



Middlebury

Middlebury Schools Abroad Evaluation for the 2008-2009 Academic Year/Spring Semester

Evaluating your period of study abroad is one of the most valuable services you can render Middlebury College and future students planning to study abroad, and it is one of the most important ways you can help us maintain the highest possible standards. For this reason, until this form is submitted to International Programs and Off Campus Study a hold will be placed on official Middlebury transcript requests for Middlebury College students who studied at Middlebury Schools Abroad. Please note: If you studied abroad for two semesters on two different programs, you must submit two separate evaluations.

The staff of International Programs and Off Campus Study welcomes the opportunity to hear about your experiences abroad; please feel free to stop by or call and talk with us!

This document contains respondents between 1 and 6 inclusive.

Home Institution

- Middlebury College
- Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

Your year of (expected) graduation:

- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012
- 2013

What was the period of your study abroad?

- 2008-2009 Fall Semester
- 2008-2009 - Spring Semester
- 2008-2009 - Academic Year
- 2007-2008-2009 - Spring then Fall Semester

Given that overseas educational systems differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on how you learned, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment.

The most significant change was from the analysis- and processing-oriented environment of Middlebury to an expectation of what can best be described as "information vomit." Evaluation and instruction were oriented more towards mastering swaths of detail than broader conceptual information. This certainly improved my attention to detail in my work, and I tried to make the changes harmonious with my prior methods, rather than clashing.

AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please Comment:

In many ways, I think globalization has homogenized french and american cultures, particularly with regard to the ways young people communicate and establish social orders. I found that social scenarios played out very similarly with my french agemates as with american ones. Interactions with authority and elders, such as professors, differed much more widely.

How has study abroad influenced your understanding of your host culture? In what ways has it influenced your perceptions of American culture?

The influence is mostly subtle, but I can cite one small specific example. My time there showed me a culture dedicated, in a pragmatic way, to improving the systems that govern their way of life. In minor but meaningful ways, the french embrace things like the fight against climate change with concrete action, instead of lip service.

In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

My self-reliance, which I already considered a strength, became my greatest asset. Without all the support structure provided by Midd, I like to say that I learned "how to live as a real human being." I approached each problem from the angle of "what do I personally have to do to resolve this?"

How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

It mostly just reinforced a huge desire to travel a lot. Cliché, but true.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

	Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please comment on your response to the question above.

The homestay was fairly non-integrated. I talked with my host family only rarely. This is not to say I didn't enjoy the arrangement, I loved it, it just wasn't very integration-friendly.

Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

	Not helpful		Somewhat helpful		Very helpful
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

I sang in the university chorale, which was a fantastic experience. I expected to meet mostly students there, and while I was surprised to find the majority were middle-aged, it was nonetheless a great way to meet people, particularly in a context with low "pressure to socialize," let's say.

What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

I expected to improve more than I did in my listening comprehension. Even at the end of my stay, I often had to ask people to repeat themselves several times, though that is partially related to a hearing problem that causes me to have difficulty filtering noise.

Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

.....

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

.....

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Chimie Quantique (Quantum Chemistry)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers Faculté de Sciences

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Tests, Lab Reports

Please describe the course content:

Quantum mechanics and their applications to chemical reactivity.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture, accompanied by the professor working through excercises on the board, as well as two computer-based labs.

Other comments about this course:

.....

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Chimie Minérale (Inorganic Chemistry)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers Faculté de Sciences

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Tests, Lab Reports

Describe course content

Crystal theory, acid-base chemistry, phase chemistry, coordination chemistry.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture with slides, and separate periods of ensemble work with a different professor on problem sets, as well as five wet-labs.

Other comments about this course:

The lecture prof was horrible, the discussion prof wonderful.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Synthesis and Modeling in Organic Chemistry

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers Faculté de Sciences

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Lab Reports (5 computer plus a final wet-lab writeup), oral presentation, notebook evaluation

Describe course content

Wet-lab: study of the effects of a catalyst on grignard addition to an enone. Computer lab: various applications of physical molecular modeling, both mechanical and quantum.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Independent, supervised lab periods

Other comments about this course:

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

France Under Louis XIV

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Middlebury School in France, in coordination with a History professor at the Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Oral exam, final written test

Describe course content

Demographics, geography, sociology, and political history of France under the Sun King.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Small-group lectures

Other comments about this course:

.....

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

Were your on-site staff concerned about your general well being and success, and approachable?

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

Femininity among men is not well-tolerated in Poitiers, and I encountered a surprising amount of bi-phobia both there and in my travels. Generally, people are harmless, though, and lose interest in harassing you pretty quick, with some exceptions.

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

Poitiers is a nice place to live, but not terribly engaging if you're not into the bar scene. That's what the social life revolves around, and I wasn't a big fan. It is a lovely town and a good school, though.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

Yes

No

N/A - Did not attend meetings

ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

Talking with students returning from Poitiers was invaluable, by far the best part of orientation.

Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

Your year of (expected) graduation:

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

What was the period of your study abroad?

2008-2009 Fall Semester

2008-2009 - Spring Semester

2008-2009 - Academic Year

2007-2008-2009 - Spring then Fall Semester

Given that overseas educational systems differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on how you learned, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment.

