

France

Bordeaux
Paris
Poitiers

FRANCE



2009-2010

The School in France

C.V. Starr-Middlebury
Schools Abroad

C.V. Starr ~ Middlebury School in France

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Please note that information in this Handbook is subject to change.

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Bienvenue à l'Ecole en France de Middlebury College!

Our School in France staff has prepared this Handbook to assist you as you make preliminary preparations for study in France. You should find answers to many of your basic questions in the material presented here, and so we ask that you review it very carefully and bring it along when you leave for France.

Along with its benefits, life in France can present challenges. It requires independence, maturity, and a sense of humor that will enable you to accept the inevitable difficulties and frustrations that go along with living in a different culture.

Succeeding in your experience will require effort on your part to do everything you can in order to speak French and integrate into French culture. Honoring Middlebury's Language Pledge is essential for you to take full advantage of your experience in France.

You should not expect France to have the same academic nor social environment you are used to in the U.S. For example, libraries in France have limited hours so all-night studying isn't possible, and you may encounter an environment with less structure and efficiency than you're used to back home.

Your experience in France will test you in new ways and will reward you beyond your expectations, but again, it will require concerted effort, independence, and extreme flexibility on your part. We stress the importance of "informed participation" throughout the study abroad experience, and, beginning with this Handbook, we will do all that we can to help you with this approach.

As you prepare for your experience abroad, please remember that our office welcomes your emails, phone calls, and inquiries. Likewise, our staff is always available to talk to your parents and answer any questions they may have regarding your time in France.

Best wishes as you head out on this exciting adventure! We look forward to meeting you in France soon!

Sincerely,

David Paoli
Associate Professor and Director
School in France

PRE~DEPARTURE

APPROXIMATE PROGRAM COSTS

The following is an estimate of program costs for full and half-year students as of March 2009. Please remember that Middlebury College only bills you for the tuition portion (and the \$1,100 per semester study abroad fee for Middlebury College students); the remaining expenses will be out-of-pocket. Amounts that you will pay in the U.S. are given in dollars; expenses you will incur while in France are given in Euros. Figures may vary depending on individual lifestyles and situations. Please note that the “personal” figure covers only some basic necessities and is not intended to include students’ discretionary spending (e.g., travel through Europe). For financial aid budgeting purposes, the exchange rate is 1€ = \$1.40. Fluctuating exchange rates make advanced planning of costs challenging. We advise that you overestimate your costs to accommodate these fluctuations.

*Full Year		<u>Paris</u>	<u>Bordeaux</u>	<u>Poitiers</u>
Tuition		\$20,500	\$20,500	\$20,500
Room/Board		€ 9,500	€ 6,300	€ 5,000
Books/Supplies		€ 300	€ 300	€ 300
Personal		€ 3,500	€3,000	€ 2,500
Travel from NY		\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300
Visa/Residency permit		\$210	\$210	\$210
Study Abroad Fee (Midd only)		\$2,200	\$2,200	\$2,200
Approximate Total		~\$42, 830	~\$37,650	~\$35,130
* Semester				
Tuition		\$10,250	\$10,250	\$10,250
Room/Board		€ 4,750	€ 3,500	€ 2,500
Books/Supplies		€ 180	€ 180	€ 180
Personal		€ 1,750	€ 1,500	€ 1,250
Travel from NY		\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300
Visa/Residency permit		\$130	\$130	\$130
Study Abroad Fee (Midd only)		\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100
Approximate Total		~\$22,130	~\$20,030	~\$18,280
* Paris Spring Semester (5 months)				
Tuition		\$10,250		
Room/Board		€ 5,700		
Books/Supplies		€ 180		
Personal		€ 2,100		
Travel from NY		\$1,300		
Visa/Residency permit		\$130		
Study Abroad Fee (Midd only)		\$1,100		
Approximate Total		~\$23,950		

*Middlebury College will bill for the bolded figures only. All others will be paid directly by the student out-of-pocket.

EXPENSES

Keep in mind that the amount of money you spend ultimately depends on the lifestyle you choose. Remember to budget extra for first month's expenses in France (rent, museum passes, transportation, personal items), and if you are planning to travel before or after your program. Plane tickets are often more expensive than in the U.S., although several airlines now offer low fares for specific travel periods, which you might be able to benefit from. Train travel has remained relatively inexpensive.

If you are a big spender in the U.S., bringing more money would be a good idea. Students who plan on regularly sampling the nightlife should budget extra money for taxis. Public transportation usually stops operating at 1:00 a.m.

STUDENT VISAS

All students are required to obtain a student visa before they enter France (except those with European Union passports). Additionally, all students are now required to register with **CampusFrance** prior to applying for a student visa for France. After you register online and submit all necessary fees and documentation, CampusFrance will send you an "attestation" that you must take (+ your CampusFrance ID number and proof of payment) to the French Consulate when you apply for your student visa.

For more information about CampusFrance, please visit: <http://www.campusfrance.org/>

Visas are affixed into passports and must be obtained at a French Embassy or Consulate. Students should apply for a **long stay (over 90 days) student visa**. Do not apply for a regular long stay visa; follow the **student** requirements instead. Semester students' visas will state '*dispensé de titre de séjour*'. This means that they are exempt from having to apply for a residency permit or '*titre de séjour*' in France. A six month visa cannot be extended to a full year visa.

Full-year students will be required to obtain a residence permit or '*titre de séjour*' once they arrive in France. Their visas will state, "*titre de séjour à solliciter dès son arrivé.*" Once a residency permit is issued, students need to make sure the dates cover the entire period of study in France. It is possible for U.S. citizens to remain in France during the summer as a tourist, up to 90 days, after the residency permit expires. The School in France will help students complete their application for the residency permit, upon arrival in France.

The French Consulate in Boston knows our program and is prepared to handle applications expeditiously provided the dossier is complete. You must apply for your student visa in-person, and **you must schedule a visa appointment online**. Be sure not to leave this until the last minute. Given past visa application delays, we recommend that you begin the process at least 2 months prior to departure. In any event, be sure to find out well ahead of time what documentation you will be required to provide to the consulate in question. **Important: It is impossible to obtain a student visa in France.**

If it is not convenient for you to obtain your visa through the French Consulate in Boston, you should contact the consulate office located closest to your permanent address to find out what the requirements are and how to proceed. The following list is current as of March 2009.

FRENCH CONSULATES IN THE U.S.

Atlanta

The Visa Office of the Consulate General of France can only accept applications from residents of Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Students enrolled full-time at a college/university located in this jurisdiction meet the residence requirement.

Consulate General of France in Atlanta

Prominence in Buckhead
3475 Piedmont Rd NE, Suite 1840
Atlanta, GA 30305-2987
Tél: (404) 495-1660
Fax: (404) 495-1661
[http://www.consulfrance-atlanta.org/
visas@consulfrance-atlanta.org](http://www.consulfrance-atlanta.org/visas@consulfrance-atlanta.org)

To schedule an appointment online, please visit:
<http://www.consulfrance-atlanta.org/spip.php?article1169>

Boston

The Visa Office of the Consulate General of France can only accept applications from residents of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Students enrolled full-time at a college/university located in this jurisdiction meet the residence requirement.

Consulate General of France in Boston

31 St. James Avenue
Park Square Building Suite 750
Boston, MA 02116
Tél: (617) 832-4400
Fax: (617) 542-8054
[http://www.consulfrance-boston.org/
visas.boston-fslt@diplomatie.gouv.fr](http://www.consulfrance-boston.org/visas.boston-fslt@diplomatie.gouv.fr)

To schedule an appointment online, please visit:
<http://www.consulfrance-boston.org/spip.php?article1415>

Chicago

The Visa Office of the Consulate General of France can only accept applications from residents of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, and Ohio. Students enrolled full-time at a college/university located in this jurisdiction meet the residence requirement.

Consulate General of France in Chicago

205 N. Michigan Ave, 37th floor
Chicago, IL 60611
Tél: (312) 327-5200
Fax: (312) 327-5201
[http://www.consulfrance-chicago.org/
visas@consulfrance-chicago.org](http://www.consulfrance-chicago.org/visas@consulfrance-chicago.org)

To schedule an appointment online, please visit:
<http://www.consulfrance-chicago.org/spip.php?article661>

Houston

The Visa Office of the Consulate General of France can only accept applications from residents of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Texas. Students enrolled full-time at a college/university located in this jurisdiction meet the residence requirement.

Consulate General of France in Houston

777 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 600
Houston, TX 77056
Tél: (713) 985-3297
Fax: (713) 572-2904
<http://www.consulfrance-houston.org/>
visa@consulfrance-houston.org

To schedule an appointment online, please visit:
<http://consulfrance-houston.org/spip.php?article468>

Los Angeles

The Visa Office of the Consulate General of France can only accept applications from residents of Arizona, California (Counties of Mono, Inyo, Kings, San Luis Obispo, Kern, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Orange, Riverside, Imperial, San Diego), Colorado, Nevada (Counties of Clark, Lincoln, Nye, Esmeralda and Mineral), and New Mexico. Students enrolled full-time at a college/university located in this jurisdiction meet the residence requirement.

Consulate General of France in Los Angeles

10390 Santa Monica Blvd. Suites 115 & 410
Los Angeles, CA 90025
Tél: (310)235-3200
Fax: (310)479-4813
<http://www.consulfrance-losangeles.org/>
visas@consulfrance-losangeles.org

To schedule an appointment online, please visit:
<http://www.consulfrance-losangeles.org/spip.php?article385>

Miami

The Visa Office of the Consulate General of France can only accept applications from residents of Florida, Bahamas, Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, Turks and Caicos, US Virgin Islands, and Caymen Islands. Students enrolled full-time at a college/university located in this jurisdiction meet the residence requirement.

Consulate General of France in Miami

Espirito Santo Plaza
1395 Brickell Avenue, Suite 1050
Miami, FL 33131
Tél: (305)403-4150
Fax: (305) 403-4151
<http://www.consulfrance-miami.org/>
visas@consulfrance-miami.org

To schedule an appointment online, please visit:
<http://www.consulfrance-miami.org/spip.php?article959>

New York

The Visa Office of the Consulate General of France can only accept applications from residents of Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Bermuda. Students enrolled full-time at a college/university located in this jurisdiction meet the residence requirement.

Consulate General of France in New York

934 Fifth Ave. (between 74th & 75th st)

New York, NY 10021

Tél: (212)606-3600

Fax : (212)606-3620

<http://www.consulfrance-newyork.org/>

visa@consulfrance-newyork.org

To schedule an appointment online, please visit:

<http://www.consulfrance-newyork.org/spip.php?article500>

San Francisco

*The Visa Office of the Consulate General of France can only accept applications from residents of Alaska, California (**except** the counties of Imperial, Inyo, Kern, King, Los Angeles, Mono, Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Ventura), Idaho, Montana, Nevada (**except** the counties of Clark, Esmeralda, Lincoln, Mineral), Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, Hawaii, Pacific Islands under U.S. Jurisdiction (including Guam). Students enrolled full-time at a college/university located in this jurisdiction meet the residence requirement.*

Consulate General of France in San Francisco

540 Bush Street

San Francisco, CA 94108

Tél: (415) 397-4330

Fax: (415) 433-8357

<http://www.consulfrance-sanfrancisco.org/>

visa@consulfrance-sanfrancisco.org

To schedule an appointment online, please visit:

<http://www.consulfrance-sanfrancisco.org/spip.php?article817>

Washington, DC

The Visa Office of the Consulate General of France can only accept applications from residents of Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, DC, and Pennsylvania. Students enrolled full-time at a college/university located in this jurisdiction meet the residence requirement.

Consulate General of France in Washington

4101 Reservoir Road, NW

Washington, DC 20007

Tél: (202) 944-6195

Fax: (202) 944-6148

Fax: (202) 944-6212 (visas)

<http://www.consulfrance-washington.org/>

visas@consulfrance-washington.org

To schedule an appointment online, please visit:

<http://www.consulfrance-washington.org/spip.php?article440>

REGISTERING WITH THE U.S. EMBASSY

In addition to securing a visa, all students who are U.S. citizens are required to register themselves with the U.S. Embassy in their host country before departure from the U.S. In the event of international, political, or family emergencies, or in the event that a passport is lost or stolen, the U.S. Embassy will be much better able to assist registered students. Please visit the Department of State's website and follow the links to register:

<http://travelregistration.state.gov>.

Registration is fast and costs nothing. Please print the confirmation page after you have registered and keep it for your records. Students of other nationalities should check to see if it is possible to register with their own embassy in France.

TRAVEL TO FRANCE

Airline Reservations

Students are responsible for their own travel arrangements. We recommend using a student travel agency for flexibility and the best rates. Some agencies to investigate, among others, are:

STA Travel: <http://www.statravel.com>

StudentUniverse: <http://www.studentuniverse.com>

Travel CUTS: <http://www.travelcuts.com>

Please consult the School in France calendars in the back of this handbook and on the web at <http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/sa/france/calendar> **before planning your travel dates. We recommend that you arrive in France a few days before the first meeting in order to become familiar with and adjust to your new surroundings.**

It is especially important that you **not** plan your return to the United States nor travel to another destination **before the date of the last final exam. Exam dates can not be changed to accommodate students' travel plans. No exceptions will be made so please don't ask.**

TSA Regulations

The Transportation Security Administration regulates what items may be carried aboard aircrafts and these regulations are subject to change. Therefore, you should consult their website close to your date of departure:

<http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel>

N.B. Possessing certain items while going through security may result in fines of \$250 - \$1,500 or, in the case of firearms, may be considered a criminal offense.

