# EDUCO Handbook – Table of Contents

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BEFORE YOU GO

Basic Information
The EDUCO program is sponsored by Emory, Duke, Cornell, and Tulane Universities (http://www.educo.fr/). Students from these four universities share housing arrangements, program activities, and instruction for program courses. The EDUCO Center is located at 214, boulevard Raspail, 75014 Paris. The office is generally open from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM, Monday through Friday (Paris time).

The président(e) for the EDUCO program is always a professor from Emory, Duke, Cornell, or Tulane, alternating yearly, and is approved by steering committees at the four universities. The president is a professor with a strong research interest in France, whose own work and enthusiasm in the country are widely known by colleagues and students. He or she is primarily in charge of setting the academic tone and the intellectual focus of the program each year. Professor Subha Xavier, Professor of French, Emory Department of French and Italian, is the president for the 2017-2018 academic year.

In addition to the faculty director, EDUCO is also staffed by an administrative director, who oversees the operation of the EDUCO Center and program in general; a program coordinator, who organizes housing and orientation activities; and an academic services coordinator, who gathers and processes information about the Parisian institutions of higher learning with which EDUCO and its students correspond. There may also be one graduate student each semester who helps with EDUCO organization and plans activities to help students acclimate to Parisian life.

Arrival
Spring 2018 Sciences Po students should arrive in Paris on Thursday January 18. The Sciences Po Welcome Program begins Friday, January 19 and concludes on January 26. Sciences Po students should choose the French language Welcome Program. Emory will pay for your participation in the Welcome Program. It is MANDATORY.

Spring 2018 EDUCO students should arrive in Paris on Wednesday, January 10. They should be at the program hotel by 3:00 pm. There will be a welcome meeting at 4:00 at the hotel on January 10.

For both groups of students, upon your arrival in Paris, you will be housed for at least one night in the hotel before moving to your permanent housing assignment. Check-in time is 3:00 PM. You will be able to store luggage if you arrive earlier and your room is not ready.

EDUCO Orientation will officially begin on Thursday, January 11, at 9:00 am. More details will be provided.

Students planning to arrive before the official start date should make their own hotel arrangements.
There is no cost to you for the hotel, but you must enter your flight information in your Emory College Study Abroad online application no later than November 15, 2017 so the EDUCO staff can reserve your room.

Hotel location and information:
Citadines Apart'Hotel
18, Place d'Italie
75013 Paris
Tel: 011.33.1.43.13.85.06
Fax: 01.33.1.43.13.86.99

How to get to the hotel:
The hotel is near the metro stop Place d'Italie.

From Orly Airport (three choices):
1. Take the Air France bus located outside the terminal and go to the Montparnasse stop (approx. €9). This is called Line 1 and uses a red symbol. Then take a taxi from that stop to the hotel. You can buy a bus ticket from an Air France coaches counter or directly from the driver.
2. Take the Orlybus to the Denfert-Rochereau Metro/RER stop (approx. €6) and then take a taxi to the hotel. (You can also take Metro line 6, direction Nation, and disembark at Place d'Italie.)
3. If you are with a group (or can afford it), take a taxi from the airport to the hotel at a cost of approx. €40-€60. There is an extra fee for luggage.

From Charles de Gaulle Airport (three choices):
1. Take the RER B train to the Denfert-Rochereau station. Change there to line 6 (direction Nation) and disembark at Place d'Italie. The cost is approx. €10.
2. Take the Air France bus to the Montparnasse stop (approx. €16). This is called Line 4 and uses a yellow symbol. Then take a taxi from that stop to the hotel. You can buy a bus ticket from an Air France Coaches counter or directly from the bus driver.
3. A taxi directly to the hotel from the airport costs approx. €60-€75, depending on the number of bags and passengers. Taxis are expensive but can be worth it when first arriving in Paris, especially if you have more than one piece of luggage.

Beware of people soliciting or offering rides to you—they are not valid taxi drivers and will overcharge. (Refer to the movie TAKEN for what not to do upon arrival in France!)
EDUCO Spring 2017 CALENDAR
Wednesday, January 10         EDUCO student arrival, initial info session, and bus tour.
Check in at Citadines (Place d'Italie) at 3 PM.

Wednesday, January 10-                    EDUCO orientation
Friday, January 19

Wednesday, May 31         Tentative last day of housing

SCIENCES PO Spring 2017
Thursday, January 18                   Sciences Po student arrival, initial info session.
Check in at Citadines (Place d'Italie) at 3PM.

Friday, January 19 - Sciences Po Welcome Programme
Thursday, January 26

Wednesday May 18         Tentative last day for exams
Wednesday, May 31         Tentative last day of housing

French Preparation
The more French you know before you leave for France, the easier your stay will be. Prior to departure, you are encouraged to spend 45 minutes a day, or at least five sessions a week, working to improve your French. The following are good methods outside of the classroom to prepare linguistically for the year:

➢ Read any text aloud in French for 20 minutes. Strive for correct pronunciation; read progressively faster, maintaining correct pronunciation. There is a huge difference between reading silently, reading aloud quietly, and reading aloud at a normal speaking voice. You will make the most progress in your comfort level of speaking French if you read aloud in a normal speaking voice. Another helpful tip is to pretend that you are reading a script, using appropriate tonal inflection, as if you were coming up with the words yourself rather than simply reading them.
➢ Change your Facebook, iPod, cell phone, or any webpage you frequent to French.
➢ Watch or listen to French TV or radio news on the web (www.france.com/www.france24.com).
➢ Listen to French podcasts to learn about French culture, politics and perspective (Radio France Internationale (RFI), France Inter, France 24).
➢ Read newspapers and magazines cover-to-cover using an all-French dictionary. Using such a dictionary is painful at first, requiring a certain amount of discipline, but it will pay off big dividends when you get to France.
➢ Read at least two difficult books in French—one fiction and one non-fiction. Give your French comprehension a workout; the harder you work here, the easier your time will be there.
➢ Watch movies in French, download French music, seek out French-speaking people.
Keep a journal or iPhone note of French phrases, expressions, whole sentences—in short, a collection of structures that strike you as desirable elements in your own personal repertoire of the French language.

All of these tips are also great habits to maintain throughout your stay in Paris so that you continue to make active progress in your French. These resources will also be readily available to you in France—why not make good use of them?