Students in the French educational system are notably less individualistic than their American equivalents. They decide their specific field of study immediately and remain with the same group of students for the duration of their three-year undergrad program (when they typically choose to continue with a two year graduate study). For this reason, the university struck me as being similar to high school. Students are expected to complete assignments in accordance with specific forms and are frequently prompted by the professor on subject matter and even on the "best" ideas and ways to organize. While this was difficult for me, once I eventually accepted the god-like status of my professors with whom one is NOT to argue, I learned to appreciate this form of communal learning which, while it lacks the aspect of discussion and personal application, is effective at covering a great deal of material. That being said, students are frequently encouraged to present unique ideas in oral presentations. I had an oral presentation or an oral exam in every class. These help with public speaking skills and provide the impetus for students to read additional material pertaining to the course outside of the required two or three books. It was not easy for me to clearly and calmly express myself in French in front of a room of native French speakers, but I was glad for the opportunity to step outside of my "Please, please, just let me write it" box as well as to interact academically with other French students in planning group presentations. All in all, the greatest benefits for me were in seeing how I might push myself more at Midd to work outside of class on discussion preparation and how potentially unimportant the emphasis in the American educational system to individually succeed might be.

AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please Comment:

While Western Europe is similar to the United States in most ways, France, more than the rest of the countries I've visited, puts a distinct emphasis on being French. What I mean by this is that, from my perspective, the idea of "being French"--whether this involves working late hours for the government or having an eight-hour meal--comes before being an individual entity. Within my host family, I was struck by the shared services among neighbors. For instance, one day we all went cherry picking next door and saved half of the cherries for us and half for them. In the US, people are more likely to sell their excess goods than to make a group activity of picking and eating them. I loved how technology hadn't quite caught on (they have it, they just prefer not to use it) because it gave everything a greater old-world feel.

How has study abroad influenced your understanding of your host culture? In what ways has it influenced your perceptions of American culture?

Before studying abroad, I pictured the French as being a slightly pretentious, laid back people. I was amused when I was told that Americans are arrogant and overly proud and that I carried myself too confidently to be mistaken for French. That being said, I felt extremely welcomed by the people in Poitiers and was pleasantly surprised each time I entered a store by the attention and care given by the workers to help me both find my items as well as to acclimate myself to French organizational and product usage differences. I was also given the opportunity to go to several cultural events at which I learned the importance of tradition and the value of community, especially at a time of such economic crisis.

In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

For approximately four months of my studies in Poitiers, the university was on strike, so this semester certainly taught me patience. It was extremely aggravating and depressing to have to go to the university every day to see whether or not the buildings were still located and to learn about recent student activity including protests and new votes for class suspension. During this time, I had to force myself to separate the friends I was making from the majority of the students who were putting the entire semester on halt. Of course, on the up side, I was also able to use this unexpected "free time" (I still had a lot of outside of class work to do) to tour the area. I found my independence indispensable in this time as well as my fervor for meeting new people. My editing skills in English also came in handy several times as I shared with French students learning English while they helped me improve my French grammar. I also feel as if the laissez-faire attitude of the French has given me a better perspective on what is really important and do not believe I will stress as much over my grades in my upcoming senior year.

How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

Due to the strikes, I was forced to take a couple of classes in which I had little initial interest, and the resulting grades from these courses have definitely motivated me to 1) take only courses which are interesting to me my senior year and 2) to do well in order to protect my GPA. In terms of career, I have become more interested in searching for a job that would incorporate my French language skills. While I was dead set on working in publishing before my time abroad, I have recently been exploring such possibilities as a career with the CIA or other international governmental agency. My personal goals have been impacted in the sense that I now have a strong desire to pick up more languages; there is nothing more important than being able to clearly communicate, despite cultural differences.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

					Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
	Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please comment on your response to the question above.

My host family was truly a blessing. I went grocery shopping with my host mother as well as out to see houses which she was trying to sell (She is a real-estate agent.) They truly welcomed me into their home and their family as I dined with them each evening and frequently went to outside events--such as a Russian dinner theatre at a chateau and a comedy improv show-- with them. My host mother greatly helped me with improving my grammar skills, and my host father loved to sit at the table long after the meal to discuss politics, his work, and the French life in general. They all pushed me to strengthen my French understanding in every area, and my host sister, Caroline, even invited me to stay with her for ten days in Paris to get a taste of the city life. My friends staying in the dorms were not awarded nearly as many opportunities to integrate into the culture, and I simply cannot say enough good things about my host family experience.

Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

While I made several casual friends in my classes, the strikes disturbed my ability to connect with any of them in a one-on-one basis.

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

	Not helpful		Somewhat helpful		Very helpful
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

Meli-Melo, the international student organization, provided me with several French friends. The second night on campus, I went to an event where I was extremely pleased to meet several French freshmen from the Université de Poitiers with whom I formed strong friendship bonds. I also became close with members of my church and the Christian life organization on campus because I am comfortable in these settings and had much to share in terms of faith. I also went out on a limb and took a Ju-Jitsu course which was the first type of self defense I've ever practiced. The physical focus allowed me to stop worrying about my verbal skills; that being said, I learned words for a lot of specific body parts, and I made several friends with whom I would go out to lunch after class. In my opinion, extracurriculars are ten times more important than classes in terms of meeting locals because they stress interaction rather than individual learning, and they allow students the chance to talk together rather than back and forth at a professor.