Airline Luggage Regulations

Students should contact their airline to confirm exact luggage allowances. We strongly suggest you stick to these guidelines, or be prepared to pay excess baggage fees, which can be quite expensive. We also suggest that you consider insuring your luggage through a comprehensive travel insurance policy. Some travel insurance is included under the HTH Worldwide policy. Furthermore, it is possible that you may be covered under a policy held by your parents, so investigate this prior to departure. Travel insurance options can be researched at:

<http://www.insuremytrip.com>

MEDICAL INSURANCE

Students studying at the Middlebury School in France are automatically enrolled in a study abroad health insurance plan for the duration of the program through HTH Worldwide. This coverage is mandatory and cannot be waived. You will receive an insurance card and proof of insurance letter (required for your visa application) from HTH.

CHECKLIST OF IMPORTANT THINGS TO BRING ABROAD

- Schools Abroad General Handbook:
<http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/sa/handbook>
- School in France Handbook:
<http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/sa/france/handbook/>
- Passport and Student Visa [+ copies]
- Airline ticket/itinerary [+ copies]
- Legible copy of your birth certificate
- International Student Identity Card (optional): <http://www.myisic.com/MyISIC/>
- Calling card for emergencies. It is easy to buy cheap pre-paid (approx. 7€) calling cards when you get to Paris for approx. 500 minutes calling time to the U.S.
- Debit/Credit cards
- Medications in original containers [we recommend packing a copy of your prescription(s) with your medication in case you're asked for them by customs officials]

For *Titre de Séjour* (check your visa)

- (1) Certified (i.e., official) translation of birth certificate in French + 1 legible photocopy of your original birth certificate
- (2) 1 legible photocopy of identification pages of passport
- (3) 1 legible photocopy of visa page of passport
- (4) 3 French-format photos [3,5cm x 4,5cm, black and white; no head accessories or eyeglasses. Scanned photos will not be accepted]
- (5) Financial guarantee letter (used for visa application)
- (6) Proof of insurance from HTH Worldwide [letter from HTH + insurance card]

GENERAL PACKING SUGGESTIONS

Plan carefully what to bring, keeping in mind that you will have to carry your luggage while traveling. This means, as the saying goes, "TRAVEL LIGHT." We cannot emphasize this strongly enough! Choose each item carefully and avoid duplication.

As you pack for the flight over, keep in mind that you will be carrying this same luggage by yourself, sometimes over great distances, up and down sets of stairs, or on crowded trains. **Avoid using extra large or oversized bags.** Take things that are easy to manage and avoid over-packing. One rule of thumb is to pack your bags and walk around the block three times with your bags; then re-pack. Do not pack a lot of books in your luggage. You can buy them in France and send them home after the term ends.

When you return to the U.S., you may be able to take advantage of group airfreight rates if you purchase a lot of items while abroad (see "Local information"). *La Poste* also has low fees for sending books (5kg per box).

Clothing

In Paris and Poitiers, the weather is damp/humid in the winter, and the temperature occasionally drops to 20-25 degrees Fahrenheit. In Bordeaux, the weather is oceanic and temperate with mild winters (between 35 and 50 degrees), hot summers and a high degree of humidity generated by the Atlantic Ocean. Lodgings will usually maintain a temperature of 65-68 degrees in the winter.

Bring a good winter coat and/or warm raincoat, an umbrella, sweaters, good walking shoes, and possibly a sleeping bag which folds out into a quilt. Try not to bring too many clothes, as closet space is limited, and dry cleaners and laundromats are expensive. The best idea is to bring clothing that you can layer, so as the seasons progress you can dress accordingly.

You should also bring or expect to buy some dressier items. French clothes sometimes appear more expensive than in the U.S., but they are well-made and tempting. If or how much one buys depends on one's budget.

Bed and Bath Linens

Depending on your accommodations, bed linens and towels may not be provided. We **do not** recommend that you bring sheets, blankets, or pillows with you. They are too heavy and take up too much space in your bags (and you may find that sheets from home do not fit your bed properly). These items are also costly to ship in advance and can be easily purchased once you arrive in France. You may want to consider bringing a towel with you, which should suffice until you are able to purchase more.

Electrical Appliances

The electrical current in Europe is 220 volts/50 cycles rather than the 110 volts/60 cycles found in the United States. You should make sure that any appliance you bring is 110/220. Transformers and adapter plugs are available in France, but it is best to buy them in the U.S. before you leave.

Occasionally, even though a transformer is used, an appliance may not work properly. Because of this difficulty and because of their weight and bulk, you may want to leave most electrical appliances at home and buy those that you find absolutely necessary after you arrive in France.

Computers

Students should be aware that computer resources in France are more limited than in the U.S. If you have your own laptop, it is recommended that you bring it with you, as the hours during which computers are available are limited. Look at your power cord to determine whether your laptop has dual voltage (110/220). Most, if not all, new models are equipped with self-setting transformers.

Since students are expected to write a fair number of papers, there are computers (Macs and PCs), internet hook-ups, and a laser printer for academic use at the *Centre Madeleine* in Paris. If your laptop has a Wi-Fi card, you will be able to connect to the Internet from the Centre Madeleine. If it doesn't, you may wish to buy an external Wi-Fi card. Please note that it is a 802.11g type Wi-Fi network at the Centre Madeleine. If you decide to obtain an external Wi-Fi card, please make sure that it is compatible with the network. University facilities are also equipped with Wi-Fi as well as many libraries and public places in France. Students in Poitiers or Bordeaux are able to sign-up for computer use at the university. However, having your own laptop computer may be more convenient for there is also wireless service on campus.

Some students may have Internet access in their homestay or at their *foyers* in Paris, Poitiers, and Bordeaux. This varies from one family or *foyer* to another. Students must understand that host families are not obliged to provide them with Internet access.

Prescriptions

If you are taking any medication that is not available in France, you should take a full supply of what you will need with you on the plane together with all the appropriate prescriptions. Mailing medicines across international borders is complex. However, if you happen to need an additional supply of medication while in France, make sure to contact the AFSSAPS (*Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des produits de santé*) in order to obtain an official certification allowing your parents to send you the medication needed across international borders. For more information: <http://www.afssaps.fr/>

In order to get an authorization to import medication, you'll need:

- a letter explaining why you need medication sent to you
- medicine name (GENERIC) and dosage needed
- labelling and any other relevant information
- expediter's contact information

When traveling, prescription medicines should be left in the original containers. It is also suggested that you carry the original prescription or a note from your doctor to avoid having to answer questions from the authorities. Please also note that in the event that you must refill or replace a prescription in France, you should have the GENERIC NAME of your medication on the prescription, in addition to the American 'brand' name.

If you are under a doctor's care for a specific condition, you may want to bring a copy of your medical history with you or sign a release form with your doctor in case your medical history needs to be sent to a doctor in France.

Gifts

If you are planning to live with a host family you may wish to present them with a token gift. Choose a gift that has significance to you and is packable and light. Consider the following gifts:

- Books - with photos (e.g., coffee table book)
- CDs of current American music and your favorite songs/artists
- Small souvenirs from the U.S.: postcards, buttons, pins, stickers, stamps, small crafts
- Regional items that one would associate with your region, state, city or town (e.g., maple syrup, saltwater taffy)

DON'T FORGET PHOTOS! Your new friends and host family will be interested in where you come from: your family, town, friends, and school. Take pictures that help explain parts of your life in the U.S.

Toiletries

If you are particular about brands, you may want to pack an appropriate supply of the articles you regularly use.

CUSTOMS

If you plan to bring any new, non-U.S.-made articles of value, such as cameras, MP3 players, computers, bicycles, or jewelry that are **LESS THAN 6 MONTHS OLD**, you should register them with U.S. Customs and Border Protection before departure (CBP Form 4457). Alternatively, you can carry your original sales receipts to prove that you purchased them in the U.S. This avoids your having to pay a duty upon your return. Customs regulations vary from country to country; there are usually limitations on liquor, cigarettes, and other goods.

To register your items, download and complete the form available online at http://forms.cbp.gov/pdf/CBP_Form_4457.pdf and present it with your items to a Customs and Border Patrol Officer at an international airport.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS STUDYING ABROAD

International students in the U.S., you should meet with the international student advising staff at your home institution as early as possible to discuss how study abroad may affect your international student status in the United States and the ways it may impact your future plans.

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) require re-entry documents for some foreign nationals. If you are living in the US, but are a citizen of another country, check with the USCIS to determine the regulations that apply to you and be sure to obtain all necessary re-entry documents before you leave the U.S.

ARRIVAL IN FRANCE

HOW TO GET TO DOWNTOWN PARIS FROM THE AIRPORT

Below is a list of transportation options for traveling from the two main Parisian airports into the city. Prices and availability are subject to change.

From Roissy-Charles de Gaulle (CDG):

RER line B to center-city Paris “Chatelet” station. Cost: €8.50 one-way; is the quickest and probably the easiest way to get to center-city Paris, IF you don’t have a lot of luggage to carry.

Roissy-Bus to “Opéra” metro station on rue Scribe: Cost: approx €8.60 one-way. It can take you between 45 and 60 minutes to get from the airport to the Opera neighborhood. Buses come every 15 minutes between 6am and 11pm.

For more information: <http://www.ratp.fr/>

Autobus Air France express shuttle service from CDG to the city center.

Line 2 to Etoile or Porte Maillot: €15 (one-way)

Line 4 to Montparnasse or Gare de Lyon: €16.50 (one-way)

<http://videocdn.airfrance.com/cars-airfrance/>

Taxi: €50 to €60 (3 people maximum); €2.50 extra for 4th person + additional charge for luggage.

There are also several shuttle services that can pick you up at the gate closest to your baggage claim and take you to your address in Paris. The shuttles' rates are flat rates regardless of the amount of time it takes the driver to take the passengers to their final destination in Paris. Reservations are required at least one week in advance and there is no extra charge for luggage.

Parishuttle

€25/person when traveling alone

€19/person when traveling with two to four people

<http://www.parishuttle.com/>

Paris Airport Service

€26/person traveling alone

When traveling two or more, rate is cheaper. Consult website for rates

<http://www.parisairportservice.com/>

Blue Van

€25-28 per person when traveling alone; €17-18 per person when traveling with two or more people

<http://www.paris-blue-airport-shuttle.fr/>

Note: These shuttle services are highly recommended by our students who find it stress-relieving to know that someone will be waiting for them at the airport to take them and their luggage to their respective address in Paris.

From Orly (ORL - southeast of Paris):

Orlyval and RER line B: 10€ approx.

Orlybus (to Denfert Rochereau metro station): €6.50 approx for one-way ticket

Autobus Air France express shuttle service from ORL to the city center.

Line 1 to Montparnasse and Invalides: €11.50€ (one-way)

Line 1* to Montparnasse and Etolie: 11.50€ (one-way)

<http://videocdn.airfrance.com/cars-airfrance/>

Paris Airport Service

€25/person traveling alone

When traveling two or more, rate is cheaper. Consult website for rates.

<http://www.parisairportservice.com/>

Taxi: €40 to €50 (3 people maximum); €2.50 extra for 4th person + additional charge for luggage.

Don't forget to take baggage into account when choosing your mode of transportation. If you have several bags, make sure that you can carry or pull them all.

TRAVEL TO BORDEAUX

You may travel directly to Bordeaux's international airport in Merignac or take a TGV train to Bordeaux from Charles de Gaulle's airport or Montparnasse's train station in Paris' 14th *arrondissement*.

To go to center-city Bordeaux from the airport, (30-45 minutes), you may take the Jet'Bus. Shuttle leaves airport every 45 minutes between 7am and 10:45pm every day and stops in different places within Bordeaux. Ticket is 7€ one-way.

If you arrive at the St.Jean train station in Bordeaux, you may take the tramway to your final destination. If carrying heavy luggage or arriving late, you may opt to take a taxi.

For more information on train schedules <http://www.voyages-sncf.com/>

TRAVEL TO POITIERS

If traveling directly to Poitiers upon arrival in France, it might be easier to take a TGV train from Charles de Gaulle's airport.

For more information on train schedules <http://www.voyages-sncf.com/>

However, if visiting Paris before, the best is to take a TGV train to Poitiers from the Montparnasse train station in Paris' 14th *arrondissement*.

GETTING SETTLED

It will take you some time to settle into your permanent lodgings and adjust to the time difference and the new surroundings. You should not arrive in Paris, Poitiers, or Bordeaux without having either temporary or permanent housing waiting for you. It will be virtually impossible to find a hotel room, without reservations, in late August, early September, or early January.

TEMPORARY LODGING

Unless you have confirmed that you can move into your permanent housing on the day you arrive in France, we strongly urge you to reserve temporary accommodation PRIOR to

departure. To call France from the U.S., dial 011-33-plus the last nine digits of the number. When calling a cell phone number, dial 011-33-6 + the last eight digits of the number. Don't forget the time difference, which is normally six hours between the East coast of the U.S. and France.