**Packing**

Please remember to travel as lightly as possible. Many necessary items can be bought in France. The following is a brief list of useful things to bring with you to France:

1. **A grammar review and reference book.** You should take with you to Paris a standard French reference grammar book, preferably one with which you are already familiar and have used. An elementary first-year grammar book will probably not be adequate. If you do not already have in mind a specific grammar book, we recommend *Grammaire Expliquée du Français* by Sylvie Poisson-Quinton, Reine Minran, and Michèle Mahéo-Le Coadic, published by CLE International (2004). **EDUCO will also be selling this book for the orientation grammar classes once you arrive in Paris.**

2. **Dictionaries.** You should have at least two: a bilingual French-English/English-French dictionary and a French-French dictionary. Any good bilingual abridged (not pocket) dictionary is acceptable, e.g., Cassell’s, Larousse, Mansion’s, Robert, etc. *Shorter French and English Dictionary* is probably the best, although it often uses spellings and terms more frequently found in Great Britain than in the United States. A good French-French dictionary may be bulky, so you could wait until your arrival in France to buy one.

Although there is no central university bookstore, you will be able to buy the necessary books for your courses in the many bookstores in the Latin Quarter that stock required texts, in particular, the huge Gibert Joseph on rue St. Michel. There is also a Gibert Jeune near the Paris 7 (Diderot) campus, which has a large selection of books and supplies. The Gibert Jeune will often stock items that are not available at the Gibert Joseph and vice-versa. There are also many bookstores where you can find used copies. Fnac stores, which you can find all over Paris, also sell a large selection of books and other supplies. Buying books online or borrowing them from a university library can also be viable options.

3. **Passport-sized photographs.** Some returning students have suggested that you bring passport-sized photographs with you to France. The French are fond of affixing photographs to all official documents. 2-4 passport-sized photos will be needed for the "carte de séjour," one photograph for the “passe Navigo,” and photographs for any sports or group activities in which you participate. These photos are in addition to the four photos required by Emory College Study Abroad prior to departure. There are coin-operated photo-booths in most train stations and several metro stations in Paris for student I.D. cards, metro passes, etc., but they are not always in working order and thus not necessarily as convenient as it might seem. You can purchase sixteen 2” x 2” photos at CVS in Emory Village for a moderate price. The guidelines suggest that these photos use a white background, no glasses or hats be worn in the picture, and that the facial expression is
4. **Cell phone.** While you are in Paris, it is less expensive and hassle-free to use a French phone and/or service provider. Surprisingly, the post office (La Poste) usually carries very inexpensive but reliable cell phones and SIM cards that use rechargeable minutes, an option that can be much cheaper, more convenient, and less intimidating than others. If your phone has been unlocked by your service provider (a quick Google search can help you with this!), it may be possible to buy a French SIM card with rechargeable minutes and simply insert this French SIM into your American phone. Popular service providers for this monthly SIM card service include **Orange** (more popular and reliable, about 30 euros a month for calling, texting, and data) and **Free** (less ubiquitous by far but you can get a SIM card and plan with calling, texting, and data for around 20 euros a month).

5. **Student ID Cards.** Although it is usually recommended by Emory College Study Abroad to obtain an International Student Identification Card (ISIC) prior to departure, most past EDUCO students have found that the student IDs they receive from the University of Paris and the EDUCO program suffice for receiving student discounts.

The ISIC might be a useful item to have—you will be entitled to some reduced fares for transportation, museums, movie theaters, etc. In addition, the ISIC entitles you to insurance coverage of up to $25,000 in the case of a medical emergency overseas. (You will also be covered by a study abroad insurance policy organized through Emory College Study Abroad.) The ISIC can be purchased for about $25 through STA travel (www.statravel.com). Additionally, STA Travel offers a price guarantee on the flights found on their website, which states that if another student airfare website offers a lower price for the same flight found on the STA Travel site, STA Travel will match the lowest airfare price and give you an ISIC card for free. So compare prices before you buy! The free ISIC card alone makes it worth it.

Once you are registered for classes, you will receive a student ID card from each Paris university at which you take classes. Also, EDUCO provides each student with an ID saying that you are an art history student. This card enables you to have free access to any public museum in Paris and sometimes elsewhere in France and Europe. Just tell the ticket seller that you are an art history student from Paris and ask if there is a tarif spécial. Some private museums will also offer you free access or a discount, so it never hurts to ask.

6. **Adequate clothing.** Clothing needs will be just as varied as they are in the U.S. The weather is cool in the fall and cold and wet in the winter (January is usually the coldest month of the year). It is important to bring an adequate supply of warm clothing. French people tend to heat their homes much less than Americans during the winter, as they usually wear sweaters. Suggestions for clothing include a raincoat, umbrella, wool sweaters, blue jeans, and other casual clothes that can be layered; an outfit for the theater or a splurge at a good restaurant; and gloves, scarf (Parisians love scarves on both men and women), boots, and a warm coat for the winter months. Try to bring clothes that do not need ironing and that travel well. Also remember that you will be living in a city environment, where people do not walk around in pajama pants and sorority/fraternity t-
shirts. Try to bring classier clothes so you are not immediately identified as an American exchange student. French people dress much fancier than Americans. It sounds like cliché advice, but trust us that it is abundantly obvious that you are not from there if you’re walking around in overly-casual clothes! The most important item that you will bring, however, besides you passport and visa, is a pair of dependable, comfortable walking shoes. Many of Paris’ streets are cobblestone; it is extremely difficult to walk on a cobblestone street in uncomfortable shoes. It will not matter how cute your shoes are if your feet are bleeding from the blisters they gave you. While France is known for fashion, Parisians will always pick a pair of dependable shoes over a pair that is fashionable but impractical.

7. **Toiletries** tend to be expensive in Paris, although they are readily available. For basic needs, Monoprix has almost everything but can get expensive quickly. The people who work in the pharmacies are very helpful for answering any specific questions about simple health situations.

8. **Prescription medicines.** Anyone who needs a constant supply of prescription medicine MUST take along a supply sufficient to last the duration of the stay. Take a letter from your doctor explaining your condition and treatment and a copy of the prescription. Your insurance company may require a letter from your doctor to allow you to fill your prescription for up to six months or a year. Take all medication in your carry-on bag in their original containers! DO NOT ATTEMPT TO MAIL MEDICATION TO FRANCE! If your family visits Paris during the semester, it may also be a good idea to have them bring refills of your medication (particularly if you take medication with a short shelf-life).