What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

Again, probably my greatest help in learning the language came from my host family, mainly because they were not afraid to correct me. I also had a couple of "language buddies" who would speak at me in English while I responded in French. These types of arrangements allowed me to not only practice my French conversational skills but to speak with an emphasis on proper sentence construction and grammar. Watching movies and listening to professors and reading books in French were all also helpful, but in terms of really learning the language, I found speaking it to be the most beneficial. To be honest, I did not set a goal for personal progress in the language, so I cannot say whether it was greater or less than expected, but I am now 100% comfortable discussing any topic in French whereas, when I first arrived, I was panicked about even having to properly introduce myself to my host family. One thing that might be helpful for future students is a list of common slang and "new-age" vocabulary to look over before heading overseas. While I didn't bother asking when I didn't know a term, it did get bothersome, and I know that some of my shier friends would have much preferred at least partially understanding slang before being through into a social setting.

Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

.....

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

.....

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

French Contemporary Biographical Fiction

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers and oral exam

Please describe the course content:

While I thought that this course would be about non-fiction, it was actually an examination of the different methods which a writer uses to incorporate life stories, be they real or false, into his/her work. It was, in my opinion, relatively worthless, but it did provide me the chance to read several interesting contemporary pieces.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture format with limited discussion and occasional student presentations

Other comments about this course:

.....

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

16th-20th Century French Literature

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers and oral presentation

Describe course content

survey of French literature from the sixteenth to twentieth century

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

There were only four people in this course, so even though I was not enamored by the readings, I enjoyed the course because it provided the opportunity for deep literary analysis.

Other comments about this course:

Due to the strikes, this was initially a mandatory tutoring course which turned into a mandatory class for course credit about two months in. At the time, I was still taking five additional classes which do not appear on this survey because they were not completed.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

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	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Pastoral Rewritings

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers

Describe course content

a comparison of Claude Simon's and Cormac McCarthy's works with those of antiquity such as by the poet Theocritus

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

During the strikes, the course was conducted via a blog and a stream of e-mails which, while different, aided my abilities to converse via text. I also loved the professor allowed us to read additional material and write on it instead of sticking strictly to the two major authors studied in the course (For instance, I worked with Flannery O'Connor and McCarthy for my final).

Other comments about this course:

By far my favorite course, this class stressed discussion and deep analysis of several works. The professor was entertaining and educated, and he was truly excited by the subject (which isn't always true of French professors who are forced to teach in certain departments).

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

France under Louis XIV

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

oral exam and written in-class exam/essay

Describe course content

demographical and historical study of France in the time of Louis XIV

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Once again, there were only four people in this class, so while it was strictly a lecture course, I was able to offer my own ideas and to frequently discuss concepts with the professor.

Other comments about this course:

My second Midd replacement course, this class had intense hours and dense material, but it was overall very interesting and extremely well taught.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

Comp Lit: History in Novels

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers and presentation

Describe course content

understanding historical societies through historically plausible, but not necessarily historically accurate novels. emphasis was placed on The Radetzky March and Dr. Zhivago

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Presentations in this course were done several times: once in front of the class, once in front of the professor after having been modified according to her notes on the class presentation, and once in a written format (with additional changes from the previous two times). While this was tedious, it did help me learn the material, and it gave me a strong sense of what French professors are looking for in a "dissertation." (Part of the university experience was learning the differences between one type of essay and another.)

Other comments about this course:

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #6

2nd Level Translation

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

exams and homework

Describe course content

English to French and French to English literary translations

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Other comments about this course:

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #7

3rd Level Translation

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

exams and homework

Describe course content

English to French and French to English literary and journalistic translations

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Other comments about this course:

With translation, you either know the correct phrases or you do not. The best preparation for this course was my everyday life in France. That being said, I enjoyed becoming more comfortable with on-the-spot translations and learned how to clearly express my ideas in a translation without breaking from the author's original meaning/intention.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

Were your on-site staff concerned about your general well being and success, and approachable?

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

I answered no, but my advice is to be open. The French LOVE talking politics, but they will literally say whatever they think with NO regard to being politically correct, but as long as you are willing to stick with it and back up your points and accept their views, they will accept yours. I frequently had people say, "Oh, you are an American. Yeah, Barack Obama! Yes we can!" I loved that I was there at a time when everyone was excited about America's new steps but could see how a different choice (i.e. McCain) could have resulted in tension. The best way to integrate is to be easy going.

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

I had several friends studying in Paris, so I was able to get a good idea of both programs and felt as if Poitiers did a much stronger job of truly incorporating us into the French culture and lifestyle. Being directly enrolled in all of my courses with other French students was invaluable in making this experience for me. While the campus is not extremely attractive, the smaller size allows students a closer relationship with the professors, and the town of Poitiers is also the perfect size for socializing and getting to know a variety of people well.

What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

Yes, France strikes frequently and for just about any reason. Yes, it was frustrating. But yes, I would do it all over again. Being integrated into another university's academic system taught me a considerable amount about what international students face in the US and gave me a new appreciation for Middlebury. Do it. It's worth it.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

- Yes
- No

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

- Yes
- No
- N/A - Did not attend meetings

ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

Most of the pre-departure meetings just summed up what was in the brochures and were, therefore, not extremely helpful. The Poitiers-specific meeting was very valuable because I had the chance to speak with students who had studied there and got to ask several important questions. I think it would be valuable to do that right from the beginning: have students say specific things about what they did while abroad, where they lived, and what they learned. Even specifics that "waste" a little time are better than generalizations that don't explain anything important.

Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

Your year of (expected) graduation:

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

What was the period of your study abroad?

2008-2009 Fall Semester

2008-2009 - Spring Semester

2008-2009 - Academic Year

2007-2008-2009 - Spring then Fall Semester

Given that overseas educational systems differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on how you learned, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment.

The French style of education forces students to do more for themselves. While the courses may be "easier", living life in France is much harder and less regulated and regimented than at Middlebury. Time was not ENTIRELY USED UP by coursework, as often happens at Middlebury on campus. Instead, learning occurred in a sneaky way, without me knowing it was happening. Really, that is how learning should be. I felt that I learned equally from my classes and from my life. I count myself lucky that the School in France does not require its students to write huge term papers for the director in addition to the required coursework, as the School in Germany does. I learned by living. In the second semester, this kind of self-guided learning of the French culture and literature was brought to the fore by a general strike that virtually stopped university activity for two months. I made the decision to plunge into the life of a community of French antique car enthusiasts, and came away with a real understanding of the French culture, and outstanding fluency to boot. But that's the kind of thing you don't make students do. That's the kind of thing you LET them do, by giving them free time to poke around in France. All Middlebury students are curious enough and enlightened enough that, given the opportunity of a little free time, they will use it to learn. And by and large, like me, most of my fellow students in Poitiers also dove into French culture, particularly during the university's strike in spring semester.

AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please Comment:

It is almost impossible to get Americans to understand. And believe me, I've tried. I may endeavor to live in France, after my experience there.

Secularism is a good place to start. You know, real secularism, as opposed to the American brand of fake secularism seen across most of the country save New England. The French supposed "lack" of a work ethic is another place. In France, working is not something you're supposed and expected to like. It is something you do so that you can live. You don't sell your soul to anybody, much less your employer. Family ties are very very strong in France. I witnessed several very large family gatherings while I was there. At one, parents were telling dirty jokes to their parents, with children and grandchildren playing nearby. Later, a 70-year-old man danced on the table with his granddaughter. A couple of teenaged boys joined in the song. I was holding a baby and eating cheese. This would never happen in the USA. With French families, as you can see, there is no age-restriction.

Finally, I think their culture is, thanks to a very comprehensive educational system, quite literate. You can have a conversation about literature with just about anybody you meet off the street!

I could go on listing reasons that French culture is different, but this survey is supposed to take 45 minutes.

How has study abroad influenced your understanding of your host culture? In what ways has it influenced your perceptions of American culture?

See above answer to 11.

In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

I found my all-around versatility to be of most use. To succeed in a foreign country, I often needed to combine language knowledge with general knowledge of how machines worked, of metallurgy, of culinary arts, and of the academic subjects I studied, biology and literature. Study abroad is a really good way to learn how to live effectively, because there's nobody there to babysit you when you screw up. The school of hard knocks works well, both to drill language into you, and to make you effective at living.

How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

It made me want to move to France, and teach English there. I may or may not actually do this, but it made me want to. I never actually considered moving to a foreign country (let alone a place where it doesn't snow!) but now I can see myself doing it. If not, I am still more encouraged to go for a doctorate in French literature at a US university. French culture is part of me now, and I must make it a part of my life.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

	Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please comment on your response to the question above.

Well, if you stay in the Résidence Michel Foucault all the time, of course it's going to be isolating. But Michel Foucault has the great benefit that I can go out whenever I like. The greatest benefit within the residence hall was that it offered me the opportunity to talk to the leader of the International Students' Club whenever I wanted to (he lived right above me). The secretary/caretaker of the residence hall was also a great resource for information about the town and surrounding facilities.

What I really liked about it was that it offered me freedom that I would not get from a homestay. I came and went as I pleased, and was hardly ever home. And I found my own "family" outside the residence hall, in the form of the Citroën car club (a group composed largely of older people) and in my classes. For a person like me, the reliable internet connection was of great use as well, allowing me to find information for travel, tourism, and opportunities for cultural integration.

Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

.....

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

	Not helpful		Somewhat helpful		Very helpful
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

I was a member of the Citroën car club, Les 2cv du Poitou. It's not for everybody. It's probably not for anybody other than me. Poitiers is full of associations and clubs, though. There is a fair every September, some weekend, at Parc de Blossac, called La Journée des associations, which is very good for finding the perfect club for whatever your interest is. That's where I found the Club 2cv du Poitou. Turned out to be one of the best experiences I ever had.

In addition, I was able to do a lot of things with the family of a French girl who had stayed with my family during high school. This was another invaluable experience for me.

What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

Progress was less than I expected, until about two months before I had to leave. This was when I went to Marseille to visit the family of a French exchange student who had stayed with my family in high school. I was a bit tipsy from alcohol the whole weekend that I was there, and spoke French like I never had before, joking, arguing, and really using French in a non-academic setting with people I was good friends with. This was when my abilities in the language really took off. That weekend, I stopped having to think about what I was saying--and that's how French should be. After this, I impressed myself quite a bit with my ability to speak in French. As for writing, listening, and reading in French--these took care of themselves in classes, and kind of slowly improved, much unlike my speaking ability, which showed little signs of improving until this weekend in Marseille.

Advice to the program: The classes give the students the knowledge required to read, write, and listen. But speaking will only be mastered among friends (and with a bit of alcohol).