Below is a list of names and addresses of some student residence halls and hotels where School in France students have stayed for short periods in the past. Keep in mind that the rates quoted are subject to change. If you're arranging to stay temporarily in a *foyer*, mention that you are with the Middlebury program, and enclose a photocopy of the *A Qui de Droit* letter.

Regular *foyers* will also accept students for a few nights before the beginning of the academic year. Unless otherwise indicated, these per-person rates are as of March 2009 and may be subject to slight changes.

In Paris:

Foyer International des Etudiantes

(co-ed from July through September)

93, boulevard St. Michel 75005

<http://www.fie.fr/>

Tél: 01.43.54.49.63

Métro: Luxembourg

Minimum stay: 3 days

Single room: €35.50 pp; Double room: €25,50 pp (includes breakfast)

NB: We strongly advise you to reserve well ahead of time; spaces fill up quickly for the summer

Bureau des Voyages de la Jeunesse (B.V.J) (co-ed open all year)

<http://www.bvjhotel.com/>

a) Paris-Louvre

20, rue Jean-Jacques

Rousseau 75001 Paris

Tél: 01 53 00 90 90

Double room: €31 pp;

Dormitory (4, 8, 10 beds): €29 pp

b) Paris-Quartier Latin

44, rue des Bernardins 75005 Paris

Tél: 01 43 29 34 80

Reserve 2 or 3 days in advance

Single room: €45 pp;

Double room: €33 pp;

Dormitory (4, 8, 10 beds): €29 pp

MIFE : Maison Internationale de la Jeunesse et des Etudiants (3 locations in the heart of Paris)

<http://www.mije.com/>

Tél: 01.42.74.23.45

a) Fauconnier

11, rue du Fauconnier

75004 Paris

Métro: Saint-Paul

b) Maubuisson

12, rue des Barres

75004 Paris

Métro: Hôtel de Ville

c) Fourcy

6, rue de Fourcy

75004 Paris

Métro: Saint-Paul

All locations:

Single room: €49 pp; Double room: €36 pp; Triple room (3 beds): €32 pp; Multiple share: €30pp; Has its own cafeteria, (€10.50 per meal) with membership (€2.50 paid once) Breakfast is included.

Hôtel du Séjour

36 rue Grenier St.Lazare
75003 Paris
Tél: 01 48 87 40 36
Métro: Rambuteau or Etienne Marcel
Single room: €60 per night
Double room w/ shower and toilets: 75€ per night
<http://www.hoteldusejour.com/>

Hotel Flor Rivoli

13 rue des deux Boules
75001 Paris
Tél: 01 42 33 49 60
Métro: Odeon
<http://www.france-hotel-guide.com/h75001florriv.htm>
Single room: €65-€80
Double and twin room:€85
Breakfast:€6 pp

Hotel du Levant

18 rue de la Harpe
75005 Paris
Tel. 01 46 34 11 00
Métro : St.Michel
Rooms : 75€-120€

Paris Central Hotel

1 bis rue du Maine
75014 Paris
<http://www.pariscentralhotel.com/>
NB : Hotel is walking distance from the Montparnasse station

In Poitiers:

Auberge de Jeunesse (HI - Hostelng Int'l)

(Bus line # 7, take direction *Pierre Loti* when leaving from the train station)
Bus stop : Auberge de Jeunesse
1 allée Roger Tagault
86000 Poitiers
Tél: 05 49 30 09 70
<http://www.fuaj.org/>

Hôtel de l'Europe

39, rue Carnot
86000 Poitiers
Tél: 05 49 88 12 00
Single room w/shower: €52, w/ bath: €57
Double room w/shower: €58, w/bath: €63
Breakfast buffet: €7 pp
<http://www.hotel-europe-poitiers.com/>

Hôtel Ibis Poitiers Centre

15, rue Petit Benneveau
Tél: 05 49 88 30 42
Rooms: €63

Breakfast: €8
www.ibishotel.com

Grand Hôtel

28, rue Carnot
Tél: 05 49 60 90 60
Single room: €67-€70
Double room: €77-€85
Breakfast buffet: €12 pp
<http://www.grandhotelpoitiers.fr/>

In Bordeaux:

Auberge de Jeunesse (Youth Hostel)

22, cours Barbey
33000 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 33 00 70
Multiple share: €21 pp
Breakfast/bed linen included
Reception closed from 2-5am
<http://www.auberge-jeunesse-bordeaux.com/>

Hôtel Gambetta

66 rue Porte Dijaux
33000 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 51 21 83
Single room: €59-62
Double room: €71-80 pp
Breakfast: €6pp
<http://www.hotel-gambetta.com/>

Acanthe Hotel

12-14 rue Saint Remi
33000 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 81 66 58
Rooms: €58-€85
Breakfast: €6 pp
<http://www.hotel-gambetta.com/>

Hôtel de la Presse

6-8 rue Porte Dijaux
33000 Bordeaux
Tél : 05 56 48 53 88
Rooms : €51-€116
Breakfast : €9pp
<http://www.hoteldelapresse.com/>

Sites à visiter:

<http://www.hostelworld.com/>
http://www.petitfute.com/tourisme_en_france2/aquitaine/index.php

ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

At the first meeting in France, students will meet the staff of the School in France and discuss life in France, the academic program, and the administrative processes for registering with French authorities. Students should bring their passports, birth certificate (if needed), and passport photos with them.

ON-SITE ACADEMIC ORIENTATION

Paris

The academic program in Paris begins with an orientation program during which students attend meetings, get introduced to life in Paris with the help of the program's *marraines et parrains*, begin to do advanced language study, and learn about the different types of French academic exercises they will encounter at the university. During this time, they select courses with the help of the director.

In Paris, students may study French literature, comparative literature, linguistics, theater, film, history, musicology and music, art history, geography, economics, political science and international relations, psychology, philosophy, and religion. In 2008-09, Middlebury College's partner institutions in Paris included: **Paris 1** - Panthéon Sorbonne, **Paris 3** - Sorbonne Nouvelle, **Paris IV** - Sorbonne, **Institut d'Etudes Politiques** (Sciences-Po), **Ecole Spéciale d'Architecture (ESA)**, **Institut Catholique de Paris**, and **Ecole Normale de Musique (ENM)**. With advance notice, special arrangements can be made to study at other Parisian institutions (Ecole Normale Supérieure, EHESS, and INALCO for example).

The School in France organizes a number of courses that are designed to complement those available at the *Université de Paris* and other institutions. These courses generally cover areas not dealt with at the university level (e.g., written and spoken language, advanced composition, and general French cultural history). Other courses may be offered through a consortium with Hamilton and Smith Colleges. In the past, the Consortium has offered courses on the European Union, France and Europe, French-African relations, French political history, European economy, France and the Mediterranean, and history of contemporary art and architecture.

Bordeaux and Poitiers

The academic program begins on-site in Bordeaux/Poitiers with a short orientation program during which students attend a series of conferences on French-university methodology, literature, and history, as well as local visits to museums.

Students are enrolled at the the *Université de Bordeaux 3* (courses in French and comparative literature, linguistics, history, theater, film, music, art history, archaeology, geography, philosophy, and translation). They may take some classes at *Sciences Po Bordeaux* (political science, international relations, and economics). Special arrangements can be made to study at other *Université de Bordeaux* campuses like *Bordeaux 2* for psychology, sociology, and anthropology, and *Bordeaux 4* for economics majors.

At the *Université de Poitiers*, students can enroll in virtually any academic discipline, including French and comparative literature, film, history, art history, linguistics, philosophy, economics, geography, psychology, sociology, theater, and translation. Students interested in taking science courses such as computer science, physics, chemistry, biology, and mathematics must contact the director of the School in France as soon as they are accepted into the program.

Middlebury does not employ any on-site staff in Bordeaux or Poitiers. However, a School in France staff member visits students at least once a month. The Office of International Relations at the *Université de Poitiers* and the Office of International Relations at the *Université de*

Bordeaux 3 serve as immediate on-site contact while the staff in Paris is always available by email and cell phone.

COURSELOAD AND CREDITS

Year-long students obtain 9 units altogether, while **semester students obtain 5 units** (about 14-15 hours of classes per week). In Paris, students take a maximum of two course units at the *Centre Madeleine* and their remaining units of courses at **one other institution** in order to provide greater opportunities for social contact and academic support. Note that Paris semester students are required to take a language course at the *Centre Madeleine*. We strongly advise students not to take courses in more than 2 branches of a university in a given semester. In Poitiers and Bordeaux, students normally take their courses at one or two institution(s) (or *UTR* in the case of Poitiers).

Students are not permitted to take lighter loads, nor will they receive additional credit for heavier loads. A student's workload and choice of courses must be approved by the director of the School in France.

To facilitate the granting of credit towards the major students are always advised to communicate with their major advisors at their home university during the course selection period and will be asked to fill out and bring back a "Course Information Form" for each class taken in France. Students should attach to these forms course syllabi, papers, and any other relevant documentation to take back to their home university advisors.

FRENCH-STYLE EDUCATION

Studying in an academic culture different from their own allows students to develop new skills and new work methods. "In my fourth-year seminars and courses, I can tell when students studied in Europe," a Middlebury College professor said. "The European system teaches them to become more independent and self-directed, and greatly improves their intellectual curiosity and research skills."

In France, unlike in most countries, "universities" make up only one of the components of the higher education system. Other components include the highly competitive "*Grandes Ecoles*" (« Sciences Po », engineering, and business schools), the selective and valued "*Sections de Techniciens Supérieurs*" (STS) and "*Instituts Universitaires de Technologie*" (IUT). Except for a few catholic (private) institutions, French universities are all "public," and are thus accessible to all students who hold the "*baccalauréat*" or its equivalent.

Seventy percent of French students who pursue their studies after the "baccalauréat" end up at one of the public universities. The number of students going to universities increased significantly during the second half of the 20th century. Approximately 50% of the university students are in first or second-year courses. While the university is widely accessible, 39% of students withdraw before the end of their second year.

The vast majority of French students specialize in a single field of knowledge very early on. In fact, when they apply to college they have to choose a particular track ("*parcours*"). As a result, from the first year on, from one course to the next, in a progressive and logical sequence, they acquire a very thorough knowledge of their discipline and its methods. They take more than 80% of their courses in their major discipline.

Course Format

Courses meet once or twice a week, for 1½ to 3-hour periods and French students spend more time in the classroom than students at U.S. institutions (not considering science students in the U.S.).

There are 2 main types of courses within the French university system. One type, called *cours magistral*, or CM, consists of a series of lectures (exclusively by the professor) held in large amphitheaters. The second type, called *travaux dirigés* (TD) or *conférences de méthode* (e.g., at Sciences Po) are conducted in smaller groups and consist of a combination of lecture and student presentations.

“*Magistral*” lectures may sometimes seem outdated and ineffective in contrast to more interactive teaching formats that are widely preferred in the U.S., but they can still be most useful to students as they consist of valuable overviews of a topic or a range of theories. Lectures are meant to help students approach an immense body of literature from a more informed viewpoint. After taking detailed notes in class, it is up to the student to pursue their own further investigation of the subject matter. If their notes are good, they can use them as a starting point for an effective and informed study of the material. It goes without saying that good note-taking during a lecture is absolutely crucial in the French system. Not all courses have a *cours magistral*. Lecturing is an essential part of teaching in France.

Academic Expectations

Professors will probably not distribute any handouts, syllabi, or assignment schedules in the course. **Students, however, should not think that their professors don't expect them to work.** Not having American-style syllabi or reading assignments doesn't indicate that there isn't any work to do for the class. **In fact, professors assume that students will do large amounts of research and reading outside of class; that they intrinsically seek to do this.** To them, telling someone what and when to read is insulting to their intelligence as adults. Professors usually provide extensive bibliographies and expect students to work “judiciously”. While students are not expected to read all the books that are listed in a bibliography, at the end of the course, on the final exam, they will be expected to address a question by presenting a broad and conceptual “*réflexion*” on the lectures and their independent readings.

Professors will likely pass out a list of 30-50 selected books. How many of the listed works should students actually read? It depends on a variety of decisions that no one can make for the student. It depends on how much an individual student knows, what s/he is interested in, and how much s/he wants to know about the material. Students may not find all references equally helpful or written in a style that they can digest. In other words, students have to make their own informed decision on what to include or exclude from their personal reading schedule. Some students (French or foreign) choose to do the minimum. In the end, they are the only ones that can be blamed if they pass a course with the lowest possible grade or fail it.

The French university system has its own rhetoric and codes that students (including foreign students) need to learn. It includes acquiring a new vocabulary, way of thinking, and style. There are academic exercises that every student in a French university is expected to, perhaps not master but at least, understand and perform adequately. The academic exercises are:

- ❖ *la dissertation* (a French-style essay)
- ❖ *le commentaire composé* (another French-style paper most commonly used in literature classes)
- ❖ *l'exposé oral* (an oral presentation/report)
- ❖ *le dossier* (a research paper)
- ❖ *la fiche de lecture* (a reading report)

Of course, most professors understand that foreign students, unlike French students, do not usually have any experience with these exercises prior to coming to France. Still, they expect all students to make the effort to understand the nature of these exercises and to achieve adequately.