9. **School Supplies.** While you will be able to buy any supplies you need once in Paris, everything besides notebooks is considerably more expensive and likely much harder to find, especially Post-It Notes. If you have room in your luggage, bring any supplies you may need including scissors, index cards, tape, stapler, pens, pencils, highlighters, etc. It is particularly difficult to find index cards in Paris, so if you are an index-card studier, you might want to take some with you. Also, even the most basic pens are quite expensive and they are sold individually rather than in packs like at CVS, so take several pens with you to save some money. The Parisian students do use a different type of notebook paper than in the U.S., so if you would like to completely blend into the Parisian academic life, wait to buy notebooks/paper in Paris. You can buy your school supplies at the Gilbert Jeune and Gilbert Joseph, where you buy your books, or at Monoprix.

10. **Appliance adapter/ converter.** All appliances need converters to handle the difference in current in France (laptop computers and most phone chargers have converters built in; you should only need an adapter). Adapters, however, will allow you to plug your appliances into French sockets, so an adapter is just as important as a converter. Remember that French plugs for phones and electricity have a different shape and thus need an adaptor. Also, hairdryers need a voltage converter, or you can buy a cheap hairdryer in Paris at Monoprix, BHV, etc.
11. **Other.** Other suggestions made by previous students include soap in a travel soap case, flashlight, dental floss, nail clippers, sunglasses, sunscreen, bathing suit¹, water bottle, reusable grocery bags, can opener, wine opener (carry in checked luggage only), luggage lock (for youth hostels) and sleeping bag (only if you plan to camp or stay in youth hostels when/if you travel).

You should also make sure that your parents’ homeowner’s insurance covers loss or theft.

**What not to bring . . .**
All living situations arranged by EDUCO provide basic bedding. If you need towels and washcloths, they are often provided by homestays or they can be purchased in Paris. Leave all extraneous credit cards, expensive cameras and jewelry, and non-essential appliances at home. **Pack lightly!** Less really is more.

**Pay attention to the most recent airline security measures before your departure, as you may not be able to bring carry-on toiletries, etc.**

**Travel Documents**

**Obtaining or Renewing a Passport**
A passport is an official government document that certifies your identity and citizenship and grants you permission to travel abroad. If you already have a passport that will be valid for at least six months after your planned return to the United States, you can skip this section. If not, you should immediately apply for one or renew your old one.

You can obtain or renew a passport at the county clerk’s office, a Passport Agency, or at post offices in many larger cities. Passports may also be renewed by mail. Passport application forms are available at all of the offices listed above or at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) under the passport section.

It generally takes from three to eight weeks, depending on the season, to receive your passport in the mail from the time you turn in the completed application and accompanying documents (birth certificate, I.D., fees, and photos to the issuing office). Your passport will be valid for 10 years from the date of issue.

**Note:** Photo-machine pictures may be adequate for many purposes (bus passes, visa applications for travel outside France, I.D. cards, police registration forms in Paris) but **NOT** for getting a passport. Instant passport pictures, with passport requirements fulfilled, can be taken at camera and photocopy stores, some drugstores, as well as at some photo developers and travel agencies.

**Visa Requirements**
A visa is a stamp in your passport that authorizes you to enter and travel in a particular country. Visa requirements vary depending on the citizenship of the applicant and the purpose of the visa.

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¹ Due to health concerns (mainly worry that someone will wear the shorts they just sat on the dirty metro in into the pool) French swimming pools require that males wear speedo-style swim briefs and swim caps.
application. In France, student visas are required for stays of over 90 days, except if you are a citizen of Switzerland, Andorra, Vatican, San Marino, Monaco, or the European Economic area:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Austria</th>
<th>Belgium</th>
<th>Bulgaria</th>
<th>Cyprus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Finland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Great-Britain</td>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Latvia</td>
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<td>Liechtenstein</td>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
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<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Poland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>Slovenia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
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</tbody>
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Basic information about the French student visa is provided in this handbook. Please read and act upon the information **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**, researching your home consulate’s requirements and application process, so that you have ample time to apply for and receive the visa prior to departure from France. The steps involved in the process of getting a French visa may seem superfluous and frustrating, and they may take more time than you would imagine, but once you are in France, everything will have been worth it!

Here are some things to remember regarding the French student visa process:

- **The French student visa must be obtained before leaving the U.S.**
- The French student visa is only valid for the stated activities and time period in France and is not applicable to other European Union countries. Before traveling to other countries, please check with their embassies and/or consulates about separate entry requirements.
- Your first stop for visa information and registration is [http://usa.campusfrance.org/](http://usa.campusfrance.org/). Much of the information in this section comes directly from the CampusFrance website. It is meant to be used in conjunction with the websites of the individual French consulates, a list of which can be found at [www.ambafrance-us.org/spip.php?article330](http://www.ambafrance-us.org/spip.php?article330). Please check the home state jurisdictions of each consulate to know which is assigned to you.
  - **Emory students, regardless of permanent address, may obtain a visa through the Atlanta Consulate:** however, you must apply in person, and you cannot apply more than 90 days in advance of the start of the program, but you must apply within at least 30 days of the start of the program. Early application is advised to avoid any unexpected delays in the processing.
    - [http://www.consulfrance-atlanta.org/](http://www.consulfrance-atlanta.org/)
    - Consulat Général de France – Atlanta
    - Buckhead Tower at Lenox Square
    - 3399 Peachtree Rd NE, Suite 500
    - Atlanta, GA 30326  Phone: 404.495.1660  Fax: 404.495.1661
- Forms are available on the French consulate website under Visas to France → Long stay visas → Visa application (in-text hyperlink under “Required Documents”).
- Non-U.S. citizens will need to consult with the French Embassy in Washington, DC, rather than with individual consulates.
- When you register with CampusFrance, you will receive a confirmation message once your application is approved. Once you receive this message, you will be able to go to the French Consulate for your visa appointment. It takes approximately two weeks for CampusFrance to process applications and to issue a confirmation message, but allow extra time! CampusFrance is notoriously slow, but the French Consulate will NOT issue you a visa without the confirmation from CampusFrance.
- The visa will be issued through the individual French Consulates.
- Once you have your visa, please email Jeremy Billetdeaux (jeremy.billetdeaux@emory.edu) with confirmation and to report any difficulties or concerns. Such information helps us communicate issues of concern to the French consulates about the student visa process.