Advice to the students: Don't go to bars--try to get yourself in a situation where you can actually hear and speak intelligently to people. Adopting a surrogate family is good, or joining a club where you can joke around a little with fellow members. Avoid situations that are too regimented. You need to let the language flow.

Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

Biology program is great. So's literature.

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

Botany department is a bit crazy.

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Développement des organismes (third year lecture)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers, SFA

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Lab report and final exam (written)

Please describe the course content:

Developmental biology of animals and some plants, heavy focus on hormonal control and structures

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lectures, power points, and handouts.

Other comments about this course:

Lab was engaging and thought-provoking.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Histoire Littéraire 19e-20e siècle

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers, Lettres&Langues

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Papers, essay exam

Describe course content

Literature course, covering two books very extensively, "Le Ventre de Paris" and "La Route des Flandres"

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture and discussion, class size was very small for me, but varies section to section.

Other comments about this course:

Excellent prof, Luc Vigier.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Histoire d'europe, moderne (ancien regime)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers, Lettres&langues

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Oral final exam

Describe course content

European history, from early renaissance to the industrial revolution, with focus on France

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture/power point

Other comments about this course:

Good solid class, Fabrice Vigier teaches it well.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Histoire Européen, médiéval

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Final oral exam

Describe course content

History of Europe, with a focus on France, from stone age to Renaissance

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture, some power points when the professor could figure out how to operate the projector.

Other comments about this course:

Another solid course, not as good as Moderne, but usually offered along side it.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

Panorama du règne Végétal

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers, Lettres

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Describe course content

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Other comments about this course:

Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

	Not helpful		Somewhat helpful		Very helpful
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Were your on-site staff concerned about your general well being and success, and approachable?

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

- Yes
- No

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

it's a nice place. Nice town, nice classes, nice France. The countryside is beautiful, and the town is full of history. Who could ask for more?

What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

If you go for the full year, you'll probably like it. If you go for half a year, you'll also probably like it. OCS will probably tell you to go the whole year, but really you don't know what you're missing if you don't, so you won't care. First semester doesn't usually have strikes, while second semester can drag a bit and can be broken up by strikes.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

- Yes
- No

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

- Yes
- No
- N/A - Did not attend meetings

ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

The meetings were useful, sure--in that they were better than nothing. But please, we don't need to know how we'll go through culture shock! I would have liked some training in how to get around in Paris, and maybe a map of Poitiers!!! I went into Poitiers totally COLD, and so did everybody else. We all had bumpy starts with lodging and food and whatnot. Give us some advice about THAT, like where to buy pots and pans and food and bedsheets, and how the damn buses work.

Bottom line: less touchy-feely, and more practical.

Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

Connecticut College

Your year of (expected) graduation:

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

What was the period of your study abroad?

2008-2009 Fall Semester

2008-2009 - Spring Semester

2008-2009 - Academic Year

2007-2008-2009 - Spring then Fall Semester

Given that overseas educational systems differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on how you learned, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment.

I don't think I truly benefited from the different academic environment because of the strike. With constant uncertainty it is hard to adjust. Inside the classroom there was a lot more lecture and rote learning than exploration and taking things to the next level where you figure out how things apply. I benefited from the courses I took at the Lettres et Langues school - I really like the translation courses - but the Science courses were not at all what I expected. There were no textbooks, I had to type on my laptop to get all the information down since we were basically given our textbook through power point slides, and the labs were looking at, labeling, and replicating slides made in the 1950s. The actual lab work does not start until Graduate work in France.

AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please Comment:

In France the object seems to be replication and pure memory. In the U.S. there is much more of a focus on application, problem solving, and thinking outside the box.

How has study abroad influenced your understanding of your host culture? In what ways has it influenced your perceptions of American culture?

I feel as though I understand France's viewpoint in different issues. They have a more relaxed view and lifestyle. Even though I became fed up with the strike I understood why they did it.

I feel that if Americans made a more concerted effort to appreciate France's culture and try to 'fit in' for a lack of a better expression then Americans wouldn't have such a bad reputation. They really seemed to appreciate my effort to speak French and assimilate.

In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

Before coming to France I had never truly liked by myself and been responsible for everything. By doing this I really grew as a person - becoming a lot more confident in my ability to be independent. My personal characteristics I found the most useful during my time abroad were my ability to go with the flow, my tenacity on important issues, and my enjoyment in the simple things such as cooking my own meals and exploring.

How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

After my abroad experience I truly appreciate the educational system in the United States. I still want to continue on the same academic track toward the same career. My personal goals no longer include being comfortable with being independent.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Apartment on the second floor of someone's house

Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

		Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please comment on your response to the question above.

Although I really liked living on the second floor and having my own kitchen - at the same time I had very little integration at the same time. My landlady was very nice and invited me to eat with her several times but other than that I really did not sample French cuisine and was more apt to stay at the apartment and study than venture out. Without classes for so long I lost the vital part of integration into the French culture.

Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

the strike was VERY detrimental

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

I couldn't participate because my classes were constantly being rescheduled for different times due to the strike. I could not make the commitment of extra-curriculars without knowing my schedule ahead of time.

What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

My only classes on French was translation both oral and written. Hence, I did not do much reading or writing. I can speak much more quickly and with more ease than when I arrived and feel as though I have improved in my listening comprehension.

Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

translation classes - written and oral

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

science - completely based on memorization of facts , no textbooks

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Translation - written 200

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

final translation

Please describe the course content:

french to english and english to french - based on packet given

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

I liked the teaching style - however just one grade is hard after working all semester

Other comments about this course:

.....

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

translation - spoken 300

At which institution/university did you take this course?

poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

spoken translations done throughout the course

Describe course content

professor spoke in english or french and you gave the approximate translation

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

I liked it - could have been a course in the US

Other comments about this course:

.....

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Important people in Biology - 20th century

At which institution/university did you take this course?

poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

exam, paper, two powerpoint presentations

Describe course content

look to title

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

there were three different professors all with different teaching styles

Other comments about this course:

.....

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Sexual reproduction in animals and plants 200

At which institution/university did you take this course?

poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

3 questions on the final exam, lab grades

Describe course content

look at title

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

there were three different professors all with different styles - but all was lecture

Other comments about this course:

I did not feel it was a good way to test us just by giving three questions at the end of the course!

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

Adaptive Responses 300

At which institution/university did you take this course?

poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

1 question on the final exam, lab grades

Describe course content

adaptations different animals have made and the different nutrients and use and how

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

there were two different professors - it was ALL lecture - you copied the powerpoint slides as fast as you could

Other comments about this course:

It was a bad way to test us by giving one question for the final - the topic was something we had just discussed for about two minutes in class!!

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

Were your on-site staff concerned about your general well being and success, and approachable?

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

- Yes
- No

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

the strike, I did not like the science program at all

What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

know about the science programs and how they function before going - they are VERY different

ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

I appreciated that the staff had patience with me - I'm not from Middlebury and wasn't very prompt with getting things done

Students planning on taking Science should be better informed with potential classes and how the system works. Paoli only knows the people in one department of biology and there are so many other departments to take courses with.

How did you learn of the Middlebury program? (Check all that apply.)

- searching the web
- a friend who attended a Middlebury program
- a friend (who did not attend a Middlebury program)
- a sibling or other family member
- a faculty member at my college/university
- by attending the Middlebury Language Schools
- a study abroad fair
- a study abroad office/adviser
- a news article

Other

I knew Middlebury is known for languages and I wanted to be part of a program that I would be able to take courses in Science with French students.

Why did you choose this particular program and site?

Poitiers is the one place where I could study Biology.

Did your expectations of the program as advertised before you went abroad match the reality of your experience during your study abroad?

- Completely matched
- Was what I expected for the most part
- Was somewhat different from what I expected
- Was vastly different than what I'd expected

Comments

the strike

Did you receive acceptance and pre-departure information in a timely fashion?

- Yes
- No

Did you find the mailings and online resources useful?

- Yes
- No

Home Institution

- Middlebury College
- Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

Your year of (expected) graduation:

- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012
- 2013

What was the period of your study abroad?

- 2008-2009 Fall Semester
- 2008-2009 - Spring Semester
- 2008-2009 - Academic Year
- 2007-2008-2009 - Spring then Fall Semester

Given that overseas educational systems differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on how you learned, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment.

In my first semester in Poitiers, I was pleasantly surprised by the learning environment; I had heard that professors in Europe are less available to students and just generally aren't as interested in students' opinions, but, for the most part, I had good relationships with my professors - in fact, the only professor I ever felt didn't really value my opinion was British. The biggest difference in the system that I noticed was that, because all students follow very specific "parcours" for their major, groups of students tend to have all their classes together. In that respect, it was very much like being back in high school, and it was hard to break into these cliques since I took classes in several different areas. It was also like high school in that getting students to participate in class was like pulling teeth; I often felt I was the only one raising my hand (although one French student did compliment me on my participation and said she wished she spoke up more). The thing that made me most uncomfortable was the professors' complete lack of compunctions at talking about specific students' grades and performance in front of the rest of the class. More often than not, I was called out as a (surprisingly) good example - I felt like I was used to shame the French students into performing better because they were letting themselves be surpassed by a foreigner. However, I actually enjoyed most of my lecture-based classes; the professors were generally good lecturers. I didn't really enjoy the TD sections where each class was dominated by a student presentation, though when I had to give presentations it was a very good exercise for me - French students are completely unintimidated by oral work, something I think is lacking from the American system. The biggest impediment to my educational experience was the strike during the spring semester, but I think that results more from French culture in general than the academic environment in particular.

AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please Comment:

In practice, things mainly work pretty much the same in France and in the US - the differences are mainly in attitude. Perhaps I'm reading too much into personal experience, but it seemed to me that the French have a reflexively critical attitude towards anything you're discussing - their impulse is to point out the flaws. I very much enjoyed the importance of food, though some differences were amusing - I enjoyed shocking people by telling them that in the US, people eat in their cars. The most obvious cultural difference I noticed was the political activism that was constantly taking place in the form of strikes and protests, though it seemed to be carried out by a small but vocal minority.

How has study abroad influenced your understanding of your host culture? In what ways has it influenced your perceptions of American culture?

When I arrived in France, I was bemused by the aggressive atheism of most people I met, but a class on the history of religion in France as well as personal experience with many people I met led me to better understand the historical factors that created this attitude. I was also disabused of some of my Hollywood notions about France as a country of romance and old-fashioned provincial culture. Now that I'm back in the US, I have a tendency to notice how rushed we are and how careless we often are about what we eat, what we drive, how we use electricity, etc. However, I also have occasion to appreciate some of those same differences, especially when it comes to opening a bank account or similar. I also better appreciate the comparative lack of strictures in our university system and the higher regard the US has for the liberal arts, even as I think with envy of how little French students pay for their education.