Grades

Grades at French institutions are on a scale of 20, with 10/20 as the *moyenne*. You should not convert to percentages. A chart giving equivalents of letter grades can be found at the back of this Handbook. Students usually find it hard to overcome the language barrier. The biggest challenge however is to master the various academic exercises. In order to comprehend an assignment and to perform well, foreign students need to work at least as much, if not more than they would in their own academic system.

Note that final exams are scheduled late in the semester, so students should avoid making travel plans before the end of the examination period (see calendars). Program students are required to stay through exam period at the university.

Professors

French professors are usually not as accessible as U.S. faculty. They are not expected to spend as much time at the university or to hold office hours. They oftentimes do not even have an office or computer at their disposal. Therefore, professors often work from home. If you need to talk to one of your professors, you should approach them at the end of class, never at the beginning. As a matter of principle, ask them politely when would be a good time to see them. Don't expect that they are going to answer your question on the spot. They may have another class or meeting. Professors occasionally cancel classes or change meeting times with no prior warning. It is expected that you take responsibility for pursuing your own learning during interruptions.

Tutorials and Academic Support

The School in France arranges special workshops to introduce students to the formats of French-style papers throughout the semester and arranges tutorials taught by French faculty, instructors, or graduate students to help students better understand the various French academic exercises. Students should not hesitate to inquire about these tutorials.

SELECTING COURSES AND REGISTERING FOR CLASSES

For undergraduate students, the most appropriate courses tend to be second and third-year courses in the French system, unless students have no preparation in the subject.

School in France students could select classes from different departments and degree programs. However, each department or *faculté* being independent entities, students have found it difficult to accommodate course schedules and calendars, as well as exam schedules from different departments or *facultés*. For those reasons, students are strongly encouraged to study in their major discipline and, in case they should take courses outside their major, to limit themselves to two disciplines altogether.

Final course information, including complete class schedules, is usually not available before September. Students will need to provide International Programs and Off-Campus Study a preliminary list of courses or subjects that they need or wish to take in France based on the information currently available on the School in France website:

<http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/sa/france/program/default.htm>

Once in France, students will discuss their final course selection with the director.

Registering for courses at a French university is not as easy as registering in the U.S., but Middlebury facilitates university and course registration. A session on registration and academics is held during orientation.

When registering for courses or on the first day of class, or if asked, students should always sign up for *contrôle continu* rather than *examen*. The latter means that the final grade for the

course is based only on the final exam, which is given during the final examination period. In *contrôle continu*, students will have several grades.

Students are responsible for submitting their final registration to the academic coordinator or the director before the announced deadline (normally two weeks after classes began). Students will not be able to drop or add a course after this date.

Registering for Courses in Paris:

- *Université de Paris*

There are two distinct registration procedures. The *inscriptions administratives* (“matriculation”) take place early in September and in January. The staff of the School in France will take care of this registration for you. The *inscriptions pédagogiques* (course registration) come later; they involve registering for specific courses in the various academic departments and are normally done individually by the student. The procedure will be further explained to you during the on-site orientation.

- *Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris (“Sciences Po”)*

At the *Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris*, year-long and semester students in the School in France are enrolled for a full course load in the *Programme d’Echange*, which offers courses for foreign students in political science, international economics and international relations, and the social, economic, and political history of France and the rest of Europe in the twentieth century. Admission to course work at *Sciences Po* is by *dossier*. Once accepted to the School in France, Middlebury students interested in taking courses at *Sciences Po* fill out a further application (due in April for Fall/Academic Year, October for Spring), and their dossiers are forwarded to the *I.E.P.* Decisions on these candidacies are generally made known by June. Students from other institutions should contact International Programs and Off-Campus Study for more details.

The *Diplôme du Programme International* is a special degree awarded by the *Institut d’Etudes Politiques* to non-French undergraduate students who have successfully completed a full course of study at *Sciences Po*. All Middlebury students enrolled in the *Programme International* (whether year-long or semester students) must take five courses per semester at Sciences Po : two courses with “conférence de méthodes”, two courses without “conférence de méthodes” (or electives), and a French language course.

The *Diplôme du Programme International* is an excellent preparation for international careers and graduate schools. Registration is done online and in real-time in September for fall semester and January for spring semester. Please visit the Sciences Po website for further information:

http://www.sciences-po.fr/formation/cycle1/programme_international/index.htm

- *Ecole Normale de Musique Alfred Cortot, Schola Cantorum*

Music majors and minors attending the School in France for the academic year, and whose background is strong enough, may enroll at the *E.N.M.* or the *Schola Cantorum* for collective courses in *solfège* (sight reading) and vocal or instrumental work and, in some cases, composition, music history, or theory. They must obtain a letter from their academic advisor the semester prior to going abroad confirming they have reached a level of performance sufficient to make semi-independent work in the foreign context both feasible and profitable and indicating the number of contact hours required to obtain one unit of credit (*three semester hours*). Every effort will be made to find an appropriate course for the student but it is not always possible.

Semester music courses and training are also available at the *Schola Cantorum*, for which the same kind of letter should be obtained. However, it is not possible to take semester music courses at the *Ecole Normale de Musique*.

Students interested in taking courses at *ENM* or *Schola Cantorum* must submit a statement of purpose and the approval of their major advisor by April 15 for fall semester, or by November 1 for spring semester to International Programs and Off-Campus Study.

Note: The program does not cover the cost of lessons or work that is not pre-approved for credit by the student's major advisor or department chair.

- *Ecole Speciale d'Architecture (ESA)*

Architecture majors and minors attending the School in France may be selected by ESA for a full courseload that includes an *atelier d'architecture* (studio).

Students interested in taking courses at *ESA* must submit a statement of purpose and the approval of their advisor by April 15 for fall semester, or by November 1 for spring semester to International Programs and Off-Campus Study.

Note: The program does not cover the cost of lessons or work that is not pre-approved for credit by the student's major advisor or department chair.

Registering for Courses in Bordeaux and Poitiers:

There are two distinct registration procedures. The *inscriptions administratives* ("matriculation") take place early in September and January. The *inscriptions pédagogiques* (course registration) come later; this is done by each student individually and involves filling out an "*inscription aux examens*" form for each academic UFR (branches of the *Université de Poitiers* or *Bordeaux*) in which s/he takes courses. The School in France staff will review this procedure with you during the on-site orientation and again later in the semester.

EXAMS

Students are required to take all exams when and where they are scheduled, even if students on other study abroad/exchange programs are allowed to opt out or rearrange exam schedules. This means that you are required to sit for exams at the same time and place as students in France. Local students may have multiple options to take a final exam. Students enrolled in the School in France are not allowed to avail themselves of this option.

N.B. Exam dates will not be changed to accommodate students' travel plans, even if individual professors agree. No exceptions will be made, so please don't ask.

LEARNING OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM

Internships, volunteer work, language partnerships (exchange), and cultural activities with young French people provide students with opportunities to deepen their social immersion in French culture, enhance their language skills, and gain a better understanding of present-day France. For these reasons, **the School in France requires all students to take full advantage of their experience abroad by participating in at least one of these learning experiences outside the classroom.**

Credit Internships

Qualified students may gain practical experience as part of their education abroad through 12-15 hour per week credit-bearing internships. Interns write a 20 to 25-page supervised research paper related to their internship which they then adapt and present their internship and their research at the end of the semester. This experience will provide students with new knowledge and skills that can lead to greater opportunities in the future. Students who are interested need

to apply prior to departure for France. Credit-bearing internships are not guaranteed; placements are dependent on availability, previous experience, qualifications, and the language ability of each student.

Students who agree to pursue internships are expected to follow through with their commitment until the end of the semester. Students who withdraw from a credit-bearing internship after the add/drop period will earn an “F” and will be ineligible to enroll in another course.

The internship handbook and application can be found on our website:

<http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/sa/france/internships>

Internship applications (including cover letters and resumes written in French) must be submitted by June 1 for fall semester internships or by November 15 for the spring.

Non-credit Internships/Volunteer Work

Some students choose to enrich their experience in France by doing a non-credit internship or volunteer work in the French education, political, marketing, and not-for-profit fields. Interested students should talk to the Student Life Coordinator in Paris and to the Site Coordinator for Poitiers and Bordeaux as soon as they arrive in France.

Cultural Activities

Other options that facilitate student immersion include sports, cultural, and outdoor activities. The School in France staff and the host institution contact are available to advise students on the wide range of possibilities France has to offer. Sciences Po and the universities of Poitiers and Bordeaux have active international student organizations that offer many activities. They are also excellent starting points to obtain information on cultural events, extracurricular activities, day trips, concerts, plays, art exhibits, and other local events.

The School in France believes that exposure to French culture is an integral part of the student experience and thus offers several activities and cultural outings every month, some of which are also open to French students. They include:

- ✓ Integration activities with French students:
- ✓ Language exchange with French students
- ✓ Visits and walking tours during orientation
- ✓ One weekend study trip each semester: Normandy in the fall and Provence in the spring
- ✓ Tickets to ballet/opera/theater/art exhibits/salons (Paris)
- ✓ Museum passes (Paris)
- ✓ Special visits (National Assembly, the Senate)
- ✓ Cooking class and wine tasting classes

LIVING IN FRANCE

“LE TITRE DE SÉJOUR” OR RESIDENCY PERMIT

Upon arrival in France, all foreign students who are studying in France for the academic year are required to apply for a *titre de séjour* (residence permit). Some semester students may have to apply for it as well if their visa says “*carte de séjour à solliciter*”. Students who fail to obtain the *titre de séjour* when required (per visa) will not be able to re-enter France if they leave the country.

Students will fill out the paperwork for the residency permit upon arrival in Paris. Students studying in Poitiers or Bordeaux will fill out the necessary paperwork at the International Relations Office at the *Université de Poitiers/Bordeaux*. In preparation, students needing to apply for a residency permit **must bring** the following items to their on-site orientation:

- (1) Certified (i.e., official) translation of birth certificate in French + 1 legible photocopy of your original birth certificate
- (2) 1 legible photocopy of identification pages of passport
- (3) 1 legible photocopy of visa page of passport
- (4) 3 French-format photos [3,5cm x 4,5cm, black and white; no head accessories or eyeglasses. Scanned photos will not be accepted)
- (5) Financial guarantee letter (used for visa application)
- (6) Proof of insurance from HTH Worldwide [letter from HTH + insurance card]

Completed applications will then be sent to the *Préfecture de police*.

After this step is completed, you will receive a summons to go to the *Agence Nationale de l'Accueil des Etrangers et des Migrants* (ANAEM), formerly called OMI, on a specific day and time for a mandatory medical exam. You must bring with you a €55 stamp; addresses where you can buy the ANAEM stamps will be provided by the School in France. You may be asked to disrobe for a TB X-ray. Once the medical exam is complete, you will see a doctor for a 5-10-minute interview during which s/he will ask you some health-related questions. After the interview, you will receive your *titre de séjour* at the ANAEM. **DO NOT LEAVE WITHOUT IT!**

The process is slightly different for Bordeaux and Poitiers. Details will be provided during orientation.

MEDICAL COVERAGE AND INSURANCE

In France, social security's medical coverage has two parts: the basic coverage, which guarantees a 70% reimbursement of medical care, and the supplemental coverage, also called mutual coverage, which picks up the remaining costs. Basic coverage is mandatory for all French citizens.

All Sciences Po students, be they semester or year-long students in France, must subscribe to French basic coverage. Cost is approximately €200 per student.

Other French universities, until now, have not required our students to purchase this basic coverage. However, some of our partner universities are likely to change their policies and to require our students subscribe to French basic coverage. Again the cost is approximately €200. Students should expect to have to pay this amount.

Unless required by a French University, enrolling in supplemental French mutual insurance is not necessary because students studying at the School in France are automatically enrolled in a study abroad health insurance plan for the duration of the program through HTH Worldwide. This coverage is mandatory and cannot be waived.

We consider French health care first-rate, and it is usually less expensive than in the U.S. The Paris office maintains a list of doctors, both general practitioners and specialists, psychological counselors, and psychiatrists, from whom students have received good care in the past. Additionally, HTH Worldwide maintains an online database of providers.

Please note that pharmacists in France are qualified to give medical advice and suggest treatment in connection with minor ailments; however, a pharmacist will not hesitate to advise you to see a doctor if he or she feels your ailment calls for such a visit.

MEDICAL TREATMENT

If you have a medical concern, there are many resources available to you. In the Local Information sections at the end of this handbook, you will find a list of physicians students have recommended.

If you feel sick in the evening or on a weekend, you may call **SOS Médecins** (in Paris 01.47.07.77.77, Bordeaux 05 56 44 74 74) and a *SOS Medecins* doctor will come to your house (cost of the visit: approximately €50). You may also go to the emergency room *salles des urgence* of any hospital or clinic located near you.

In an emergency requiring immediate attention, call the **SAMU (Dial 15 directly from any phone)**. Some of the hospitals where our students have received treatment in the past are also listed in the back of this handbook.

Any student who faces a medical emergency should immediately call a staff member of the School in France.

If a student in Poitiers has a health concern or needs a medical examination or certificate, please visit:

Service Inter Universitaire de Médecine Préventive et de Promotion de la Santé
On campus, Avenue Jacques Cœur
86000 POITIERS

In Bordeaux students should visit:

Service Inter-Universitaire de Médecine Préventive et de Promotion de la Santé
Domaine Universitaire
13, avenue Pey-Berland
33600 Pessac
Tél: 05 56 04 06 06

Service de Santé Universitaire
3 ter place de la Victoire
Bat F 1er Etage
33076 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 57 57 19 07

HOUSING

Paris

The School in France offers two housing possibilities to its students: a) living in a *foyer* (student residence) or b) living with a French host family.

