Country: __France____ Program: ________UC Paris________ Term & Year Abroad: Summer 2010
Gender: Male  Major/Minor: ____Global Studies/French_____

**Instructors**
- What were they like when compared to UCSB instructors?
  Instructors were similar to that of the US.

- Could you call them by their first names?
  Depending on the instructor, one of them allowed us to, the other no.

- Was the student/instructor relationship more formal than at UCSB?
  The student/instructor relationship was similar to that of UCSB.

- Were they available for help during office hours?
  Yes, they were available for help during office hours.

**Courses**
- Were the courses more difficult when compared to UCSB courses?
  Being more compact and over the summer, it was a lot more work than anticipated.

- Was the grading system similar to UCSB?
  The grading system was the same since it was a UC Program.

- How did the course structure differ?  Ex) did you have many assignments or just finals?
  Being a summer course it was just compact and a lot more assignments and tests.

- Did you have oral and/or written exams?
  For the French course we had both exams.

- Was the final exam schedule flexible or inflexible?
  The final exam schedule was inflexible, just like UCSB.

- What kind of academic support, if any, did you receive?
  Just office hours where students can get help with any problems.

- Did you find you needed to be more independent and take more initiative abroad?
  Since I was on a UC Program, I wanted to be more independent to get a better experience and sense of being abroad as opposed to studying with UC students.

- Was classroom participation expected?
  Yes, classroom participation was expected like in language courses here.

- How were the host university courses different than UCSB courses?
  Faster paced courses with higher expectations of students.

- Were classes usually on certain days/times and for how long?
  Classes were Monday through Thursday, 9am to 4pm with a two hour lunch break.
What is the class culture like? How important was it to be punctual? Could you eat/drink in class?
Punctuality was important to the teachers and we were allowed to eat/drink snacks.

Language
- In which languages were the courses offered? French and English.
- What language did you take your courses in? Both French and English
- If you took your courses in a foreign language, please provide info about your overall experience, difficulty of courses, language acquisition, placement exams, etc.
Exams and difficulty were fair, just fast paced with a lot of information to cover in such short amount of time.

Host University
- How large is the university? Student enrollment and approx campus size (smaller than UCSB)? Is it an urban campus with many tall buildings or just a few building?
It is a building, classes were similar to sections of 20-30 students.
- Do the local students live on campus, at home, or off campus?
There were no local students, just UC students.
- If not located in the city center,
  o How far or close is it to the city?
  o What type of public transportation could you take – cost?
  o Could students take cabs -cost?
  o How long would it take to get to the city center?

- Are there student clubs on campus that UC students could join?
No, it was a UC Program
- Is there a bookstore on campus? Where did you get your books?
Books were provided by the program.
- Is there a computer lab on campus? Or, should students bring laptops?
There was a computer lab, however I would recommend students bringing laptops for personal use.
- What types of establishments are in the university’s neighborhood? (cafes, stores, etc)
There are a lot of stores, cafes, and restaurants around the neighborhood. Class was in the middle of Paris.
**Housing**
- What types of accommodations are available to UC students?
  Apartment housing or living with a host family.

- How close are they to campus?
  About a 10 minute walk from campus.

- How did you find your housing?
  Was given a map of the neighborhood with simple directions.

- Where did you live and with whom?
  I lived in an apartment by myself.

- If you lived off campus, was it difficult to find an apartment and roommate?

- Were the rooms nicer or not than I.V./UCSB dorms?
  About the same. Rooms did have their own kitchen and bathroom.

- Was it more expensive than living in I.V.? How much was a typical rent cost in US dollars?
  About the same as living in IV.

- How/who did you pay for housing?
  It was through the program.

**Food**
- What was the food like?
  Paris is a multicultured city with a large variety of foods to choose from.

- Where did you eat most of your meals? Cafeterias, restaurants, street vendors, etc?
  Restaurants or at home.

- How much was an average meal?
  5-10 euro when eating out.

- What time of day did people eat lunch/dinner?
  Noon-2pm for lunch, 7-8 for dinner.

- Would it be difficult for vegetarians to find meals?
  No, there is a large variety of choice.

**Travel/Safety**
- If not discussed above, describe the public transportation system around your host university/city?
  Paris has one of the best public transportation systems with stops almost everywhere in 3-5min intervals.
Did you feel safe in your host city? Are there tips you would offer future students?
Yes, however I suggest people be mindful of their personal belongings such as watches, cameras, etc.

Describe the public transportation in your host country?
Paris has several trains, trams, buses, taxis, and even public bikes making it easy to travel.

Was it difficult/easy to travel to neighboring countries?
It was very easy to travel to other countries as Europe is very interconnected and cheap to travel within.

**Host City/Country**

What was the weather like?
Weather was moderate similar to Santa Barbara. Slightly colder in the summer with some unpredictable rain.

Describe your host city…which California/US city is it similar to (if any)?
It is similar to San Francisco with a lot of public transport and large and multicultured neighborhoods.

What were some interesting/fun things that you did in the host city?
Visit monuments, museums, played judo.

How international was your host city in terms of tourism, cultural diversity, and international businesses?
There were a lot of tourists in Paris, especially during the summer.

**Culture**

Describe the cultural differences that you observed/encountered.

- **Time & punctuality**
  People are very punctual in Europe.
- **Eye contact & staring**
  Eye contact and staring is not advised and looked down upon.
- **Relationships**
  Relationships are more open with public displays of affection common.
- **More formal dress in general, for women, for school, etc?**
  People in general were more formally dressed.
- **Alcohol consumption**
  Alcohol consumption is mostly wine during the day and bars at night. Just no binge drinking, they tend to enjoy their drinks.

What culture shock did you go through?
Don’t believe I went through any culture shock.

Other?

**Banking**

Were credit cards widely accepted?
I did not use any, but it seems like they were.

Did you open a local bank account? Was it easy?
No I did not.
- If you did not open a local bank account, was it easy to withdraw money from the ATM? Which banks were popular & had low ATM fees?
I used PNB Paribas which is partnered with Bank of America which does not charge any fees for withdrawing money. I also looked up other partnerships Bank of America had when travelling to other countries so I could withdraw charge free.

- Were there ATMs on campus?
- There were none, but there are several around the campus and city.