In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

Out of necessity, I became much better at talking to strangers, making phone calls, and handling administrative tasks like opening a bank account and getting a residency permit - tasks I've always had my parents' help with at home. I also became a much more patient person, since my life was structured around a bus schedule (I lived in a suburb with infrequent bus service) and I often had a lot of time to spare wherever I was. Patience and independence were definitely the virtues I needed (and consequently developed) for a successful study abroad experience.

How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

It confirmed my belief that academic study is its own reward, simply by opposition to the very career-oriented studies of most French students. I was also introduced to the field of translation, which I find very rewarding and hope to pursue further, possibly in the career capacity.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

	Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please comment on your response to the question above.

My host family was very welcoming and helpful and took wonderful care of me, and I certainly gained a more international perspective on many issues, though not necessarily a uniquely French one - my host mother grew up in Zimbabwe, and we often had visitors from other countries (Zimbabwe, China, England, etc.). I was able, as I had requested, to go to church with them - they are a Protestant family - and the experience of evangelical Christian culture mixed with French culture was extremely interesting.

Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

.....

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

	Not helpful		Somewhat helpful		Very helpful
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

I participated in a weekly student Bible study, along with my host sister, and made several good friends through it. Although I didn't often see them outside the study, it did give me a chance to discuss complex issues in French and was therefore very helpful in improving my oral skills.

What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

My listening skills improved the most, out of sheer necessity; my writing skills experienced the most improvement after that. My reading skills were already fairly strong, so only improved in conjunction with new vocabulary I learned. My speaking skills improved the least, much less than I expected - I actually felt they were stronger in the fall, when I was consistently attending classes and extracurricular activities. In the spring, due to the strike, I spent the majority of my time by myself or with other Middlebury students and consequently spoke much less French than I had in the fall. This was partly my own fault, but the stress and frustration of the continuing strike didn't motivate me to seek out other ways to practice on my own.

Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

.....

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

.....

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

History of Religion in France, 16th-18th centuries

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Final exam

Please describe the course content:

Overview of French history in the 16th to 18th centuries, focusing on the religious factors that influenced it

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

3 hour lecture course once a week

Other comments about this course:

Intro level

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Comparative literature: mimesis

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Oral presentation, final exam

Describe course content

Study of the concept of mimesis as it pertained to many different areas of literature

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lectures, student presentations

Other comments about this course:

(2nd year course) This course only met for the first month, after which the professor was on a leave of absence; however, we still took the final exam.

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Comparative literature: the New Comedy

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Oral presentation, paper

Describe course content

Comparison of Goldoni's "La Locandiera" and Lessing's "Minna von Barnhelm" as examples of the genre of "new comedy"

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lectures, student presentations

Other comments about this course:

2nd year course

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

History of medieval literature

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Midterm, final exam

Describe course content

An overview of French medieval literature, from the "chanson de geste" to the beginnings of the novel

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture

Other comments about this course:

Intro level

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

Representations of America

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Midterm, final exam

Describe course content

A study of Jean de Léry's novel "Histoire d'un voyage en la Terre du Brésil" as a gateway to a study on French colonial perspectives on the new world

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture

Other comments about this course:

Intro level

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #6

2nd year translation (thème and version)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Two in-class translations (one thème, one version)

Describe course content

In-class correction of translations prepared at home

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

In-class correction of translations prepared at home

Other comments about this course:

2nd year course

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #7

3rd year translation (Thème)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Two in-class translations

Describe course content

In-class correction of translations prepared at home

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

In-class correction of translations prepared at home

Other comments about this course:

Upper level

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #8

3rd year translation (version)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Two in-class translations

Describe course content

In-class correction of translations prepared at home

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

In-class correction of translations prepared at home

Other comments about this course:

Upper level

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #9

Euclidian and Hermitian spaces

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Midterm, final, take-home assignment

Describe course content

Advanced linear algebra over the real and complex numbers

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

One weekly lecture course and two weekly courses in which we worked example problems

Other comments about this course:

2nd year course

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #10

Introduction to Probability and Statistics

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Midterm, final exam

Describe course content

Basic concepts from probability and statistics

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture, example problems

Other comments about this course:

Intro level

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #11

Aspects of contemporary French biographical literature

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Université de Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Paper, oral exam

Describe course content

Examination of biographical and autobiographical elements in contemporary French literature, both fiction and nonfiction

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture, class discussion

Other comments about this course:

Upper level

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

Were your on-site staff concerned about your general well being and success, and approachable?

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

I was fairly often yelled at by men on the street or approached by men when I was sitting in public places; my best advice is to ignore them when possible and remove yourself from the situation as quickly and politely as possible. I never had to make a scene and was never followed or physically harassed, so it was more an annoyance than a major concern.

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

Poitiers is a very nice, small, friendly city to live in, and I would recommend it to anyone who wants to study in France but feels intimidated by Paris.