A student's housing choice is dependent upon individual preference, financial resources, and the availability of such housing. Once a student has confirmed his/her participation in the School in France, housing is assigned as follows:

1. The online housing questionnaire will be sent via email (in March for fall/year students, and November for spring students) to be filled out by students.
2. Your responses are sent to the School in France Student Life Coordinator. After reviewing students' responses, the Coordinator will send each student by e-mail: a) her/his assigned housing, b) a short description and photos of the assigned housing, and c) the last occupant's e-mail address, in case the future student wishes to communicate with her/him. *Please note that by filling out a housing questionnaire, the student commits to participating in the program and to accepting his/her housing assignment.*
3. Upon receipt of her/his housing assignment, the student must send a confirmation letter and deposit to the director of the *foyer* or to the host family. (see below "How to send the security deposit")
4. Students must also send a copy of their confirmation letter and a photocopy of their deposit to the Student Life Coordinator in France, either by e-mail or fax, no later than 15 days after receiving your housing assignment.

Foyers are private student residences, unattached to any specific school or university. They house French students whose homes are not in the city as well as international students. The common language is French. We encourage students to give serious consideration to the *foyer* option, which permits them to meet other students and avoid the possible problem of loneliness which can arise in Paris or any large city. You are expected to honor your commitment to the *foyer* or proprietor with whom you reach an agreement through the duration of your studies (see "Rights and Responsibilities"). Please note that *foyers* give priority to year-long students.

While Middlebury College is not contractually responsible for housing arrangements and does not have authority over any lodgings, students should be confident that they will find housing that suits their needs and means, particularly since the host families and *foyers* proposed by the School in France have been lodging our students for several years now. Please note as well that all housing options have been visited and selected carefully by Middlebury's Student Life Coordinator.

Depending on the arrival date in France and/or the host family's Christmas or summer vacation, students may need to arrange temporary housing. The staff of the School in France will help you make these arrangements if they become necessary.

Poitiers & Bordeaux

Students may choose to live in a French home or student residence. Year-long students only may also share an apartment with French student(s). A student's housing choice is dependent upon the student's individual preference and financial resources, but also upon the availability of such housing. Once a student has confirmed his/her participation in the School in France, housing is assigned as follows:

1. The online housing questionnaire will be sent via email (in March for fall/year students, and November for spring students) to be filled out by students.

2. Your responses are sent to the School in France Site Coordinator. After reviewing students' responses, the Coordinator will send each student by e-mail: a) her/his assigned housing, b) a short description and photos of the assigned housing, and c) the last occupant's e-mail address, in case the future student wishes to communicate with her/him. *Please note that by filling out a housing questionnaire, the student commits to participating in the program and to accepting his/her housing assignment.*
5. Upon receipt of her/his housing assignment, the student must send a confirmation letter and deposit to the director of the *foyer* or to the host family. (see below "How to send the security deposit")
6. Students must also send a copy of their confirmation letter and a photocopy of their deposit to the Site Coordinator in France, either by e-mail or fax, no later than 15 days after receiving your housing assignment.

The student residences on campus offer single-room accommodations containing a bed, a desk, a wardrobe, and lavatory. Bathrooms and showers are communal, and there is a kitchen (with a stove, a sink and a refrigerator, but no cookware) on each floor. The city center can be reached within 20 minutes by tramway.

Note: Undergraduates in all sites (Paris, Poitiers, Bordeaux) are not permitted to live in an apartment alone. Housing can only be shared with other native French speakers.

How to Send the Security Deposit

If you are staying with a host family (*famille d'accueil*), you must send a deposit check in Euros (bank check) before May 29, 2009 (fall & year students) and December 11, 2009 (spring students). You may also be able to send a Western Union money transfer (in Euros) to your host. Refer to your housing assignment to see if this is an option. The total amount of the deposit should equal one month's rent as indicated in your housing assignment. Remember, the first month's rent must be paid upon your arrival in France. Rent for the following months should be paid between **the 1st and the 5th of each month.**

The deposit may not be used as rent payment. You will get back your deposit at the end of your stay, if you or people you invite into your living arrangement have not damaged it in any way.

If you do not send your confirmation letter and deposit to the host family by July 15, you risk losing your place and IT WILL BE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND ANOTHER SOURCE OF HOUSING!

If you cancel less than a month before your arrival, you will lose your deposit.

If you are staying in a student residence hall (*foyer*), your deposit must be sent in Euros via an electronic transfer. See the instructions included in the *foyer* application on how to wire the deposit amount directly to the *foyer*:

Rights and Responsibilities

One of the most valuable experiences of your stay in France can be that of your living situation. This "total immersion" either in a family or student residence offers you valuable insight into French culture, providing a richer vision of traditions, customs, and day-to-day life. However, it should be understood that for some families or hosts, having a student in their home comes both from the desire to have a cultural exchange with the student and the need for extra income. There may be rules on the use of appliances, meals, laundry, showers, telephone, etc., which vary according to the individual arrangement. Do not expect luxury and comfort. Compared to U.S. standards, French homes are small and utilities are significantly more expensive. Courteous gestures, such as letting the hostess know when you will not be home for

a meal, as well as economizing on hot water, electricity, and the hosts' phone (if you're allowed to use it), will greatly contribute to having an amicable relationship with your hosts.

Students should understand that they are making a moral as well as a financial commitment to any student residence or proprietor with whom they agree to live, while at the same time, the residence or the proprietor is making a commitment to them (often reserving a space for the student many months in advance). Such commitments should not be taken lightly; proprietors (or families particularly) may not be able to find another tenant once the academic year has started, and the student's departure will almost certainly mean the loss of several months rent that the proprietor has counted on. Just as you would not appreciate being evicted because your proprietor wants your room for a relative or for a student willing to pay more, you should not leave housing if the proprietor has honored their commitment to you, simply because you have found something that suits you better once you are in France. Therefore, we ask that students keep their commitment throughout the term of their studies unless there are serious reasons for not doing so.

You should expect to pay the equivalent of one month's rent in advance to reserve your housing. This deposit will be kept as security against damage or outstanding bills until you leave. Your deposit will not be applied as payment for the first or last month's rent. Be prepared to pay the first month's rent upon your arrival in Paris, Poitiers, or Bordeaux. Note that rent is paid monthly at the beginning of the month.

The School in France requests that all students purchase *housing insurance*, (*assurance d'habitation*), which includes the *responsabilité civile* (liability insurance) that provides coverage in case of damage or accidents (approximate cost: €99). This can be purchased upon your arrival. Housing insurance in Bordeaux/Poitiers costs between 35€ and 55€.

If there is a problem of any nature with your housing, Paris students should immediately inform the Student Life Coordinator. Poitiers and Bordeaux students should inform the director of the School in France. We can often act as a mediator and help to remedy the problem.

Should you need to change living arrangements during the course of the year or the semester, you must notify your residence manager or host family one month prior to moving out and the rent for that month must be paid. **If you decide to leave without one month's notice, you will lose your deposit.**

Students living with host families will be provided with the necessary linens, the corresponding number of meals, and use of kitchen, and washing machine.

Some student residences will ask students to provide their own linens and towels.

N.B. Regardless of your specific living situation, it is expected that you will be considerate of the rights and sensibilities of others and that you will honor both the spirit and the letter of any formal or informal arrangements you enter into with hosts, landlords, or residence managers. Failure to pay rent or outstanding bills, and checks written against insufficient funds, will not only harm your reputation but that of future School in France students and of your countrymen in general. It can also lead to your being denied re-entry into France in the future.

Be aware that most Parisians vacation in August, and over the Christmas and New Year's Holidays. Remember to notify your *foyer*, landlord or host family well in advance in order to ascertain whether you will be able to move in upon arrival in Paris. If necessary, you can always stay temporarily in a *foyer* or *hôtel* while waiting for your housing to become available.

EATING IN FRANCE

Le Resto U (university cafeterias)

French students often eat at the university restaurant managed by the *CROUS*. This is a great setting to meet and speak with French students. The *CROUS* is in charge of a large number of university cafeterias in Paris, Poitiers, and Bordeaux. They have a variety of establishments, including cafeterias, salad bars, pizzerias, *crêperies*, etc. There is even a Sunday brunch in one of the Paris *Resto U*. If you want to save money, this is the place to eat. Expect to pay less than €3 for a full meal. Restaurant tickets can be bought in a packet of 10 at the *CROUS* or in the restaurants themselves when you show your university identity card. The restaurants are open Monday through Friday. On the weekends and on holidays at least one restaurant will be open. Please consult the hours of operation signs posted in the *Restos U* or visit:

http://www.cnous.fr/vie_35.htm

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

Paris

The first thing to buy in Paris is a *Plan de Paris* in booklet form (the *Ponchet* and *Michelin* maps are excellent). These contain maps of the metro and the various bus lines, in addition to complete street maps by arrondissement. You will probably also want to have the *Guide vert* (Michelin) for Paris which is an excellent guide to the city. *Carnets* of 10 tickets that can be used for both the metro and the bus system (unlimited distance within Paris in both cases) can be purchased for €1.40. Tickets bought individually cost €1.60. The *carte orange* (weekly or monthly pass), which allows you an unlimited number of trips on the metro and bus within the city of Paris, costs €16.80 for a weekly pass and €55.10 for a monthly pass. Year-long students can apply for the *Carte Imagine R*, which is €292 for the year. For additional information regarding transportation in Paris and the price of metro/bus tickets and passes go to: <http://www.ratp.fr/>

Thanks to a fairly new and progressive mayor, Paris is steadily becoming a more bike-friendly city. Some advantages of biking: it provides flexibility; you can often move around much faster than by metro or bus; you see more of Paris than you would by using public transportation. The *quais* are often closed to cars on Sundays, and bike lanes or shared bike-bus lanes can be found on most streets too busy to bike comfortably. It is rarely too cold to bike in Paris. Cars are surprisingly respectful, but be sure to have a light at night (it's French law!), and a helmet at all times. You can rent, but buying when you arrive and reselling at the end of your stay might be a better idea. Good bike shop addresses can be found in the yellow pages and/or in city guides such as the '*Petit Futé Paris*'. If you decide to use a bicycle in France, we strongly recommend that you familiarize yourself with French rules of the road.

Poitiers

Students can also get around Poitiers by bike if steep hills don't frighten them. Bikes can be rented for up to six months from "Opération Vélo Campus." However, the bus is probably the best way to get around Poitiers because of its extensive system. The lines most used are: 1, 9c, and 9 which join the center of town with the university and the *Noctabus*, which runs until midnight. From the train station, lines 2, 6, and 8 go directly to the center of town (Monday through Saturday). Year-long students should consider buying a "*Carte Pass Jeune*" (€86 for 2009-2010 for 10 months, between September and June). There is also a monthly pass, the "*Carte Sable*" (€32 for 2009-2010). While in Poitiers, all transportation questions can be addressed to the *Société des Transports Poitevins* and *Espace Bus 6 rue du Chaudron d'Or*, or to the International Relations Office at the *Université de Poitiers*. For additional bus information, you can go to <http://www.vitalis-poitiers.fr/>

Bordeaux

A new tramway network combined with its very efficient bus system provide transportation within Bordeaux city limits and its outskirts. For additional information, visit: <http://www.infotbc.com/> Students can easily get to campus from downtown in 20 minutes

using the tramway's Line B. Students can subscribe to a monthly youth pass for €27 a month or a yearly pass for €177 (*Abonnement Pass Jeune*).

TRAVELING WITHIN FRANCE

The School in France usually organizes one excursion each fall for all students, undergraduates (Paris, Poitiers, and Bordeaux) and graduates, and one study trip (with an art history professor) during each semester, primarily for undergraduate students (Paris, Poitiers, and Bordeaux). Students pay their individual share of an advantageous group rate for hotel, meals, and entrance fees. The School in France covers the cost of transportation. We try to select itineraries and destinations that would be difficult or more expensive if pursued individually. Examples of past excursions include: an overnight excursion to Normandy (Allied Landing beaches) and Mont Saint-Michel (2 days; €90 in 2007-08); undergraduate study trips to Montpellier, Pezenas, Aigues-Mortes, Uzès, Nîmes (Southwestern France; 4 days; €150 in 2005-06); to Aix-Marseille (Southern France; 3 days; €150 in 2007-08) to Toulouse (Southwestern France; 3 days in 2009); and several day trips to Versailles and Fontainebleau.

Student organizations at the various institutions in Paris, the *Université de Poitiers*, and the *Université de Bordeaux 3* as well as the CNOUS/CROUS (*Centre Régional des Œuvres Universitaires et Scolaires*) in all locations often organize group excursions and trips. The cost is always reasonable, and such trips are a wonderful opportunity to get to know French students while doing something you enjoy. Visit their website at <http://www.cnous.fr/>

We encourage students to take advantage of the numerous vacation periods not only to explore Paris, the Poitou and/or the Aquitaine, but to get to know other French regions as well. As you know, *Paris n'est pas la France*, which is to say Paris is only one aspect of a country that, though it is relatively small, presents infinite variety.

