International exchange programs at Sciences Po Paris

Undergraduate and Graduate Studies

The International Office
(DAIE: Direction des Affaires Internationales et des Echanges)
www.sciences-po.fr/daie/index_daie.htm echange@sciences-po.fr

The Asia Center
http://asia-centre.sciences-po.fr/

The American Center

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Seine
Boulevard Saint Germain

Paris
Poitiers
Nancy
Dijon
Menton

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STUDENT WORKSHOPS BETWEEN NATIONALITIES
Dear Partners and International Students,

As an international research university in the social sciences, Sciences Po is firmly committed to fulfilling its leadership role in the rapidly changing global context of higher education. Attracting the best international students from all over the world is an essential part of this mission.

Each year we welcome a significant number of international exchange students and offer them the opportunity to share their experiences with their Sciences Po counterparts. We are proud to say that one-third of our student body is international.

Helping international students integrate fully is key to ensuring a successful exchange at Sciences Po. Our unique Stage d’intégration (orientation program) enables students to acclimate to life in France and familiarize themselves with our academic methods. For undergraduate students, we have designed the Programme International, offering them the opportunity to be an integral part of our undergraduate program, the Premier cycle. Master’s students may choose from the full range of Sciences Po course offering and benefit from the unique professional orientation of the master’s program, providing them with practical skills and knowledge to prepare for international careers. Sciences Po’s professors and tutors are highly accomplished academics and professionals, many of whom are currently working at the highest levels of responsibilities.

Our urban campus in the heart of Paris enables us to offer students a variety of excellent guest speakers who are current decision-makers in neighboring ministries, international organizations or private companies. We at Sciences Po are convinced that the transmission of knowledge is not enough for understanding the complexity of today’s world. We are therefore committed to overcoming the traditional divide between theoretical knowledge and action, between the learning experience at university and the decision-making process in a professional context.

Over the last years, Sciences Po has gone beyond the role of sharing knowledge and has positioned itself as an actor in the current social and political debate. We have actively taken part in the discussion over the European constitution, while simultaneously pioneering the diversification of our student body. The Convention d’Education Prioritaire has enabled us to recruit excellent students from secondary schools located in the most deprived areas in France, launching the public debate around equal opportunities and social ascension. We have also considerably increased the amount and number of scholarships we grant, enabling excellent students to come and study at Sciences Po, regardless of their social background.

The choice to study internationally is a significant commitment that will provide you with a unique academic, cultural, and personal experience. We hope you will find the time you spend at Sciences Po enriching and rewarding. We in turn are excited to help you realize your academic and professional pursuits. Welcome!

Richard Descoings
President
For over one hundred years, Sciences Po, a leading university for teaching and research in the social sciences, has been training the best young minds for positions of leadership.

As one of Europe’s most competitive universities, Sciences Po prepares its graduates to take their place in international business, multilateral organizations, positions of public responsibility, and other fields of endeavor.

Students are drawn to Sciences Po for its commitment to understanding the contemporary world through a multidisciplinary grounding in the social sciences.

International students in particular stand to benefit not only from the solid training of the core curriculum, but also from Sciences Po’s pedagogical approach, based on constructing concise, convincing and well-structured arguments.

At Sciences Po, students are encouraged to develop critical perspective, self-awareness and greater reserves of both intellectual and moral courage. The solid intellectual foundation of their Sciences Po education will allow graduates to assume high-level responsibilities and meet the challenges of a globalized world.

“A competitor to America’s Ivy League universities or the London School of Economics.”

“The Economist

More than 6,700 students, including 2,200 international students from undergraduates to the doctoral level from over 55 countries

1,400 instructors, academics, and professionals from the business world, public administration and international organizations

250 full-time researchers and faculty members

The richest humanities and social sciences library in continental Europe: 920,000 volumes of books, newspapers, and reviews. 40% of resources in French, 40% in English, 20% in other European languages

An active university press: “Les presses de Sciences Po” releases 30 new publications each year, along with six academic journals of international standing and readership

A unique location: a city campus in the famous cultural district of Saint Germain des Prés, in the heart of Paris

Renowned alumni including: Ingrid Betancourt, Paul Biya, Boutros Boutros Ghali, Paul Bremer, Michel Camdessus, Jacques Chirac, Dominique de Villepin, Christian Dior, Stanley Hoffman, Chandrika Kumaratunga, Pascal Lamy, Jean-Cyril Spinetta, Anne-Claire Taittinger
I really enjoy studying and discussing diverse subjects at Sciences Po with students who soon will become world leaders, and professors from fields as varied as research, journalism and politics.

