THE ILLINOIS PROGRAM IN PARIS

The Illinois Program in Paris, established in 1971 and sponsored and supervised by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, offers students an academic year or one semester of study in French language, literature, and civilization. Courses of instruction are given primarily by L'Institut Catholique. The recommended duration of the Illinois Program in Paris is nine months (September - June); however, the Program offers a one-semester option either in fall or in spring. Participation is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors, and to non-French majors as well as to French majors. The Program has a Permanent Residential Director and an administrative center in Paris.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Students are placed in groups according to their proficiency level from a placement test given at the end of the semester before going abroad. There will be an orientation upon arrival in France before classes start.

Institut Catholique (All levels)
This is a French language school that bears the Catholic name for its location in historic Paris and not for any religious base to its program. The school helps students with setting up conversation exchanges with French people and it arranges group meetings for students of the same level to practice their French at the school. The classes are small, with no more than 25 for big seminars and less than 12 for language sections. L'Institut Catholique also gives the students the opportunity to work on a school publication, another extracurricular activity that encourages you to practice your French. Advanced students will also be able to take some courses with French students at Paris-Diderot Paris VII-La Sorbonne or at the Catho.

Excursions
In addition to regular academic work, the program includes excursions, such as a trip to the Loire Valley, and/or shorter trips to Chartres, Vaux-le-Vicomte, Monet's home in Normandy, and so on.
HOUSING

Three types of housing are available: (1) home stay with a French family; (2) French dormitory lodging; (3) independent housing.

(1) Home Stay
Students interested in staying with a family should understand that sometimes he/she will take their meals with the family and sometimes will only have kitchen privileges. Sometimes the student is integrated into the family (ideal) and sometimes the family simply rents a room.

(2) Dormitory lodging
Various dorms are used; they are scattered throughout the city to place students in a French-speaking environment.

Meals
Each student is introduced to the government-subsidized student restaurants during orientation.

INTERNERSHIP AND SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

IPP is now offering a new service to help students enrolled in the program find internship and service learning opportunities during their time in Paris. If interested, before your departure you will be put in contact with the advisor in the Paris office. You will be guided through each step of the search and application process. IPP has agreements with organizations which work with our students on a regular basis. The office can also attempt to meet special requests. Under certain conditions, students can obtain credits for the experience.

SUPERVISION

Students enrolled in the Illinois Program in Paris will be under the supervision of the program director, who is employed by the University of Illinois. During the spring semester, students are required to take 2 or 3 courses offered by professors hired by the IPP Director. All of these courses are at the 300 level. If students are not able to take these advanced classes they will take courses at their level at the Institut Catholique.

TRANSPORTATION, COSTS, AND FINANCIAL AID

Transportation
Trans-Atlantic air transportation is arranged by the program at the most advantageous price available. Students travel to Paris in a group, departing Chicago in mid-September or mid-February. The group is met in Paris by the program director. Students are free to choose their own return trip date.
Costs
The cost of participation in the program varies according to the housing option chosen. Program payments cover tuition, fees, trans-Atlantic transportation, lodging according to the option chosen, and various social and cultural activities. Not included are expenditures for passports, visas, textbooks, and transportation within Paris, personal items such as laundry, entertainment, and any vacation travel plus food. Telephone bills are the responsibility of the students. Most students spend $1,200-$2,225 for meals depending on the housing option chosen, plus at least $1,500 during the academic year for personal expenses.

*UIUC Students automatically receive a $1,500 scholarship per semester abroad.

ELIGIBILITY AND CREDIT

Students applying to the program should have an all-university grade point average of at least 3.0 (in a 4.0 system), and a GPA of 3.0 in French courses. Prior to participation in the program, French majors should have completed French 205, 207, 208 or 209. Applications are invited from both French majors and from students majoring in other fields who have completed at least one year of French. Applications of students who have not fulfilled the stated requirements will be considered on an individual basis, but non-majors with basic French proficiency may apply, as the Institut Catholique offers beginner courses.

A maximum of 36 semester hours may be earned abroad. Credit is established by the Department of French and Italian, and transcripts are furnished by the University of Illinois. While pursuing studies in Paris, students are considered to be in residence at the University of Illinois and the year abroad does not interrupt residency.

IF YOU GO ABROAD FOR A YEAR OR FOR THE SPRING SEMESTER, YOU CANNOT GRADUATE IN THAT SPRING. YOU MUST BE HERE ON CAMPUS IN ORDER TO GRADUATE.

Application Due Dates:

Academic Year 2016-17: February 15, 2016
Fall Semester* 2016: February 15, 2016
Spring Semester 2017: September 15, 2016

For further information, contact:
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*Please discuss the fall semester option with Prof. Alain Fresco (fresco@illinois.edu) before applying. This document contains information that is subject to change.