Hitchhiking as a mode of transportation is strongly discouraged. The practice is regarded by security officials to be extremely unsafe and is often illegal. Buses and trains provide a low-cost, safe alternative.

When leaving Paris, Poitiers, or Bordeaux overnight or longer, students should fill out the Travelog form on the School in France website to notify the staff of their itinerary and/or addresses and phone numbers where they can be reached. This information will be kept confidential and used only in case of emergencies or urgent messages from parents. As a matter of courtesy and common sense, students living with host families should similarly inform them when they plan to be away.

Train

The most popular mode of transportation in France and in many other countries in Europe is the train. There are many discounts available to persons under 25 for travel within France. The *'Carte 12-25'* which you can buy upon arrival in France will allow you to have a discount on train tickets. The card costs €50 and is valid for up to a year. Information about these discounts is available at any train station and the various student travel agencies throughout the city. You may also get it at any *Boutique SNCF*. There is one near the *Centre Madeleine* on *rue Chauveau Lagarde*. Many discounts are available for persons of all ages; in fact, if you have visitors who want to travel inexpensively, be sure to check what discounts may be available to them. For additional train information, you can go to <http://www.sncf.fr/>

Bicycle

Many train stations offer bicycle rental and car rental services. An attractive travel option is often to travel by train to a nearby or distant destination and then explore the countryside by bike on your own. Bicycle excursions are oftentimes offered by student travel agencies or by student organizations. Check bulletin boards at the institutions where you are taking courses.

Bus

Intercity bus transportation tends to be lower in cost than second-class rail travel, and many of the buses on the road are fairly spacious, have bathrooms, and show movies. Where a choice is available, check schedules and prices, since bus travel is sometimes faster and more scenic than train travel. Discounts are available to students. Check out: <http://www.eurolines.fr/>

Budget Travel Resources

The book *Let's Go France* is very useful for information on budget lodging and meals, sites and places of interest, transportation, and helpful addresses such as post offices, cybercafes, etc. It is updated yearly and sold in the U.S. Other good travel guides in French: *Le Petit Futé* and the *Routard* series, are updated every year and available in main bookstores.

Discounted student airline tickets can be purchased at the *Office de Tourisme Universitaire* (OTU) at the CROUS¹. The travel agencies *Nouvelles Frontières* and *Wasteels* also have low-priced tickets for students under age 25.

MEETING THE FRENCH

One of the questions we are asked most frequently is how to go about meeting French students. Those of your predecessors who have been successful in this respect would say that the best approach is to find a group activity that includes French people: playing sports, choral singing, cooking/wine tasting courses, volunteer work, internships, etc -- anything that gives you an interest or a structure in common. You will need some courage and a good deal of initiative; results may not live up to your expectations, especially right away, but be patient. In Paris, it is also possible to have a French language partner through the language exchange program organized by the Student Life Coordinator at the beginning of each semester. In Bordeaux and Poitiers, this is possible through international student organizations such as *Babaoc* (Bordeaux) and *Méli-mélo* (Poitiers).

Keep in mind the strategies you would use at home to meet people you are interested in knowing: you try to be where they are, you try to share an interest or an activity that will bring you into contact with them, you get to know people who know them. It goes without saying, if you have one or two French acquaintances to start out with, it can only make things easier. Conversely, if you speak English in public it will make things more difficult. Over the course of the year the School in France organizes a number of get-togethers and outings with French students: take advantage of these opportunities, and then create your own.

In Paris, Poitiers, and Bordeaux there are many student organizations. The CROUS is a great place to learn about all that the city has to offer. In Poitiers, *La Maison des Etudiants* is located on the eastern edge of the campus next to the university restaurant, *Champlain*. The *M.D.E.* is a place to get information on all student organizations, local sports and entertainment, buy tickets, and even attend musical and cultural performances. In Bordeaux, the CROUS and the Office of International Relations are great starting points to find out about student activities.

Student association “*Méli-mélo*” in **Poitiers**:
<http://assomelimelo.spaces.live.com/>

Student association “*Babaoc*” in **Bordeaux**:
<http://babaoc.free.fr/>

¹ The CROUS is located at 39 avenue Georges Bernanos, 75006 Paris and 117 avenue du Recteur Pineau, 86000 Poitiers.

Sports and other group activities

In Paris, Poitiers, and Bordeaux, the sport department (*SUAPS* or *UEFAPS*) organizes weekly activities in various sports that are supervised by professors or certified trainers: tennis, aerobics, weight training, badminton, basketball, dance, handball, karate, tae kwan do, rugby, volleyball, yoga, etc. To participate in any activity during the semester or year, you must enroll at the beginning of the semester with the *SUAPS*. **Do not miss the deadline to sign up as space is limited.**

ON~SITE MONEY MATTERS

You may want to bring enough cash (euros) with you from the U.S. to get you through the first days of your term abroad, or at least to last until you can get to a bank or ATM. Generally speaking, we advise students to have some of their money in dollars and some in euros in order to take best advantage of changes in the currency rate. It is often advantageous to buy euros in a bank that offers currency exchange services rather than at a *bureau de change*. The latter post a rate already reduced by a percentage of the amount you are changing, whereas banks normally post a better rate and charge a flat commission; do some comparison shopping. Which operation is more favorable will normally depend on how large an amount you are changing. Note that you never get the rate quoted in the daily newspaper, which is the “big bank rate.”

Be aware that there will be many expenses at the beginning of the year: rent deposit, first month’s rent payment, phone installation charges, transportation pass, phone cards, museum memberships, excursions, etc.

BANKING IN FRANCE

Although not required, opening a bank account in France will most likely facilitate your money transactions throughout your stay, especially when you take into consideration the recent volatility of the euro/dollar exchange rate. You will probably want to open a checking account or a *compte courant*. Be sure to check on minimum balance and other specific requirements before opening an account, and keep in mind that a bank draft or personal check in dollars can take up to eight weeks to clear in a French bank, even if you are an account-holder in good standing. The bank will charge a commission for the exchange operation. It is a good idea to open an account soon after your arrival in France and, if you can, it is probably more economical and faster to wire a larger amount of money from the U.S. at the beginning of your stay rather than several smaller amounts throughout the semester or the year. However, this is your decision to make. Given students’ past experiences, we strongly encourage you to favor the wire transfer as opposed to cashing a check in dollars which may take as long as 10 weeks.

Generally speaking, it is preferable to open an account at a bank in your neighborhood. However, students in Paris also find it convenient to have their account at a bank near the *Centre Madeleine*. The *Crédit Mutuel* on 7, blvd Malesherbes, which is across the street from our Center and the *BNP*, right across Notre-Dame-La-Grande in Poitiers have been accommodating to our students. In Bordeaux, the *BNP*, 67 rue Sainte Catherine, seems to be a friendly option for students.

To open a bank account, you will need to provide:

- ❖ a photocopy of your passport and your visa
- ❖ proof of housing (copy of a rent agreement and/or an electric bill)
- ❖ a letter of enrollment from the Director of the School (*Attestation d’études*)
- ❖ (Optional) a deposit slip or some other ID from your U.S. bank account which could be useful when refunding any unused balance at the end of your stay.

Ordinary checks in France are non-endorsable (i.e., no third-party checks), and they may not be made out for more than the amount owed. One of the advantages of having a *compte courant*, if you are allowed to open one, is that personal checks on a French bank are widely accepted in France; this can be a great convenience when traveling or just on a shopping expedition. There is a flip side: it is an extremely serious matter to “bounce” a check in France (*faire un chèque sans provisions*) — learn how to say it, but don’t do it!

If your French bank has branches in the U.S., deposits can be made in your name in the U.S. branch, which will then transfer the amount to your account in the French branch. This procedure will take from eight to ten days, and there may be fees at both ends. If you adopt this system, make absolutely sure you or the person making the deposit indicates your name, your account number, and in which French branch you have your account. It is possible to use this system both at the beginning of the year to transfer money as soon as you have opened an account and during your entire stay in France. Again, you must be able to provide the U.S. branch of the French bank with the identification number of the branch in France where you have opened your account.

It is also possible to have money wired from the U.S. by **Telex** directly into your French account. During the course of the year, this is probably the fastest and most reliable means of transfer. Again, it is extremely important to specify not only the name of the bank but also the branch number and address, the name of the beneficiary (i.e. your name), and your individual account number. You may also have money wired to you at **American Express**² via Telex, which is almost never subject to strikes, but charges a commission.

Remember to close out your account (*fermer votre compte*) two weeks **before leaving France** — you may have interest coming to you, and in any case your mail will not be forwarded indefinitely.

Although U.S. credit cards and/or debit cards are very convenient to have (and highly recommended), do be advised that if you do not have your own bank account in France, it may prove quite difficult to cash checks you might receive from financial aid or from relatives. Also note that though personal checks drawn on U.S. banks can be cashed in the French bank where you have an account, a commission is charged, and the check may take some time to clear. The commission may be quite high, reducing birthday checks, for example, to virtually nothing. It is best to have your financial aid checks sent directly to someone in the U.S. who can deposit them into your U.S. bank, from which you can draw money with your ATM card. Please indicate to your home institution's student accounts or financial aid office where you would like your check to be sent before departure. Don't forget that credit and debit card companies charge a fee for cash advances, and that interest on the credit card advances is charged from the time of the cash advance.

CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS

Visa and Mastercard are widely accepted in France and other foreign countries and are more common than ATMs accepting Cirrus cards. You will want to obtain either card before leaving the U.S. Be sure to confirm with your bank that your credit and/or debit card can be used overseas. It is essential that you have your PIN (Personal Identification Number) if you expect to withdraw money from an ATM; it will also occasionally be required for purchases in stores as well. Confirm that your PIN is valid outside of the U.S. before you leave. Cash advances and purchases made with a debit card will be debited directly and within 24 hours to your U.S. account with a small, 2-3% charge (but at the best available "big bank" rate for that day). Cash advances obtained with a credit card also accrue interest from the time of the cash advance, so you may want to make a practice of pre-paying your credit card charges. Do not carry your card and PIN together!

If you open an account in a French bank, you may be able to ask for a *Carte Bleue* (valid just in France, or internationally, for a slightly higher fee). This can be very convenient, and many students have used this method. Purchases and cash advances are debited to your French bank account. This will also avoid having to use your U.S. debit/credit card particularly when the exchange rate is not favorable to the dollar.

² The American Express office, 11 rue Scribe, 75009 Paris (a 10-minute walk from the Centre Madeleine).

TRAVELLERS' CHEQUES

If you or your parent/guardian belong to the American Automobile Association (AAA) you can obtain VISA travellers' cheques or a rechargeable VISA TravelMoney card. AAA offers varying denominations and plans. Please contact your local office for the most up to date information or visit <http://www.aaa.com>

Holding some travelers checks in dollars in reserve can get you through strikes, but if the dollar drops in value you will lose money so we don't suggest that you hold a lot of money in (U.S. dollar) travellers' cheques.

American Express offers travellers' cheques in U.S. dollar amounts. For more information regarding travellers' cheques through American Express, please visit: <http://www.americanexpress.com/travellerscheques>

Additionally, you may use the services of the American Express office in Paris to 1) draw a certain amount of money upon presentation of an American Express credit card, and 2) cash a personal check on an American bank (also on presentation of the card). Please contact the American Express Office for further details.

COMMUNICATION WITH HOME AND FRIENDS

COMMUNICATION AND IMMERSION

Students who seek maximum immersion in France should note that regular communication with home, in English, can significantly hinder their language progress and their adjustment to the new culture. If your goal is maximum immersion, you should prepare family and friends for the reality that you may be difficult to contact and that, even when possible, regular calling or e-mailing may interfere with your language acquisition. If something has gone wrong, your family will be notified immediately. Otherwise, you can remind them that no news is good news.

MAIL

Your official address will be your personal address in Paris, Poitiers, or Bordeaux.

Once you have permanent housing, you may want to give your home address in France to frequent correspondents. If living with a host family, remember to include 'chez Mme/Famille X.....' after your name for the mailbox will most likely have your hostess' last name on it. Be sure to tell anyone from whom you expect to receive packages that they should address them clearly and indicate precisely what they contain (e.g., personal effects, used clothing, etc.). If you are sending or having sent to you (although not recommended), any electronic equipment (i.e., computer, printer, MP3 players, etc.), be sure to have a copy of the invoice or bill for to show customs and have the sender indicate that you are a student. Customs may be willing to waive the VAT (20.6% of the value), particularly if the equipment is used or more than six months old. However, once again, we recommend that you DO NOT send or have sent to you items such as computers, printers, iPods, etc. These have been lost/stolen in the past.

Packages should not arrive at the *Centre Madeleine* as they require payment of additional handling or customs fees and/or the signature of the receiver.

Baggage CANNOT be accepted or held in the School in France office at any time.

Before leaving Paris, Poitiers, or Bordeaux students should be sure to change their address with regular correspondents, their bank, etc., and to leave their permanent address with the School in France staff or their landlord/host for Poitiers/Bordeaux. Though we will make every effort to forward any mail received after you leave, please be aware that the School in France is not responsible for mail that arrives after your departure, and that we will not forward mail indefinitely.