Tsuyoshi Goroku, Keio University, Japan

As an international center of excellence in the social sciences, Sciences Po is engaged in understanding today’s world through an international perspective. Its global involvement is reflected in its considerable international student population (one-third of the student body) and its partnerships with universities in Europe, the Americas and Asia, including joint and double degrees. Every undergraduate student is required to spend his/her third year studying or interning abroad. As increasing number of courses are taught in foreign languages, and four undergraduate regional campuses offer specific cultural and linguistic identities. Sciences Po’s unique educational approach is ideally suited to students from all corners of an increasingly interconnected world.

Double Master’s Degrees in International Affairs:
The School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) of Columbia University
Moscow State University for International Relations (MGIMO)
The University of Saint Gallen (Switzerland)
The Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi (Milan)
The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

Other Double Master’s programs:
Double Master in Urban Policy with the London School of Economics
Double Master of Public Affairs (MPA) with Columbia University and the London School of Economics
Double Master in Finance with the Warsaw School of Economics

Double degrees in Law:
Master in Global Business Law with Paris 1-Panthéon Sorbonne
Master in European Economic Law with Université de Strasbourg III
Joint Jurist Doctor/Master of Law Program with top partner US Law Schools and Paris 1-Panthéon Sorbonne

Sciences Po has established a joint curriculum in the sciences and social sciences with Université Pierre et Marie Curie-Paris VI. In addition, Sciences Po offers a Double MPH in International Relations with a specialty in Political Science with the Freie Universität Berlin. It has also established a Dual PhD in Intercultural and International Studies with Northwestern University Chicago.

Joint and Double Degrees
Mastering foreign languages, developing an intimate knowledge of other cultures, learning to work with multicultural partners: these are essential skills in today’s job market. This is why Sciences Po has developed joint and double degree programs with several first-rate international partner universities.

Joint BA/MA
Students complete the majority of their undergraduate studies at their home institution and the two following years at Sciences Po, earning an undergraduate degree from their university of origin and the master’s degree from Sciences Po. Through these innovative programs, students complete a fully integrated double degree, benefiting from the distinctive approaches of two leading international universities.

Columbia University, New York
Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore
Freie Universität Berlin
Pontificia Universidad Católica de Santiago de Chile
Pontificia Universidad Católica de México
Fudan University, Shanghai (starting in 2006)

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THE UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENCE: THE PROGRAMME INTERNATIONAL

Sciences Po's international student body plays a central role in the university’s learning community. Each year, more than 400 students from over 270 universities enroll in the Programme International, which is an integral part of Science Po's Premier Cycle, the regular undergraduate program.

In the educational tradition of Sciences Po, the Programme International provides students with a broad grounding in social sciences, emphasizing comparative studies in an international context. Areas of focus include: contemporary history, economics and business, international relations, law, European studies, political science and sociology.

“Sciences Po is committed to attracting a dynamic, diverse international student population. The university offers a wide range of courses that correspond to individuals’ areas of study and linguistic abilities, emphasizing flexibility in course options and languages.”

FRANCIS VÉRILLAUD, VICE PRESIDENT OF SCIENCES PO AND DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

ENROLLMENT
Students must have completed at least four semesters of undergraduate studies prior to enrolling in the Programme International. The vast majority of students come to Sciences Po for the whole academic year, but they can also enroll in the program for one semester only. Most home universities attribute credit for marks obtained at Sciences Po, though this is something students should check before leaving home.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR
The calendar year is organized in two 14-week semesters, running from early October to February and from late February to June. The first and last day of classes for each term varies slightly each academic year. For specific dates, please refer to the Sciences Po website. The Programme International is preceded by an optional orientation session.

Fall semester or Semester 1
Classes begin in early October and end in early February. There is typically a week of vacation over Christmas.

Spring semester or Semester 2
Classes begin in late February and end in late June. There is typically a week of vacation in April during spring break, as well as other national holidays celebrated during this period.

Examinations
Each semester is followed by an examination session.

