



UNIVERSITY of CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

# STUDY ABROAD FOR FRENCH MAJORS

## Education Abroad Program

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[eap.ucsb.edu](http://eap.ucsb.edu)  
[eap.ucop.edu](http://eap.ucop.edu)

*“The opportunity to live and study in France for a year is something you will remember all your life. It is one thing to visit a country as a tourist, and quite another to live among French people, attend a French university, and immerse yourself in that culture. Your perspective on the world will never be quite the same again.”*

Jon Snyder  
Chair, Department of  
French & Italian

The French and Italian Department strongly urges its students to complete some portion of their undergraduate study abroad through the University’s Education Abroad Program in France or French-speaking Senegal. Living and studying in France or Senegal will expand your horizons, improve your critical thinking, increase your independence and better prepare you for a career in an increasingly internationally competitive world.

### Why study abroad?

Being a French major, you have already shown that you have international interests. Why not take that interest a step further and have a transformative and life-enriching experience? Go live in France, enroll at a French university and experience French language and culture firsthand. Or go live in the West African nation of Senegal, stay with a local family and advance your French language skills. Combine a semester in Senegal with a semester in France.

Improve your knowledge of the language you have already studied by using it for everyday life as well as in school. Learn how to better express your thoughts on complex topics and follow your interests in French. Participate more fully in national and international politics and events. Discover greater access to French films, music, and the visual and dramatic arts.

French majors who study abroad find that a term, or better yet, a full year abroad not only is critical for their language fluency, but that the experience of adapting to another academic and cultural world expands your self-understanding and gives you a keener sense of the political, cultural, and social differences in today’s world.

The intellectual and personal growth you experience during your time abroad will serve you well throughout your life. Participating in EAP provides further advantages when it comes to the challenges of graduate school and the competitive job market.

### Where should I study abroad?

Go to France or Senegal, of course! And go for a full academic year if possible.

**IMMERSION PROGRAMS** – Live and study with French students. These are the best programs for French majors.

[University of Bordeaux](#) (fall, spring, year) – Study in a historic city full of art, culture, with easy access to nearby beaches and wine regions.

[University of Lyon](#) (fall, year) – Live in student-friendly, food capital, with glaciers, mountains and lakes, medieval villages, and skiing nearby.

**LANGUAGE AND CULTURE** – consider extending to immersion after spending a term working on your French.

[University of Bordeaux](#) (fall or spring) or Lyon (fall).

UC Center Paris ([fall](#), summer [intensive](#) or [semi-intensive](#)).

### SPECIAL FOCUS PROGRAMS

[French and European Studies](#), UC Center in Paris (fall) – Courses in English on French media, art, history, theater, and politics. French language study.

[Political Science, Sciences Po, Paris](#) (fall, spring, year) – Courses on French and European subjects (in English or French) at an elite, selective institution.

### Cost of Study Abroad

Studying abroad through UCEAP can be comparable to or even less than the cost of staying at UCSB. UCEAP participants continue to receive UC financial aid. All UCEAP students are eligible for special scholarships.



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*“I arrived in Lyon excited about living in a big city and left ecstatic due to my unique experiences. I survived the class I didn’t understand anything in until the fourth week, and when I suddenly began to understand, I nearly cried with happiness. I took my classes at a university that was the headquarters of the Gestapo during WWII. By the end of the year, I finally appreciated the witty undertones in the cartoons in the daily newspaper.”*

Maegan Hendow  
French major  
EAP Lyon, France



Use [Gaucho Credit Abroad](#)

To search for the types of credit (i.e., major, minor, GE areas, or electives) that UCSB students received for courses taken on UCEAP.

UCSB EAP website ([eap.ucsb.edu](http://eap.ucsb.edu)) under Academics.

UCEAP [Program Search](#)

UCEAP [Course Catalog](#)

To help you find the right program and see what courses all UC students have taken on UCEAP.

[eap.ucop.edu](http://eap.ucop.edu)

[Political Science, Sciences Po Reims](#) (fall, pspring, year) – Social science courses in English or French.

[African & Development Studies, Dakar, Senegal](#) (fall) – Get outside of your comfort zone and explore French-speaking West Africa through coursework, homestays, internships and community service.

## What language level am I?

If you took courses in high school, you should take the French placement exam through the French department. If you took the French Language & culture AP exam, your level depends on your score:

AP Exam	Score	Equals	Placement
Lang & Cult	3	1–3	French 4
Lang & Cult	4	1–4	French 5
Lang & Cult	5	1–5	French 6

## What classes should I take?

All EAP coursework is automatically credited towards the unit requirement for your degree. Depending on your course selection, you may fulfill major or GE requirements as well. Here is a [list of how EAP language courses in France will transfer to fulfill specific course requirements](#) for the French major and minor at UCSB.

The French Department strongly encourages its students to take all of their courses abroad in French. In addition to language classes, we recommend that students consider taking courses on French literature, culture, and society. If you are a French major, you can use up to 24 upper-division

units taken abroad towards your major. If you plan to minor in French, you can use a maximum of 8 upper-division units towards the minor.

All UCSB students must complete a minimum of 20 upper-division major units (or 12 upper-division minor units) in residence at UCSB along with other residence requirements. Consult an advisor in the College of Letters & Science for more information.

The French undergraduate advisors will work with each student to ensure the most effective use of EAP courses for major requirements. Internships, independent study and field work completed abroad can be used for major requirements upon approval of the department.

## How do I get started?

- Stop by the UCSB EAP office at 2431 South Hall.
- Go the UCSB EAP website, [Getting Started, eap.ucsb.edu](#).
- Consult the UCEAP website, [eap.ucop.edu](http://eap.ucop.edu), for program details.
- Go see your undergraduate advisor.

## What happens when I return?

If you go abroad in your junior year, you should strongly consider doing a senior honors thesis based on the coursework and intellectual interests you developed abroad. This provides an ideal way of integrating time abroad with the completion of the French major.

If you take courses abroad for which you wish to get credit towards your major or minor, you MUST keep your syllabi, course materials, essays and exams to support your petition for major credit after your return. You will automatically earn UC credit for all classes successfully completed on EAP, just not necessarily credit within the department.

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