In general, to obtain a student visa, you will typically need the following items:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>Emory College Study Abroad provides</th>
<th>Student provides</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Passport (valid for at least six months beyond your travel dates, and containing 2 blank pages) – this is your actual physical passport- PLEASE BE SURE TO SIGN IT! Your visa is a stamp/sticker that is placed inside your passport, so you must submit your passport)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passport photocopy (copy of any page containing the passport holder’s personal data)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demande pour un visa de long séjour (long-stay visa application found on Atlanta French Consulate website)- legibly and accurately completed in black ink and include phone numbers and email address - TWO ORIGINAL, FILLED-OUT FORMS</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l’Office français de l’immigration et de l’intégration form (this form must be stamped upon issuance of your visa and brought to France to register for residency; found on Atlanta French Consulate website) ONLY IF YOU ARE STAYING IN FRANCE MORE THAN 6 MONTHS</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 recent passport-sized photos-loose, not glued (2”x2”) - 1 inch from the top of your head to the bottom of your chin, white background with a full-face view. No hats or sunglasses. The Consulate takes these photos VERY seriously and has sent students away if the photos do not conform to their standards. You can get these photos printed from a Kodak machine in the University Copy Center located in the DUC for less than $1.00 a picture. You can also get a sheet of photos at CVS, as you will need other photos once you get to France</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-U.S. Citizens- proof of resident status in the US (copy of green card, valid US visa along with a copy of valid I-20, etc.)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program letter from Emory College Study Abroad – ORIGINAL +1 COPY</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visa Letter from the Paris university – ORIGINAL +1 COPY</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copy of flight itinerary – non-U.S. citizens need to present actual ticket</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official bank statement – ORIGINAL +1 COPY</td>
<td>X</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| ▪ Must be an official statement; faxes and copies are not accepted
 ▪ If the bank statement is not in your name, please keep in mind that the name on the bank statement must match whoever signed the Financial Guarantee
 ▪ Scholarship and Financial Aid students: Letter of scholarship award specifying amount and duration of award, issued by the financial aid office
 ▪ The Consulate is looking for proof of at least $820 per month throughout the time of your stay in France. This means for 5 months, they are looking for at least $4100 in the bank account. | X                                   |                  |
| Financial Guarantee- ORIGINAL +1 COPY | X                                   |                  |
| ▪ Please use the provided form
 ▪ The form must be signed by your parents, legal guardians, or yourself
 ▪ Parents/Guardians can sign letter if they are guaranteeing the funds for your semester abroad. If you plan to fund the experience yourself, this letter can be signed by you.
 ▪ This letter must be signed/stamped by a Notary Public | X                                   |                  |
| Medical insurance letter – ORIGINAL +1 COPY | X                                   |                  |
| ▪ Letter will be from T.W.Lord & Associates
 ▪ See Emory College Study Abroad website for insurance details | X                                   |                  |
| Visa Fee paid by credit card or cash - please see the Consulate website for exact fee (your student visa cost) | X                                   |                  |
will be reduced after paying CampusFrance and receiving visa clearance) | X

- An e-mail message from CampusFrance (entitled “confirmation e-mail”) informing you, the student, that you may begin preparations to apply to the consulate for the visa (make appointment, collect documents). Attention! This message should not be confused with the earlier message from CampusFrance notifying you of the creation of your CampusFrance account or with the message indicating that a receipt for payment was available for download. You must also include a receipt of payment issued by CampusFrance. | X

A self-addressed prepaid EXPRESS MAIL envelope from FedEx of USP. Stick the mailing label on the envelope and fill our as follows:
TO:
Your full name:
Your address: | X

Proof of residence in the geographic area for which the consulate is responsible: ORIGINAL +1 COPY
driver’s license issued by a state falling within the consulate’s jurisdiction or a valid student ID card | X

For Non-U.S. Citizens
If you are not a U.S. citizen or an E.U. national, you should check with the French Embassy in Washington (http://www.Franceemb.org/) about the various time restrictions and visa requirements that pertain to your nationality. Non-U.S. citizens may require a visa to travel to other European, non-European, or Schengen countries. Always inquire about this information before beginning any travels out of France. Non-U.S. citizens who need extra letters and certifications from Emory College Study Abroad and/or EDUCO in Paris should contact Emory College Study Abroad for assistance. It is your responsibility to find out the requirements for a student visa pertaining to your specific citizenship or citizenship status. It is also your responsibility to understand the process for your re-entry to the U.S. after the program; please contact ISSP for further instructions.

European Union Citizens
European Union citizens do not need a student visa to study in France. If you are a European citizen with dual citizenship, be sure to use your EU passport when entering France.

For Travel outside Your Host Country
For most Western European countries, tourist and transit visas for stays of less than three months are automatically stamped into your U.S. passport at the point of entry. You are not required to obtain a visa in advance. For certain travel destinations within Europe, primarily for travel in Eastern Europe, advance visa application may be required. It is preferable to obtain these visas once you are abroad with established travel plans. To get explicit and current information on whether you need a visa, contact the consulate or embassy of each country you plan to visit.

Finances
Some of you will spend several thousands of dollars per semester, as you do in the U.S., and others will spend very little beyond room and board and regular maintenance costs. Until you are abroad and know what is available and of interest, it is hard to determine your exact expenses. Paris is one of the most expensive cities in Europe, and students on tight budgets will need to be extremely careful with their expenditures. How much you need depends upon how you plan to live and eat, travel (plane, train, or bus), where you plan to stay (hotels, hostels, or outdoors), and what you like to do (shopping, concerts, or sightseeing). However, spending wisely is very manageable—Paris is extremely student-conscious, and you will find special rates on food and entertainment everywhere you go. This student-friendly atmosphere is truly one of the best parts of studying here!
Students enrolled for the year may be able to open a personal checking account. The EDUCO staff will give you more information upon arrival. In Paris, opening your own checking account will prove convenient if you are in the country at least six months. If you open a checking account, you may usually deposit certified checks, bank checks, and bank money orders; they may take a considerable amount of time to clear so you might not have use of the funds for several weeks (minimum of two weeks). Opening an account with travelers’ checks will generally give you immediate use of the funds. French banks will not accept personal checks in dollars to open an account. Banks provide check cards that are used for identification when writing checks and cash cards for automatic teller machines.