TYPES OF COURSES AT SCIENCES PO

The Programme International allows students to become familiar with the university’s educational and methodological approach for which it is internationally reputed.

Lectures in French (Cours magistraux) and English
Class size in lecture courses in French varies from several dozen to a larger lecture hall setting. Each lecture course has a teaching assistant who is a specialist in the discipline and is available to offer support and help students organize their work. Lecture classes in English have a maximum enrolment of 60-70 students. The last half-hour of each session is reserved for questions and discussion. These courses place a strong emphasis on written work.

Tutorial groups (Conférences de méthode)
These interactive classes of around 20 to 25 students are linked to a lecture course. These classes are at the heart of a Sciences Po education. Emphasis is put on the methodology for which Sciences Po is so well-known. This method teaches students how to focus on what is essential, organize and prioritize arguments, and write and verbalize ideas clearly and simply. Active participation is mandatory and emphasis is placed on oral expression.

Electives (Enseignements électifs)
Electives meet for two hours a week and are organized in the same way as the tutorial classes described above. However, they are not related to a lecture course. Emphasis is put on a close interaction with the professor.

“...I am happy that I made the decision to go abroad to study and even happier that that choice was Sciences Po. I’m grateful for Sciences Po’s love and attention towards helping with the ‘Carte de Séjour’. The activities planned at the beginning of the year were not only a good way to discover different parts of Paris but also a challenge: to get to know the other international students which made our time in Paris an experience of its own. I am so grateful for this experience. I also got to know the French students and how they perceive the education here.”

Julie Wilson, Princeton University, USA
Sciences Po’s Journalism School also offers a semester-long program in English for undergraduate Journalism majors.

**Assessment**
Final grades are based on continuous assessment as well as final exams.

- Lecture courses in French: 2/3 of the grade is based on continuous assessment, 1/3 on final exams
- Lecture courses in English: grades are based on both continuous assessment and final exams
- Elective courses: grades are based on continuous assessment only

**Deadlines for enrolment**

- Application deadline for fall semester: mid-April
- Application deadline for spring semester: mid-November

All application documents should be sent by the home university to our International Office (DAIE). Sciences Po reserves the right to refuse students who do not comply with its requirements. The application process generally takes five to eight weeks from the date an application is received.
Sciences Po has four campuses outside Paris, each with a unique cultural identity. Located in Dijon, Menton, Nancy and Poitiers, they reflect the desire to further increase the diversity of the student body as well as academic programs and languages. These campuses offer the same core curriculum and methodological training as in Paris, and introduce a strong comparative approach to their respective regions of focus.

As an alternative to Paris, it is possible for undergraduate exchange students to enroll in one of the regional campuses.

- The East European campus in Dijon offers a curriculum focused on European affairs with particular emphasis on new EU member states from Central and Eastern Europe. Located in Dijon, the capital of the Burgundy region which is renowned for its winemaking and gastronomy, the student body is made up primarily of French students and students from Eastern and Central Europe (25 nationalities were represented in 2005). Courses are in English and French, and students learn at least one of the languages of the new EU member states. http://www.est-europe.sciences-po.fr/

- The Middle Eastern and Mediterranean campus is located in Menton, a town on the French Riviera minutes from Monaco and the Italian border. Students are primarily from France, the Middle East, Mediterranean and Gulf countries. Courses are in French, Arabic and English http://www.mom.sciences-po.fr/

- The Franco-German campus in Nancy offers a trilingual curriculum (French, German, English) in the Lorraine region of France, an area traditionally open to the German-speaking world. A city with a student population of 90,000, Nancy has a long tradition of higher education, and is close to Strasbourg and the European Parliament. The student body is made up of 59 nationalities, with students coming primarily from French and German-speaking countries. http://www.franco-allemand.sciences-po.fr/

- The Ibero-American campus in Poitiers focuses on Spain, Portugal and Latin America. The student body is primarily made up of Latin American and European -including French- students. Courses are in French, Spanish, Portuguese and English. Students represent about one-third of the population of Poitiers, a medium-sized city rich in history in the west of France. http://www.iberoamerica.sciences-po.fr

On the regional campuses, students’ varied backgrounds foster a uniquely international community, facilitating a full integration of the student body. These small, supportive environments (favorable student /faculty ratios and limited numbers of students) promote positive learning conditions.