You can buy stamps at the post office or at any *Bureau de tabac*. Air mail rates are considerably higher in France than they are in the U.S. (as of this writing, 0.90€ for a France-US stamp). *La Poste* now sells pre-stamped domestic and international mail envelopes ("*prêt à poster*") in packages of ten, at considerable savings over what the envelopes and stamps would cost separately. **N.B. It costs the same to send a postcard as it does to send a letter.**

E~MAIL

There are many businesses in Paris, Poitiers, and Bordeaux that provide internet access at a very reasonable rate.

We suggest you make note of important e-mail addresses (academic advisor, department chair, etc.) before leaving (for Middlebury College students, these are also available at the *Centre Madeleine*).

Paris

While we cannot match the technological infrastructure available on U.S. university campuses, the School in France does provide a number of computers (Mac and PC) for use in our computer room, a laser printer, and a half dozen hook-ups for portable computers. Our computers are all equipped with Microsoft Office tools (Word, Excel, Power Point). Although we have expanded the number of computers available for student use, this equipment might not meet demand at certain times of the year (e.g., during final exams at the end of each semester).

There is wireless (802.11g type network) access point at the *Centre Madeleine*. If your laptop computer already has a Wi-Fi card, you can easily use the office's Wi-Fi network. If your computer does not have an integrated or external Wi-Fi card, you may buy one beforehand; make sure that your card will be compatible with our network. You can also find Wi-Fi cards in Paris computer stores for approximately €50/card for PCs.

N.B.: At the Centre Madeleine, study-related word processing will always take priority over e-mail.

Poitiers

At the *Université de Poitiers*, students will be given a personal email address but can continue to use their home school e-mail address. Please note that some labs are reserved only for faculty and doctoral students. Most of the *foyers* and some of the host families provide internet access. If you have a laptop computer, most places on campus are now equipped with WiFi hot spots, accessible using your Poitiers student login.

Bordeaux

The *University of Bordeaux 3* has nine computer rooms used specifically for information technology courses and two free access computer rooms (K103 and K107 on the Bordeaux 3 campus are open during the week from 8h30 to 19h30) for individual work and printing.

In addition, there are several wireless hotspots installed throughout the campus, including the university cafeteria *Le Sirtaki*, the *Maison des Etudiants* and the library. In order to access the network, students need to have a compatible wireless card in their laptops and activate their e-mail account upon enrolling for courses.

TELEPHONE/CELL PHONES

You can telephone from public phone booths (found standing alone on the streets, in the *abribus*, at bus stops, in *métro* stations or at the Post Office). Note that public phones now work only with a *télecarte* which can be purchased in different denominations at any Post Office, *bureau de tabac*, or *kiosque de presse*.

You may also buy a long-distance calling card in France to call overseas for €7-€10. With this type of card, you dial a local French number and then dial in the code on the back of your card. It is advisable to use this type of card rather than a calling card such as AT&T or others, which are usually very expensive (rates are approx. €1/minute). You may find it preferable to call at certain times of the day or week in order to get a lower French rate (before 2 p.m., after 8:30 p.m., and all day Sunday).

The use of cell phones in France is common, and they are easily obtainable. There are currently two systems: 1) pre-paid cards which give you a certain amount of minutes and 2) a year-long contract for 2, 4, or 6 hours per month and special offers such as unlimited calls to other French cell phones in the evening. In the past, year students have been able to obtain a contract with a cell phone operator by showing proof of residence (this is less expensive than the pre-paid card system). Note that in France, all received calls on a cell phone are free of charge.

Be sure to observe French telephone etiquette when calling to or from the family phone in a private home. It is impolite to call or receive a call before 9:00 a.m., or after 9:00 p.m. unless this has been previously arranged with your host. If you can get a cell phone, we recommend you use it instead of the hosts' phone to make your personal calls. If you need to use the house phone for whatever reason, ask before you do so.

FAX

The *Centre Madeleine* handles fax requests from students for academic-related issues only..

LOCAL INFORMATION

Paris

Emergencies

During the on-site orientation, students will receive an Emergency Card listing emergency numbers, which they should carry with them at all times.

These numbers are toll-free from any public phone:

- 15 SAMU (Emergency Medical Team/Ambulance)
- 17 Police
- 18 Pompiers (Fire Department)

01.47.07.77.77 - SOS Médecins
(private company for emergency doctors)

01.40.37.04.04 - Anti-Poison Center

01.43.37.51.00 - SOS Dentistes
(private company for emergencies)

01.45.74.00.04 - SOS Drogues
(private company for drug emergencies)

01.47.23.80.80 - SOS Help
(English-speaking hotline open daily 3 p.m.-11 p.m.)

General Physicians:

Dr. Roussel
64, rue de Rennes
75006 Paris
01.42.22.40.02

Dr. Phillippe Vellard
57, avenue du Maine
75014 Paris
01.43.35.37.00

Dentist:

Dr. Chekroun
14 rue Chomel
75007 Paris
01.45.48.48.88

Gynecologist:

Dr. Arnoux Rouveyre
12, rue du Val de Grâce
75005 Paris
01.46.34.61.05

Ear-Nose-Throat specialist:

Dr. Christian Betsch
67 rue Passy
75016 Paris
01.42.30.90.91

Counseling

The Counseling Center at the American Cathedral
23, avenue George V
75008 Paris.
Tél: 01 47 23 61 13

Hospitals in Paris

Hôpital Cochin
27, rue Faubourg St-Jacques
75014 Paris
Tél: 01 58 41 41 41

Hôpital Européen Georges Pompidou
20, rue Leblanc
75015 Paris
Tél: 01 56 09 20 0

Hôpital-Hôtel Dieu
1 place du Parvis Notre-Dame
75004 Paris
Tél: 01 42 34 82 34

Hôpital Américain de Paris
63, boulevard Victor Hugo
92200 Neuilly sur Seine
Tél: 01 46 41 25 25

Hôpital Pitié Salpêtrière
47, boulevard Hôpital
75013 Paris
Tél: 01 42 16 00 00

Pharmacies open 24/7

Pharmacie Européenne
6, place de Clichy
Paris 9e. Métro: Place de Clichy
Tél: 01 48 74 65 18

Pharmacie Les Champs
84, av. des Champs-Élysées
Paris 8e. Métro: George V
Tél: 01 45 62 02 41.

Grande pharmacie Daumesnil
6, place Félix Eboué
Paris 12e. Métro: Daumesnil
Tél: 01 43 43 19 03

In addition, there are about 20 other pharmacies that stay open until 1 or 2a.m. For further information, visit:
<http://www.lannuairesante.fr/www.doctissimo.fr/asp/prehome.asp>

Other Useful Numbers/Addresses

(This list is far from exhaustive!)

U.S. Embassy in Paris (Consular Section)
2, rue Saint-Florentin
75382 Paris Cedex 08
Tél: 01 43 12 22 22
mailto: citizeninfo@state.gov
<http://france.usembassy.gov/>

The Consulate makes available a free guide for U.S. citizens residing in France, which is updated every year and contains a great deal of useful information and addresses (attorneys, accountants, notaries, official translators and interpreters, tax accountants and consultants, insurance companies, shipping companies, banks, religious institutions, English-speaking doctors, cyber cafés, Franco-U.S. and U.S. organizations, etc.). They call this guide, the “Blue book”.

American Express

11, rue Scribe
75009 Paris
Tél: 01 47 77 72 00

Lost and Found

Centre des Objets Trouvés de la Préfecture de Police de Paris
36, rue des Morillons
75015 Paris

Open 8:30 a.m.-5p.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays 8a.m.-8p.m.

Credit Card Cancellation

American Express
11, rue Scribe
75009 Paris.
Tél: 01 47 77 72 00
Open M- F 9a.m.-5p.m.

BankAmericard (Visa)
Tél: 08 00 90 20 33
24 hours a day for loss or theft

Master Card, Cirrus, Plus, Visa
Eurocard France
16, rue Lecroube
75015 Paris
Tél: 01 45 67 84 84
24 hours a day
(to notify the bank in the U.S.:
Tél: 01 43 23 20 76)

Currency exchange

Multi-Change
8 blvd de la Madeleine
75009 Paris
Tél: 01 49 24 96 62
Open Monday – Saturday
9:30am - 6 :30pm
Check website for other addresses in Paris:
<http://www.multi-change.com/>

Travel (student prices)

Organisation de Tourisme Universitaire (OTU)
39, Avenue Georges Bernanos
75005 Paris

Voyage Wasteels
11 rue Dupuytren
75006 Paris

Religious Institutions

American Cathedral in Paris (Episcopal)
23, Avenue George V
75008 Paris
Tél: 01 53 23 84 00

American Church in Paris (Protestant)
65, Quai d’Orsay
75007 Paris
Tél: 01 40 62 05 00

Saint Joseph's Church (Roman Catholic)
50, Avenue Hoche
75008 Paris
Tél: 01 42 27 28 56

Liberal Synagogue
24, rue Copernic
75116 Paris
Tél: 01 47 04 37 27

Mosque Abu Bakr As Siddio
39 Boulevard de Belleville
75011 Paris
Tél: 01 48 06 08 46

Bookstores

Gibert Joseph
26 Boulevard Saint-Michel
75006 Paris
Tél: 01 46 33 41 32

Gibert Jeune (new & used books)
Several stores in the Latin Quarter

FNAC
136, rue de Rennes
75006 Paris
Tél: 01 8 25 02 00 20

Shakespeare & Company
37, rue de la Bûcherie
75005 Paris
Tél: 01 43 25 40 93

Virgin Megastore
52, Avenue des Champs-Élysées
75008 Paris
Tél: 01 49 53 50 00

W.H. Smith
248, rue de Rivoli
75001 Paris
Tél: 01 44 77 88 99

Brentano's
37 Avenue de l'Opéra
75002 Paris
Tél: 01 42 61 52 50

Note: There are thousands of bookstores in Paris, some of them very specialized; don't neglect to look for used books (*livres d'occasion*), that cost much less than new.

There is a wonderful used book market in the 15th arrondissement, *rue Dantzig*, right next to the *Parc André Citroën*, open every Sunday.

Cyber-Cafés

Milk Internet Hall
Open 24 hours/day, everyday
6 Locations in Central Paris:
Les Halles, 31 bd Sébastopol, Paris
Saint-Michel, 53 rue de la Harpe, Paris 5^{ème}
Panthéon, 17 rue Soufflot, Paris 5^{ème}
Montparnasse, 5, rue Odessa, Paris 14^{ème}
Opéra, 28 rue du Quatre Septembre, Paris 2^{ème}
Bastille, 20 rue du Faubourg St Antoine, Paris 12^{ème}

Department Stores

Galeries Lafayette et Printemps
Métro: Havre-Caumartin

Bazar de l'Hotel de Ville
Métro: Hotel de Ville

Bon Marché (not *très bon marché* in fact)
Métro: Sèvres-Babylone

Excess Baggage & Moving Companies

Excess International
<http://www.excess.fr/>
Tél: 01 49 19 86 02

Libraries

To obtain a library card at one of the many municipal libraries in Paris you will need to show an official piece of identification, such as a passport or a *titre de séjour* and proof of housing. Obtaining a library card is free whether you live in Paris or not. For the most part, libraries are closed on Sundays, Mondays, and on official holidays.

For a comprehensive list of libraries in Paris (arranged by arrondissement, including detailed location and opening hours), please visit:

http://www.paris.fr/portail/Culture/Portail.lut?page_id=7973

LOCAL INFORMATION

Poitiers

Emergencies:

During the on-site orientation, students will receive an Emergency Card listing emergency numbers, which they should carry on their person at all times.

These numbers are toll-free from any public phone:

- 15 SAMU (Emergency Medical Team/Ambulance)
- 17 Police
- 18 Pompiers (Fire Department)

Anti-Poison Center (Bordeaux)
Tél: 05 56 96 40 80

Regional Hospital of the Vienne
Tél: 05 49 44 44 44

Gendarmerie nationale
Tél: 05.49.44.02.02

Université de Poitiers

Service des Relations Internationales
Maryvonne Guérin
Hôtel Pinet
15 rue de l'Hôtel Dieu
86034 Poitiers Cedex
Tél: 05 49 45 30 87

Psychologist

Vincent Estellon
16 r Vieilles Boucheries
86000 Poitiers
Tél: 05 49 03 37 29 0
Tél: 06 64 97 97 98
mailto: vincentest@free.fr

Other Useful Numbers/Addresses

(This list is far from exhaustive!)

U.S. Embassy in Paris (Consular Section)
2, rue Saint-Florentin
75382 Paris Cedex 08
Tél: 01 43 12 22 22
mailto: citizeninfo@state.gov
<http://france.usembassy.gov/>

The Consulate makes available a free guide for U.S. citizens residing in France, which is updated every year and contains a great deal of useful information and addresses (attorneys, accountants, notaries, official translators and interpreters, tax accountants and consultants, insurance companies, shipping companies, banks, religious institutions, English-speaking doctors, cyber cafés, Franco-U.S. and U.S. organizations, etc.). They call this guide, the "Blue book".