Transfers of money from the States can also be accomplished using American Express, credit, or automatic teller machine (ATM) cards. The American Express office will honor your American checks if presented with an American Express card and your passport. Credit and ATM cards will allow you to withdraw money from your U.S. bank accounts from the numerous automated cash machines in Paris and other European cities. Cash is dispersed from the machines in euros (or the currency of the machine’s host country), avoiding complicated currency exchange procedures and commissions. Using an ATM is the most popular U.S. student method of obtaining money abroad, so make sure that you know all PIN numbers before leaving the country. However, be aware that your bank may charge you a small transaction fee for each withdrawal, so you might opt to take out larger amounts each time and keep the extra cash in your room until you need it. You can check with your bank about partner institutions in France and other countries you may visit; these banks generally do not charge you a transaction fee. For Bank of America accounts, the BNP Paribas bank in France does not charge transaction fees.

You may also want to request a second ATM card from your bank before you leave the U.S. Sometimes the ATM will eat your card, so it can be helpful to have a back-up in case that happens.

There may be some international fees incurred by the use of a credit/debit card abroad. These are unavoidable, but there are some things you should know which can help you navigate these fees. There is a charge for currency conversion. It should also be noted that American Express cards are not widely accepted- mostly just at American chains and Monoprix.

You need to notify your bank and your credit card company that you will be traveling abroad, or your bank may assume that your card has been stolen and place a hold on your card.

It should be recognized that additional expenses will be incurred, depending to a large extent upon the tastes and habits of you as an individual. While in Paris, you should be able to attend concerts, plays, and movies; go sightseeing; visit museums, monuments, and exhibits; take short excursions during the weekends; have an occasional dinner in a restaurant; and travel during the holiday periods. You should also realize that there are many free interest-area clubs sponsored by the University of Paris or by the American Cultural Services (bicycling, theater, choral groups, etc.). Not only does participation in such areas provide interesting and stimulating activity, but it is also an excellent way of meeting and becoming friends with French people.

The student identity card provided by the University of Paris, as well as the ISIC, will help you appreciably reduce the cost of travel, entry fees, tickets, etc.
## An Estimated Budget for Paris - the student perspective

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Weekly Cost</th>
<th>Monthly Cost</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emory Tuition for Fall 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$24,345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Fee</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$4,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Airfare</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$800-$1500</td>
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<td>Visa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>€100-€200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>€125</td>
<td>€500</td>
<td>€2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal (basics)</td>
<td>€10</td>
<td>€40</td>
<td>€160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro/Bus</td>
<td>€21</td>
<td>€60</td>
<td>€240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel: short trips (avg. 3 per semester); long trips (avg. 1 per semester) - airfare &amp; accommodation only</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>€100-€300 per short trip and €120-€400 per long trip</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Explanation of Costs**

**Emory Tuition:** Same as regular semester tuition. If a student has financial aid arrangements, this aid remains valid while abroad.

**Program Fee:** EDUCO has a one-time program fee. It covers room, approximately three meals per week for students in homestays, and supplemental medical insurance.

**Books:** This cost is strictly an estimate. Very few students buy all the books listed on the suggested reading lists given to them in their University of Paris courses. Literature and theater courses may have more books because of reading-related assignments. The cheapest books are at FNAC or Gilbert Jeune, located throughout the city.

**Food:** Living arrangements affect overall food costs. Students in homestays are provided three meals per week (and, in some cases, breakfast everyday), and they buy their own groceries to store in their family's kitchen. Some families share their food, but in general students will spend €30-€40 per week. Although students in apartments and foyers receive a few university meal tickets, they often depend on buying groceries or dining out. €80-€100 per week should cover café, lunch, snacks, groceries, and bread. Dining out can get pricey very quickly, especially at sit-down restaurants. There are “grab-and-go” type stores, including crepe and sandwich stands, are much less expensive (€3-€5). When shopping for food, grocery stores are cheaper than markets or small épicerie. Try Champion, Leader Price, FranPrix, Picard, Dia, G20, and Monoprix for inexpensive food.

There is also a miraculous French invention called the “Resto U” (Restaurant Universitaire). At the Restos U, located throughout Paris- you’ll have to look up the one closest to your school. Students equipped with a valid student ID card can eat French cafeteria-style food (much higher quality than American cafeteria-style food), including an appetizer, entrée, side, and dessert for around 3.20 euros (not a typo). The lines can get pretty long at peak times, but there is no better (and definitely no cheaper!) way to experience true French student life.
**Personal:** Anything from shower essentials and toothpaste to movie tickets and shopping, etc. Estimate €10/week for the basics but may be slightly more/less depending on your personal tastes.

**Metro/Bus:** Paris is known for its cheap and efficient public transportation. A passe Navigo can be purchased for weekly or monthly rates and is valid for all metro, bus, and RER lines within the region of Paris Place d’Italie, the metro station for the hotel where you will stay your first night, has an office where you can purchase a Navigo. The month pass provides unlimited use of the metro and bus system, but you can save money by walking as much as possible and buying a packet of 10 tickets (called un carnet de 10 (dix) tickets) to use for longer trips as needed. If you use fewer than 13 tickets per week, the weekly or monthly passes are not cost-efficient. Most metro stations have ATM-type machines where you can recharge your Navigo or buy metro tickets. Usually these machines cannot read American credit cards of any type. In that case, you will learn which metro stations sell tickets and recharge Navigos at the counter. Just tell them that “Ma carte n’a pas de puce—c’est une carte américaine” (“My card doesn’t have a chip—it’s an American card”), and they will understand that you need to recharge it over the counter. The same thing is true if you would like to buy a carnet de tickets.

**Travel:** The average trip from Paris to another European country costs about €120-€250 (flight/train, hostel, and food). Plan to spend more if you go out or eat out at nice restaurants and if you plan your trip at the last minute. Certain countries are much less expensive than France (Eastern Europe, Spain), and others might be more (England, Ireland, Germany). There are several websites that enable students to find inexpensive flights and lodging, such as ryanair.com, easyjet.com, lastminute.fr, and skyscanner.net. Don't forget to look at airfrance.com, too—with the Jeune Majeur 18-24 discount, student tickets are often cheaper than those found on discount websites. Check voyages.sncf.fr for train tickets, often convenient for shorter trips. Depending on how much train travel you plan to do, you may be interested in the Carte 12-25, which offers up to 60% discounts on train tickets. It is a carte de fidélité, so you will have to purchase it, but it might be cost-effective if you plan to take several train trips. If you get excited at the beginning of the semester and buy a fidelity card, be sure you are diligent about getting your money’s worth! Try hostelworld.com, hostelbookers.com, hostels.com, and hostelize.com for affordable lodging. Plan as far ahead as possible to find the best deals; last minute trips are almost always pricey.