"Studying in Sciences Po is definitely an eye-opener for me. The courses are interesting, through-provoking and practical, which value very much. You follow current events closely in class and it helps you a great deal to understand the issues and dynamics of what goes on outside of campus. The experience, friendships and the learning are something never to forget. That’s what makes Sciences Po so special. I’m really thankful for being here, really thankful for everything here, every bit and piece. I treasure them for my lifetime.”

JOSEF TANG, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
Students pursuing a graduate degree at a partner university may choose to complete part of their master, usually one semester, at Sciences Po. Exchange students can choose from the full range of Sciences Po master’s courses: they are integrated into the student body like all other degree-earning Sciences Po students and are treated as full-time students. An optional orientation session in the fall is designed to provide French language and methodological instruction and an introduction to living in Paris. Exchange students at the master’s level may take up to 15 ECTS credits per semester.

In order to enter at the master’s level, students must have successfully completed a B.A. or at least three full university years (6 semesters or 180 ECTS credits). They should consult their home universities’ policies regarding course requirements.

Over 2,600 master’s students
30% international students
Eleven concentrations, each of which prepares graduate students for specific professional skills

- Communications
- Culture and Media Management
- Economic Law
- European Affairs
- Finance and Strategy
- Human Resources Management
- International Affairs
- Journalism
- Judicial and Legal Careers
- Public Affairs
- Urban and Regional Strategies

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES: MPhil and PhD

The Sciences Po Ecole Doctorale (Doctoral School) has a strong interdisciplinary tradition covering four major academic disciplines for which Sciences Po is well-known: political science, sociology, economics and history. The School reinforces international partnerships by organizing encounters between young doctoral students, guided by their professors, and their counterparts abroad. Each year, the Doctoral School hosts numerous foreign students in the MPhil programs and doctoral tracks coming from partner universities such as Yale, Princeton, Harvard, Waseda University and the Freie Universität Berlin.
**A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS AT SCIENCES PO**

**LIVING IN PARIS**

Sciences Po is an urban campus composed of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century buildings in the heart of Paris. Its neighbors include ministries, embassies, corporate headquarters, publishing houses, the Assemblée nationale... In short, many centers of French decision-making. Sciences Po benefits from this proximity to leaders from the private and public spheres who often address students on a variety of issues. In addition to the wealth of advantages that Sciences Po’s setting affords, students are also exposed to the strong cultural flavor of the Saint Germain district: renowned cafés sheltering a new generation of philosophers, art galleries and architecture, shops and cinemas, and restaurants where editors lunch and left-bank denizens dine. World-class historical and cultural attractions (the Louvre, Notre Dame, Musée d’Orsay, the Sorbonne, the National Museum of the Middle Ages-Cluny) are also within walking distance.

**STUDENT LIFE**

Exchange students are treated as full-time Sciences Po students and thus have full access to all campus facilities, including computer rooms, libraries, cafeterias, the cyber-cafe, and the careers and placement service.

All of Sciences Po’s main buildings are equipped with Wifi internet access. Students also have access to a university email account. Sciences Po is committed to making all necessary accommodations for disabled students.

Some 60 diverse student organizations currently exist at Sciences Po, and reflect issues such as politics, culture, environment, religion, gender and sexual orientation, ethnicity and development. International students are encouraged to take advantage of these initiatives which help to enrich the Sciences Po experience.

The Sports Association (“AS”) at Sciences Po also offers 33 different sports as diverse as soccer, tennis, handball, yoga, salsa, kung fu, modern dance, capoeira or crew.

Sciences Po has an active student arts association, the “Bureau des Arts,” which organizes regular cultural events such as theatre festivals, poetry readings and musical concerts. It also provides student discounts to renowned Parisian cultural performances.

**STUDENTS TAKING THE LEAD**

- **La semaine des arts:** each April, the Bureau des Arts organizes a week-long festival celebrating the creative expression of students at Sciences Po. This festival features art exhibits, concerts, performances and competitions.

- **Journées Internationales:** for two days each November, this event celebrates Sciences Po’s international flavor with speakers, conferences, films, music, food, and cultural performances. These International Days are an opportunity for international students to share their own cultures and learn about internationally-minded organizations and associations.

- **Eurocosmos:** each spring, the Nancy students organize a week-long conference event on European issues and invite the other Sciences Po campuses to participate. This series of workshops, panels and lectures draws over 200 participants and is open to a larger audience.