Préfecture de la Vienne ("Titres de séjour")
Place Aristide Briand
86031 Poitiers Cedex
Tél: 05 49 55 70 00
<http://www.vienne.pref.gouv.fr/>

Caisse d'Allocations Familiales (CAF)
(« Allocations Logements »)
41, rue du Touffenet
86000 Poitiers
Tél: 05 49 44 73 94

Health and Counseling

Centre Hospitalier Henri Laborit
370 avenue Jacques Coeur - BP 587
86021 Poitiers
Tél: 05 49 44 57 57

Service Inter Universitaire de Médecine Préventive et de Promotion de la Santé
Campus - 2 allée Jean Monnet
Tél: 05 49 45 33 54

Lost and Found

Centre des Objets Trouvés de la Préfecture de Police de Poitiers
Open 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays 8a.m.-8p.m.

Credit Card Cancellation

American Express
11, rue Scribe
75009 Paris.
Tél: 01 47 77 72 00
Open M- F 9a.m.-5p.m.

BankAmericard (Visa)
Tél: 08 00 90 20 33
24 hours a day for loss or theft

Master Card, Cirrus, Plus, Visa
Eurocard France
16, rue Lecroube
75015 Paris
Tél: 01 45 67 84 84
24 hours a day
(to notify the bank in the U.S.:
Tél: 01 43 23 20 76)

Travel

O.T.U. Voyage
<http://www.wasteels.fr/>

Agence des Etudiants - C.R.O.U.S.
Cité Rabelais
7, rue de la Devinière
86000 Poitiers
Tél: 05 49 52 37 76

Office de Tourisme
45, place Charles de Gaulle
86000 Poitiers
Tél: 05 49 41 21 24

Centre Régional d'Information Jeunesse
(C.R.I.J.)
64, rue Gambetta
BP 176
86004 Poitiers Cedex
Tél: 05 49 52 35 35
<http://www.ij-poitou-charentes.org/>

Libraries

Bibliothèque Universitaire
Section Droit-Lettres
96, avenue du Recteur Pineau
86022 Poitiers Cedex

Bibliothèque Universitaire
Section Sciences
40, avenue du Recteur Pineau
86022 Poitiers Cedex

Médiathèque François Mitterrand (located
in center-city Poitiers)
4, rue de l'Université
BP 619
86022 Poitiers Cedex

Taxis

Radio Taxi
Tél: 05 49 88 12 34

LOCAL INFORMATION

Bordeaux

Emergencies:

During the on-site orientation, students will receive an Emergency Card listing emergency numbers, which they should carry on their person at all times.

These numbers are toll-free from any public phone:

- 15 SAMU (Emergency Medical Team/Ambulance)
- 17 Police
- 18 Pompiers (Fire Department)

Anti-Poison Center (Bordeaux)

Tél: 05 56 96 40 80

Main Hospital in Bordeaux Center

Tél: 05 56 79 56 79

Gendarmerie nationale

Tél: 05 56 90 47 70

Universities

Université de **BORDEAUX 1**: Sciences et Technologies

351 cours de la Libération

33405 Talence Cedex

Tél: 05 40 00 60 00

<http://www.u-bordeaux1.fr/>

Université **VICTOR SEGALEN BORDEAUX 2**:

Santé, Sciences et Sciences de l'Homme

<http://www.u-bordeaux2.fr/index.jsp>

Site Carreire :146 rue Léo Saignat

33076 Bordeaux Cedex

Tél: 05 57 57 10 10

Site Talence: sport avenue Camille Julian

33400 Talence

Tél: 05 56 84 52 00

Site Victoire: 3 ter place de la Victoire-

33076 Bordeaux Cedex

Tél: 05 57 57 18 00

Université MICHEL DE MONTAIGNE

BORDEAUX 3 : Lettres et Sciences

Humaines

Domaine universitaire

33607 PESSAC Cedex

Tél: 05 57 12 44 44

<http://www.u-bordeaux3.fr/fr/index.html>

Université **MONTESQUIEU BORDEAUX 4**:

Droit-Sciences Economiques-Gestion

Domaine Universitaire

Avenue Léon Duguit

33608 Pessac Cedex

Tél: 05 56 84 85 86

<http://www.u-bordeaux4.fr/accueil>

Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Bordeaux

(Sciences Po Bordeaux)

Domaine Universitaire

33607 Pessac Cedex

Tél: 05 56 84 42 52

<http://www.sciencespobordeaux.fr/fr/index.html>

Other Useful Numbers/Addresses

(This list is far from exhaustive!)

U.S. Embassy in Paris (Consular Section)

2, rue Saint-Florentin

75382 Paris Cedex 08

Tél: 01 43 12 22 22

mailto: citizeninfo@state.gov

<http://france.usembassy.gov/>

The Consulate makes available a free guide for U.S. citizens residing in France, which is updated every year and contains a great deal of useful information and addresses (attorneys, accountants, notaries, official translators and interpreters, tax accountants and consultants, insurance companies, shipping companies, banks, religious institutions, English-speaking doctors, cyber cafés, Franco-U.S. and U.S. organizations, etc.). They call this guide, the "Blue book".

Libraries

S.C.D. de l'Université de Bordeaux 1
B.U Sciences et Techniques
allée Baudrimont
33405 Talence Cedex
Tél: 05 56 84 89 89

S.C.D. de l'Université Victor Segalen -
Bordeaux 2
B.U des Sciences de la Vie et de la Santé
146, rue Léo Saignat
33000 Bordeaux Cedex
Tél: 05 57 57 14 52

B.U Sciences de l'Homme et Odontologie
3, place de la Victoire
33800 Bordeaux Cedex
Tél: 05 57 57 19 30

B.U des Sciences du Sport
Domaine Universitaire
av Camille Jullian
33405 Talence Cedex
Tél: 05 56 84 52 07

S.C.D. de l'Université Michel de
Montaigne- Bordeaux 3
B.U de Lettres
4, av des Arts BP 117
33607 Pessac Cedex
Tél: 05 57 12 47 43

S.C.D. de l'Université Montesquieu -
Bordeaux 4
B.U de Droit et de Sciences Economiques
Allée du Maine de Biran BP 118
33402 Talence Cedex
Tél: 05 56 84 86 56

SICOD des Universités de Bordeaux
(Service Inter-établissements de
Coopération Documentaire)
4, av des Arts
33607 Pessac Cedex
Tél: 05 56 84 86 86

Bibliothèque Pluridisciplinaire
125, crs Alsace Lorraine
33000 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 52 33 02

**Bibliothèques municipales de la ville de
Bordeaux :**

Mériadeck (grande bibliothèque centrale)
85 cours du Maréchal Juin
33000 Bordeaux
Tél : 05 56 10 30 00

**Pour en savoir plus sur les autres
bibliothèques de quartier à Bordeaux :**

<http://www.bordeaux.fr/ebx/portals/ebx.portal?nfpb=true&pageLabel=pgSomRub11&classofcontent=sommaire&id=790>

Pôle Universitaire de Bordeaux

Maison Internationale
166 cours de l'Argonne
33000 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 33 80 80

Health and Counseling

Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de
Bordeaux
1, rue Jean Burguet
33800 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 79 56 79

Le Service Inter-Universitaire de Médecine
Préventive et de Promotion de la Santé
Domaine Universitaire
13, avenue Pey-Berland
33600 Pessac
Tél: 05 56 04 06 06

SSU- Service de Santé Universitaire
3 ter place de la Victoire
Bat F 1er Etage.
33076 Bordeaux Cedex
Tél: 05 57 57 19 07
Sida Info service : N° vert 0800 84 08 00

Pharmacies open 24/7

Pharmacie d'Albret
71 cours d'Albret, Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 96 68 36

Pharmacie des Capucins

30 place des Capucins, Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 91 62 66

Lost and Found

Centre des Objets Trouvés de Bordeaux
99 rue Abbé de l'Epée
33000 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 44 20 18
Open 8:30am - 12pm and 1pm - 4:30pm
Thurs from 8:30am - 12pm and 1pm- 3pm

Sports

S.I.U.A.P.S (Service Inter Universitaire des Activités Physiques et Sportives) sports organism for the four Bordeaux universities that provides different outdoor physical education activities for students and university personnel, also responsible for managing all athletic facilities at the different campuses.

Avenue Jean Babin-Domaine Universitaire-
33405 Talence.
Tél: 05 56 80 17 49

SUAPS Bordeaux I Sciences

351 crs de la Libération
33405 Talence Cedex
Tél: 05 56 84 63 69
IUT Bordeaux I
Tél: 05 56 84 57 38

SUAPS Bordeaux 2-Victor Ségalen

146 rue Léo Saignat
33076 Bordeaux Cedex
Tél: 05 57 57 14 03

DAPS Bordeaux-Michel de Montaigne III

Esplanade des Antilles - 33405 Talence
Cedex
Tél: 05 56 84 52 66
IUT Bordeaux III
Tél: 05 56 84 50 50

SUAPS Bordeaux IV-Montesquieu

Avenue Léon Duguit
33604 Pessac Cedex
Tél: 05 56 84 85 17

FNSU (Fédération Nationale du Sport Universitaire)

Il organise les compétitions sportives.
Domaine Universitaire Stadium
Rocquencourt
Av Jean Babin
33405 Talence Cedex
Tél: 05 56 80 14 25

BEC (Bordeaux Etudiants Club)

av. Jean Babin-Domaine Universitaire
33405 Talence Cedex
Tél: 05 56 37 48 48

Piscine universitaire de Talence

Tél: 05 56 80 75 80

Travel

O.T.U. Voyage
<http://www.wasteels.fr/>

Aéroport de Bordeaux:

<http://www.bordeaux.aeroport.fr/>

General Information for Youth**CJA**

5, rue Duffour Dubergier
et 125, crs Alsace Lorraine
33000 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 56 00 56
<http://www.info-jeune.net/>

Cultural Venues

Opéra de Bordeaux
Place de la Comédie, BP95
33025 Bordeaux Cedex
Tél : 05 56 00 85 65

Théâtre Fémina

rue de Grassi
33000 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 52 45 19

Centre André Malraux (conservatoire national)

quai Ste Croix
33800 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 92 96 96

Palais des Sports de Bordeaux

place de la Ferme Richemont
33000 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 79 39 61

TnBA - Théâtre national de Bordeaux en Aquitaine

3 place Renaudel
33000 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 33 36 80
<http://www.tnba.org/>
mailto: billetterie@tnba.org

Café théâtre "L'Onyx"
11 rue Ferdinand Philippiart
33000 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 44 26 12

Théâtre Barbey
22 crs Barbey
33800 Bordeaux
Tél: 05 56 33 66 00

In Talence
Espace culturel de la Médoquine
crs du Maréchal Galliéni
33400 Talence
Tél: 05 56 24 05 29

Office Culturel et Educatif de Talence
Château Peixotto
33402 Talence
Tél: 05 56 84 78 82

In Mérignac
Espace Culturel du Pin Galant
Tél: 05 56 97 00 51

Main Museums (Bordeaux)
Musée d'Aquitaine
20 crs Pasteur
Tél: 05 56 01 51 0
Gratuit pour les étudiants.

Musée des Beaux-Arts
20 crs d'Albret
Tél: 05 56 10 17 49
<http://www.culture.gouv.fr/culture/bordeaux/>

Musée d'art contemporain/CAPC
Entrepôts Lainé 7 rue Ferrère
Tél: 05 56 00 81 50
mailto: capc@mairie-bordeaux.fr

APPENDIX A:

Grade Conversions

*Middlebury College & Consortium
(Hamilton, Middlebury, Smith) et ISTR*

≥ 16	A
≥ 15	A-
≥ 14	B+
≥ 13	B
≥ 12	B-
≥ 11	C+
≥ 10	C
≥ 9	C-
≥ 8	D
< 8	F

*French as foreign language courses
Ateliers artistiques*

≥ 16,5	A
≥ 15,5	A-
≥ 14,5	B+
≥ 13,5	B
≥ 12,5	B-
≥ 11,5	C+
≥ 10,5	C
≥ 10	C-
< 10	F

Universités françaises et Sciences Po

≥ 15	A
≥ 14	A-
≥ 13	B+
≥ 11,5	B
≥ 10	B-
≥ 9	C+
≥ 8	C
≥ 7	C-
≥ 6	D
< 6	F

TENTATIVE SCHOOL IN FRANCE CALENDAR 2009-2010

PARIS

Fall orientation begins	Early-September, 2009
Fall classes begin	Late-September, 2009
Fall classes/exams over	Late-January, 2010
Spring orientation begins	Early-January, 2009
Spring classes begin	Late-January, 2009
Spring/year classes/exams over	Mid-June, 2009

POITIERS

Fall orientation in Paris begins	Early-September, 2009
Fall courses begin	Early-September, 2009
Fall Classes/Exams over	Mid-January, 2010
Spring orientation in Poitiers begins	Early-January, 2009
Spring courses begin	Early-January, 2009
Spring/Year Classes/Exams over	Mid/Late May, 2010

BORDEAUX

Orientation in Bordeaux begins	Early-September, 2009
Fall courses begin	Early-September, 2009
Fall Classes/Exams over	Mid-January, 2010
Spring orientation in Bordeaux begins	Early-January, 2009
Spring courses begin	Early-January, 2009
Spring/Year Classes/Exams over	Mid/Late May, 2010

The School in France (*Centre Madeleine*) is closed on French legal holidays, during school vacations, and in July and August.

Please Note: *To date, French official academic calendars have not been published. Therefore, these dates are subject to modification.

Students should regularly consult the web page of the School in France for updates on the calendar: <http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/sa/france/calendar>