**Here’s what a 3-day, 2-night trip may look like (these are current estimates and will change depending on the season and date of your planned trip):**

**Example 1:** Amsterdam, Netherlands = €120 ($150), not including food
Train: €69.00 (sncf.fr). Tickets can be purchased online or at most train stations.
Bus: Megabus offers roundtrip tickets at below €15 (megabus.com).
Hostel: €25-€29/night (hostelworld.com)
Food: Relatively inexpensive compared to Paris
Tourist attractions: Van Gogh Museum, Rijksmuseum, Anne Frank House, canals

**Example 2:** Prague, Czech Republic = €101 ($125), not including food
Flight: €81.35 (easyjet.com)
Hostel: €10-€15 (hostelprague.com)
Food: Dirt, dirt cheap compared to Paris
Tourist attractions: St. Vitus Cathedral, Charles Bridge, Old Town Square, Josefov

**Example 3: London, United Kingdom = €76-€122 ($95-$150), not including food**
Flight/Chunnel Train: €50-€70 (easyjet.com)/€100-€120 (eurostar.com)
Hostel: €20-€30 per night (hostelworld.com)
Food: Significantly more expensive than Paris, depending on where you eat
Tourist attractions: Tower of London, Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, Tate Modern
*Note: Keep in mind that while you can purchase your flight/train tickets and your hostel in euros, everything that you buy in London will use pounds. £1=$1.54=€1.37 as of September 2015.

Here’s what a 5-day, 4-night Fall break trip may look like:

**Example 1: Athens, Greece = €130 ($190), not including food**
Flight: €83.98 (easyjet.com). Note: Airfare is the most expensive part of traveling to Greece. If you visit any islands, you will also need to book a ferry or a short flight, which can add to the travel expenses.
Hostel: €11-€25/night (hostelworld.com)
Food: Dirt cheap compared to Paris. Dinner between €6-€12/person.
Tourist attractions: Acropolis is free for students, as are most other famous attractions.
Social scene: Relatively inexpensive

**Example 2: Rome, Italy = €133 ($195), not including food**
Flight: €72.98 (easyjet.com)
Hostel: €15-€25/night (hostelworld.com)
Food: Dirt cheap compared to Paris
Tourist attractions: Coliseum, Roman Forum, the Vatican (Sistine Chapel)
Social scene: Inexpensive

**Example 3: Barcelona, Spain = €101 ($150), not including food**
Flight: €60.98 (easyjet.com)
Hostel: €10-€25/night (hostelworld.com)
Food: Dirt cheap compared to Paris
Tourist attractions: Catedral Gaudí, Sagrada Familia
Social scene: Very inexpensive

Remember: Paris is expensive even with the current exchange rate (check [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com) for current rates). You can be frugal or you can shop until you drop—we are only able to provide you with very general estimates. A good way to save money is to eat at the university restaurants, where you can meet Parisian students. Then you can save up for travel, shopping, or a nice meal out from time to time.
LIFE IN PARIS

Housing
You will be able to check into the hotel directly upon your arrival in Paris. This will give you time to meet with the EDUÇO Center staff and receive your housing assignments. As per the Housing Request Form, you have two housing options: homestay or foyer. Please note that every effort is made to place you in your first choice for housing, but preferences cannot be guaranteed. Occasionally students will be placed in their second housing preference.

Students live in homestay or foyer arrangements. You must be aware that housing in France may be quite different in terms of comfort and space than what you are accustomed to. In addition, the homestay and foyer options may have particular regulations associated with them in terms of guests, etc. While some homestays may be in very spacious apartments, your room may be small and bathroom facilities may be shared, though the bedroom will be a single. For those assigned to apartments, there is one room for each student, and the “living room” may also double as a sleeping space. All living options offered to students have been investigated by the EDUÇO Center staff to determine that they meet our standards of comfort, convenience, and security. All housing provided by the program is arranged on a year or a semester basis, and the contracts will be made on your behalf for the entire period of your stay.

For those of you who will be placed in a homestay, two key words in establishing a positive family experience while in Paris are patience and courtesy. An important thing to remember is that you are no longer living either at home or in a dorm but rather as a sort of “paying guest” in someone else’s home, which can be a shock to some people, but also allows you considerable independence during your stay. As a guest, you should be prepared to change and adapt to your family’s schedule and situation. Most French families do not permit “raiding the refrigerator” between meals. Many will not allow overnight guests; some may not wish you to have guests of the opposite sex in your room at all. You should be sure and discuss with your family its “house rules” and then be prepared to abide by them. Bringing a gift for your host family, perhaps something from your hometown in the U.S., is a great conversation opener—a way for them to get to know more about you and where you are from.

Homestay Etiquette
Start your relationship off on the right foot.
Past students agree that bringing a small gift upon arrival is a polite gesture that can help start your relationship with your hosts off on the right foot.

Some ideas: flowers, local products from your hometown (small candies, local crafts, etc), postcards from home, note cards from the Emory bookstore, small vase, etc.

You can also take some time to get to know your host family better, and if you have friends or family members visit, have them bring something from the States that speaks directly to their particular interests. Here’s one example from a student:

When my parents came to visit me in Paris, I asked them to bring some special gifts for each of the people in my host family—I had gotten to know them pretty well by that point. My host mother was a swimmer who once told me that American swimming towels were thicker and softer, so we brought a couple of small towels in her favorite colors. Another member of the
household was an art student who did weavings, so my parents brought some unique yarn. I also had a younger sister who was very much into pop culture and who studied English in school, so we brought her some American teen magazines. These gifts had a special significance that meant a lot to my host family.

Other students have said that they would bring back small gifts after traveling to other places on the weekend.

Ask, ask, ask!
Don’t assume you know what your family is thinking. Ask early about rules of the house (it’s less awkward that way and they expect you to not know everything that’s going on right away). A great time to inquire about these rules is when your hosts give you a first tour of the home.

Things to consider:

- Kitchen – when you can use it, where you can store your own groceries, what’s off-limits, what’s for sharing
- Meals – when you share meals, what to do if you won’t be home for dinner
- Common spaces – any rules for the bathroom, living room, or other parts of the house
- Wifi access and password
- Guests – if they’re allowed, where in the house and during what hours they’re allowed
- Laundry – if your host family has washing facilities, if you allowed to use them, will they have a cost, and if necessary, where the nearest Laundromat is located
- Quiet hours – when the rest of the family goes to sleep and wakes up, when to be considerate about the noise you make
- Travel/night’s out – how should you communicate information about your plans to the family? As a rule, you should always inform them when you will not be coming home for dinner, but it is also courteous to let them know if you will be out all night or away for a weekend.