- **Criterium:** the intercollegiate sports competition takes place each year in March in a different city in France. For three days, Sciences Po students represent their institution in a wide variety of sports.

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"Sciences Po definitely marks all of its exchange students forever. Sciences Po is intellectually stimulating and welcoming, challenging and fun. Always unforgettable."
conferences & debates

Sciences Po regularly organizes numerous talks with world leaders, policy makers and expert practitioners who share their ideas with the student community.

Some of the renowned guest speakers include:

Valdas Adamkus,
President of Lithuania

Edouard Balladur,
Former Prime Minister of France

Michel Barnier,
French Minister of Foreign Affairs

Lee C. Bollinger,
President, Columbia University

Stanislas Shushkevich,
Former Head of State of Belarus

Howard Davies,
Director, London School of Economics and Political Science

Eduardo Duhalde,
Former President of Argentina

César Gaviria,
Secretary-General of the Organisation of American States (OAS)

Gilberto Gil,
Culture Minister of Brazil

Valéry Giscard d’Estaing,
Former President of France

Mikhail Gorbachev,
Former President of USSR and Russia

Valery Giscard d’Estaing,
Former President of France

Mikhail Gorbachev,
Former President of USSR and Russia

Stanley Hoffmann,
Professor, Harvard University

Joschka Fischer,
German Minister of Foreign Affairs

Pascal Lamy,
General Director of the WTO

Salomon Lerner,
President of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Peru

Francois Mitterrand,
President of France

Mario Monti,
President of Bocconi University

Miguel-Angel Moratinos,
Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs

Romano Prodi,
Former Italian Prime Minister, President of the European Commission

Jordi Pujol,
President of the Generalitat of Catalonia

Jean-Pierre Raffarin,
Prime Minister of France

Condoleezza Rice,
US Secretary of State

Jorge Sampaio,
President of Portugal

Joseph Stiglitz,
Professor, Columbia University

Edmund Stoiber,
Bavarian Minister-President

Yulia Tymoshenko,
Prime Minister of Ukraine

Tabaré Vázquez,
President of Uruguay

*The professors from all disciplines are simply the best the country has to offer, and accompanied by the remarkable international character of the school (one third are foreign students). Sciences Po offers a unique learning opportunity. There are daily conferences with high-profile ministers and professionals which permit students to be on the cutting edge of current affairs.*

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Elizabeth Howard, University of Cape Town, South Africa

The above titles correspond to the speakers’ functions at the time of their visit at Sciences Po.
The staff of Sciences Po’s International Office is available to assist exchange students throughout the year. In particular, a special team assists international students with all official paperwork required for a student residency permit.

Academic Support

Throughout the year at Sciences Po, special attention is paid to the specific needs of international students. An orientation program takes place in September, which includes instruction in French language, Sciences Po’s specific methodology, and the historic, economic, political and sociological dimensions of France and Europe, as well as social and cultural activities. A shorter orientation program in February is offered for exchange students coming for the spring semester only.

Support is also offered in the form of workshops led by doctoral students who serve as tutors. They provide a personalized methodological support to international students for their exposés, case studies and essays.

Housing

Sciences Po offers a special service that assists and advises students with finding accommodation [www.sciences-po.fr/admissions/logement/](http://www.sciences-po.fr/admissions/logement/). The state-subsidized “Caisse d’Allocation Familiale” (CAF) provides rent rebates for all students, regardless of their nationality or income, if their residency permit lasts more than four months.

Career Services

Sciences Po Avenir is the career and placement service that helps undergraduate and graduate students find internships according to their field of studies and interests. Services include individual counseling, resume referrals, mock interviews, conferences and workshops. Sciences Po Avenir holds many recruitment events throughout the year, including job fairs where students can meet with international recruiters from a range of fields and companies. [http://www.sciences-po.fr/avenir/](http://www.sciences-po.fr/avenir/)

“...At Sciences Po, students have a rich variety of courses to choose from, all of which respect the institution’s method of continuous assessment and active student participation in class. Between studying, researching and attending conferences, Sciences Po helps students make the most of the activities in Paris: sports, concerts, performances, festivals, visits...”

ANDREA RAFANELLI, LA SAPIENZA UNIVERSITÀ DEI STUDI DI ROMA, ITALY

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