understand virtually everything heard or read. Summarize information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing accounts in a coherent presentation, fluently and precisely.

## CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND ELECTIVES CORRESPONDING TO STUDENTS' LANGUAGE LEVELS

Language training includes cultural activities and electives that are chosen according to the following language levels:

### Levels A1 and A2

Cultural activities are organized by the modern language teachers in each group.

### Levels B1, B2, C1 and C2

Two elective courses must be selected among the five or six courses that are offered in each level. Elective courses include Cinema, Art History, Literature, Literature and Oral Expression, French Culture and Heritage, Southern French Civilization, French of the Social and Economic Fields, Business French, French for Environmental Studies, and Theater.

### Levels B2, C1 and C2

A civilization course (2 hours/week) presents the various aspects of France in modern times.

## ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES OFFERED BY THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE

Students who have been placed in B1, B2, C1 or C2 levels after the placement test are allowed to take up to two additional electives organized by the International Relations Office. The courses are specially designed for American students but are taught in French. Enrollment is based on appropriate language level determined by the placement test. The following are examples of typical courses:

*Littérature Fantastique* (Literature of the Fantastic, 2 hours/week)

*La France dans tous ses Débats* (Issues in French Society, 2 hours/week)

*Vie Politique Française en Europe* (French Politics and Europe, 3 hours/week)

*Histoire de l'Art: Du Moderne au Contemporain* (Modern and Contemporary Art History, 3 hours/week with museum visits)

## ADVANCED ONLY: REGULAR INTEGRATED UNIVERSITY COURSES

Language level and schedule permitting, students may also enroll in one or two regular university courses alongside French students. Regular course information is available from links on the ISEP website.