Observe and be honest.
Cuing into all the cultural norms can be tricky. When in doubt about how to act and what is appropriate, pay close attention to the other members of your household. Do they wear shoes in the house, go barefoot, or wear slippers? How do they dress for dinner? What are their table manners like? Do they smoke inside or outside? If you have never seen someone visit the kitchen in between mealtimes and poke around the fridge, you probably should not do it either.

Know the difference between working to fit into the local culture and being honest and upfront about your beliefs and preferences. Be accommodating but don’t conceal your thoughts, or you risk never quite being comfortable in your home. If you really dislike a particular food that appears at the dinner table, it is okay to tell the family afterwards that it’s not for you. If you tell them that the meal was delicious, you may end up seeing it frequently—and that will not benefit you or your host family.

Learn to put your American hat to the side.
Conflict happens. Living in a household abroad, you will invariably learn a great deal about the cultural norms and values of the society you’re living in—and this is one of the richest parts of the experience. If and when a conflict arises, take some time to yourself to evaluate the situation. You will learn how to think about social encounters from the point of view of the local people. Here’s an example from one student who studied abroad in France:
The whole incident began when I used some of my host mother’s cooking oil, rather than buying a big bottle of it just for myself since I cooked so infrequently. My host mother brought up that fact that she did not appreciate me using her cooking oil and she called me “rude.” At the time I felt as though labeling me as a “rude person” was a gross exaggeration. I was very mad and hurt. I left the house and went for a walk. Upon reflection I realized that she did not mean the harm that her words had caused me. It occurred to me that, in general, when a French person says “rude” it is not meant to be interpreted as harshly as an American would interpret it. Later that evening we talked about it and my host mother confirmed that it was not as big of a deal in her mind as it was in my mind. She was clearly sorry that she had hurt my feelings, and I let it go.

Be conscious of your American habits.
Turn off the lights! Most people in other countries are much more conscious of wasting utilities, which are often more expensive. Be aware when you leave rooms, even if just for a little bit, to turn the lights out. Do not leave your personal belongings around the common space, and throw away your trash. Less is more. This may be obvious, but be polite about shared meals and always be open to trying new things.

Take advantage of the unique opportunities you have in your host family.
One faculty member commented that a frequent message relayed from host families is, “Your student was very nice, but s/he never talked.”

You have a right to the privacy of space in your own room, but don’t spend all of your time there. Spend time in common areas. Sit with your family while they watch the evening news—ask questions about things you don’t understand or their opinions on world affairs. Visit the kitchen during dinner preparation, offer to help, and start up a conversation. You will get to work on your language skills and learn an incredible amount about your host family themselves, the local culture, your own culture, and yourself. This may seem awkward at first, but it will get easier and more enjoyable the more you do it!
A great way to open communication with your hosts is by sharing chores. Always offer help, and insist on it—a first polite “no” is often just that. You become less of an outsider and more an integral part of the home.

In addition, your host family is a valuable resource for insider tips about your program location. They can help you out with the best restaurants and bars, the best public library, the secret park nobody goes to, the best Sunday market, the best shopping, the cheapest grocery store, and even the best places to travel on the weekend.

Talk to others who have been in your shoes.
Every country is different, and so is every homestay experience. Ask Emory College Study Abroad for contacts of former program participants, and send them an email to find out more about particular cultural norms of your country. Email the EDUCO Peer Advisor as well!

Meals
If you live in a homestay with French citizens, you will receive one to three meals a week; students who receive fewer than three meals will be provided university cafeteria tickets to compensate up to three meals a week. You will also have the use of the kitchen following règles de courtoisie. Groceries in Paris can be expensive, but good prices can be obtained at
supermarkets, especially for cheese, wine, and meat. There are some grocery stores around Paris that are open very late at night. Also, Dia located throughout Paris, has generic brand foods which are all at lower prices than specialty shops and bigger supermarkets (Leader Price supermarkets are inexpensive as well). Fruits are sold in the local markets (marchés) three mornings a week. Inexpensive and picturesque markets are located in popular arrondissements such as the 11th, 12th, 13th, and 18th. Ask your host family if there’s one near your apartment or search the internet for marchés paris par arrondissement. You should be able to prepare your own food with a budget of €100 ($120) per week. The French grocery stores don’t offer plastic bags as freely as American stores do; many times grocery bags are not even made available. Either realize that you will pay per bag (you can also buy a reusable bag at most grocery stores) or bring your own.

**Student Activities**

One of the best ways to make French friends is to get involved in extra-curricular activities. You can join clubs; join sports, musical, theater, or art groups; provide volunteer services to social organizations (mainly educational); participate in athletic events; and attend students’ union meetings, lectures, discussions, and receptions in academic and community circles. For example, the Association Sportive of the University of Paris regularly offers low-priced ski weekends, which attract many French students.

Although it may appear that not much is happening on campus, this is generally not the case. Theatrical performances, films, concerts, and lectures take place, but they are usually not well publicized. Therefore, you must keep your eyes open for posters and notices of these events or inquire about upcoming activities. Each university has a C.R.O.U.S. office (Centre Régional des Œuvres Universitaires et Scolaires) that has information on all cultural and sports events and also offers travel services. This office can give you accurate and up-to-date information on lectures, films, and concerts that are being given at that university.

Concerning cultural opportunities, you can find and do just about anything in the "City of Light." The cultural riches of Paris are too vast to mention here. You can find information about theaters, exhibitions, restaurants, and night spots (the latter two usually being on the expensive
side) in two weekly publications: *L’Officiel des Spectacles* and *Pariscope*. These can be purchased from any sidewalk vendor. In the mornings, free papers like *A Nous Paris* and *Metronews* are passed out at the metro stations and are full of news, cultural events, and reviews of restaurants and boutiques. With your student I.D. card, you will be entitled to pay half- or no fare in many museums, and many cinemas also give student discounts. Your EDUCO art history card will get you in free to most museums, so don’t forget to bring it! There are also fairly regular film festivals in Paris, during which movie tickets are sold at deeply reduced prices. Be sure to ask if there is a *tarif spécial* or *tarif réduit* for students. Another thing to keep in mind is that many of the museums and exhibitions (including the Louvre) are free on the first Sunday of the month, although this usually means that they are also more crowded on that day.