What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

This is your best chance to live abroad in an affordable manner and with a support system behind you in case something goes wrong. You should do it. I enjoyed living in Poitiers, and while the university was nothing special, it did allow me to continue studying math while abroad. It was a good opportunity to experience another culture and all the history that seems to just be lying around Europe waiting for you to trip over it.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

Yes

No

N/A - Did not attend meetings

ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

The information provided was mostly helpful, but in many different places (emails, websites, handbooks, single-page handouts) - I would have appreciated a more complete handbook and fewer additional sources, but I understand that may not be feasible.

Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

Your year of (expected) graduation:

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

What was the period of your study abroad?

2008-2009 Fall Semester

2008-2009 - Spring Semester

2008-2009 - Academic Year

2007-2008-2009 - Spring then Fall Semester

Given that overseas educational systems differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on how you learned, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment.

It was interesting and challenging to adapt to the academic environment in France. I enjoyed experiencing firsthand how French universities are run, I found that classes were often very large lectures with minimal professor/ student interaction.

AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please Comment:

When I first arrived in France, I felt that the culture was completely different from the American culture that I was used to and now, after learning more about the french culture, I feel that the two cultures are not very different.

How has study abroad influenced your understanding of your host culture? In what ways has it influenced your perceptions of American culture?

In conversations with people in France, I was able to reevaluate my own perceptions of American culture and hear how other people (from various other cultures) view the French.

In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

I found that independence was very useful personal characteristic during my time abroad. Spending the year in France also helped me have a greater understanding about life in Europe

How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

My study abroad experience has increased my interest in learning about different cultures and I would like to spend more time in France later in my life.

What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

					Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
	Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please comment on your response to the question above.

The first semester I had minimal interaction with my host family (in Poitiers) but the second semester I spoke with my host family (in Paris) daily and often ate meals with them.

Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

	Not helpful		Somewhat helpful		Very helpful
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

I played in the Poitiers University orchestra and participated in tennis, water polo and swimming classes.

What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

I think that my french language abilities greatly improved during my time in France.

Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

In Poitiers I found the history department very strong.

Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

.....

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Translation

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

weekly homework and two exams (one translating french to english and one translating english to french)

Please describe the course content:

We alternated translating texts from french to english and from english to french weekly

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

We would prepare a text for class and spend the whole period going over the text

Other comments about this course:

I really enjoyed the translation class but the teacher had trouble controlling the class at times

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Interpretation

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

homework and two in-class oral exams

Describe course content

on the spot interpretation

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

A teaching assistant spoke in english and the professor spoke in french and after a professor spoke a student volunteered to translated what they had said

Other comments about this course:

I found this classes challenging and interesting

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

History of Europe

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

two oral exams

Describe course content

the class covered the middle ages and modern history

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

There were two professors for this class one covered the first half and the other professor covered the second half. Both lectured and gave oral exams at the end of the semester

Other comments about this course:

I found oral exams very challenging but learned a lot from the experience

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Religious History of France

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

one exam at the end of the semester

Describe course content

We covered religious history in France (focusing on early religious history)

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

The professor lectured every week and was always very organized in his lectures and took the time to make sure that everyone understood what he was trying to teach

Other comments about this course:

This was my favorite class while studying abroad

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

History of Cinema

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

one exam at the end of the semester

Describe course content

We covered the history of cinema (often focusing on events occurring in America)

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

We watched clips of films and listened to lectures

Other comments about this course:

I found this class challenging because many of the students were more knowledgeable about cinema

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #6

French Cinema

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

one paper and one exam

Describe course content

We covered a thirty year span of french cinema in the 20th century

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

We watched clips of films and discussed both the clips and the important people in the field of french cinema

Other comments about this course:

This was the most challenging class that I took in Poitiers

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #7

French Literature

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Poitiers

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

one paper and one exam

Describe course content

We read several books by french authors and discussed them in class

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

The teacher lectured and often called on students for their opinions

Other comments about this course:

.....

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #8

Social Psychology

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Psychologues Praticiens

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

one oral presentation and one exam

Describe course content

this class was the second half of a class that began in the fall

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

The teacher lectured and every week students gave presentations

Other comments about this course:

great professor

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #9

Psychology and Work

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Psychologues Praticiens

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

one paper and one exam

Describe course content

We discussed different types of contracts for french employment

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Weekly lectures and presentations by students

Other comments about this course:

.....

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #10

Clinical Approaches

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Psychologues Praticiens

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

one paper and one exam

Describe course content

We talked about important people who formed the field of clinical psychology

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

The professor lectured weekly and we watched movie clips

Other comments about this course:

.....

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #11

20th Century French Literature

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Paris III

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

two papers (one in class)

Describe course content

We read three books and the teacher lectured about them in class

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

The class was disrupted by the strike

Other comments about this course:

this class only met when the school was not being blocked by students

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #12

Translation

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Paris III and Centre Madeline

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

translation (two at Paris II and four at Centre Madeline)

Describe course content

We worked on translating texts from french to english and english to french

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

The teachers went over texts that we prepared beforehand

Other comments about this course:

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

	Not helpful		Somewhat helpful		Very helpful
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Were your on-site staff concerned about your general well being and success, and approachable?

- Not concerned or approachable
- Approachable, but not concerned
- Concerned, but not approachable
- Somewhat concerned and approachable
- Very concerned and approachable

Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

- Yes
- No

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

I really enjoyed my time abroad

What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

I would tell other students to consider spending a whole year abroad and not just one semester

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

- Yes
- No

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

- Yes
- No
- N/A - Did not attend meetings

ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

It was interesting to talk to other Midd students who had studied aboard the year before