**Local Transportation**

The subway system (*le métro*) and the bus system are the most efficient ways to get around Paris. The student card may be used to obtain low fares on all public transportation, and inexpensive monthly passes are available for unlimited travel on the subways and buses. A book that you will find extremely useful to purchase in France is the *Paris Pratique*. The *Paris Pratique* is a map of Paris in book form, containing detailed maps of each *arrondissement* (loosely translated as "district") of the city, with metro stops and bus routes indicated. Other features of the *Paris Pratique* include a listing of all streets in Paris as well as museums and their addresses, all by *arrondissement*. The *Paris Pratique* is an indispensable guide for finding your way around Paris. ***EDUCO often provides students with a *Paris Pratique*, so wait until you arrive in Paris to purchase one.***

You may arrive in Paris with the idea of immediately visiting every monument you have ever read or heard about. It is important to realize that while the tourist's perspective is valuable, your life as an international student will incorporate more than this and may demand certain adjustments in living habits.

Urban life can be a shock for those accustomed to the many conveniences of campus life. For example, transit to and within the city is very time-consuming; even though Paris has one of the most extensive and efficient subway and bus systems in the world, students can spend over an hour a day commuting. It is easy to get into the habit of, as the Parisians say, "*Métro-boulot-dodo*" (metro-work-sleep). Although the metro is extremely convenient, don't miss the chance to explore the streets and parks of Paris—there you will find Parisians going about their daily tasks, and you will be able to truly experience the magic of this beautiful city. The use of buses, though perhaps slower (especially at rush hour), is also a wonderful way to see more of Paris and take a break from the often-taxing metro. The EDUCO staff, your French family, or a book with maps of Paris can all give you more information about the use of buses. The monthly *passe Navigo* for the metro can be used for bus transport within Paris as well.

**Cultural Adjustment**

Throughout your stay in France, you should remember that the American way of doing things is only one way to accomplish a task. Accept that fact and you will be well on the way to making your stay in Paris an enjoyable one. Remember that in most cases, the French will not react to a given situation as you do. Be especially attentive at first to see what is culturally acceptable and what is not. The French are not the world's most outgoing people when it comes to making
contacts. They tend to be aggressive in their dealings with each other, and it is easy for an American to be initially intimidated by their behavior. They are more tactile than we are and are much more effusive by nature in expressing their likes and dislikes. This can be seen in stores and in traffic as well as at the university. Going out in groups is the custom in France, and it could be uncommon to split the check. "Dating" in the American sense is rare. In fact, to suggest going to a café is sometimes understood to be an offer to pay your friend's part—a normal gesture of friendship, which is always repaid in kind. The student society is more relaxed than the adult society, and once the ice is broken, you should have little difficulty socializing with French people your own age. The French are very attached to etiquette formalities, such as using expressions of courtesy and little words like bonjour, au revoir, merci, etc. They do many things in writing that Americans tend to do by phone or not at all, such as sending invitations to dinner or following up with a thank-you note to someone who has had you to dinner. You can avoid misunderstandings by conforming to some of these customs.

**Travel**

Many books are published that focus on student travel in Europe, e.g., *Let's Go Europe* (written by Harvard undergraduates and updated yearly), *Lonely Planet, Rough Guide, Fodor's, Bimbaum France*, Rick Steves, and the Michelin Guides (French guides for tourism). The Michelin Guides come in two forms: the green guides include suggested walking tours of cities and villages and point out different historical and cultural details of the region, and the red guides include hotels and restaurants accompanied by their rating system. The Guide du Routard closely resembles the "Globe" travel series. For Paris, a very practical guide is the *Paris Pas Cher*, which is published annually. Most of these books are in the EDUCO library.

**Health & Safety**

The risk of getting sick in Paris may not be greater than at home, but your own behavior is likely to be different and increase the chances of illness. Changes in food, water, and weather may cause your body some distress, especially when combined with jet lag and travel fatigue. Most students adjust quickly to local bugs and climate. In rural areas or places where sanitation systems are less developed, some caution is advisable.

Emory College Study Abroad will collect a Health Information Questionnaire from all students. The purpose of this form is to help Emory College Study Abroad and EDUCO be of maximum help to you should the need arise during your study abroad program. Mild physical or psychological disorders can become serious under the stresses of life while studying abroad. It is therefore important that Emory College Study Abroad be made aware of any medical or psychological problems, past or current, which might affect you in a foreign study context. The information provided will remain confidential with Emory College Study Abroad and the EDUCO staff and will be shared with other program staff, faculty, or appropriate professionals only if pertinent to your well-being.

Also, please remember that if you take prescription medication, you should continue to follow your doctor's advice, and you should bring along a sufficient supply to last the duration of the stay. If absolutely necessary, you may be able to obtain a similar prescription in France, but it will require a doctor's appointment, and the medication may not be exactly the same as you normally take. You should bring a letter from your doctor explaining your condition and treatment and a copy of the prescription, in case you do need medical attention while in France.
While living in Paris and traveling to major cities throughout Europe, students should remain alert and keep a close eye on their personal items to avoid theft or pick-pocketing. In Paris particularly, some pick pockets may try to distract tourists by asking them to sign petitions etc.

In all circumstances, students should be alert and somewhat cautious when meeting strangers. Don't accept drinks from strangers, (remember that drugs can be placed in your drink!) or leave a club or café with someone you don't know. While you should avoid traveling in large groups of Americans in order to not be overly conspicuous or obtrusive, it is always a good idea to travel with a “buddy” when going out in the evening. Make sure your buddy gets home safely!

Most major cities have adequate sanitation/purification systems, but use your judgment about eating and drinking in dubious places. Needless to say, if you have any specific health problems or concerns, discuss these with your doctor or with the student health staff before leaving the U.S. If you need special attention in Paris, call the EDUCO Center in Paris to set up the necessary medical or psychological aid. Medical information is confidential, and you will have to indicate if you need special help.

In addition to the measures taken by the program, the French government has reinforced the Vigipirate, the French domestic security plan, within the last year. Students should be aware that police can search personal belongings or even conduct a body search without a warrant. Keep a copy of your passport on you at all times, but leave the real one at your residence. In addition, EDUCO and Emory College Study Abroad will keep copies of your passport on file, in case of emergencies.

**ACADEMICS**

**Orientation**

Prior to departure, Emory College Study Abroad will email you with a placement exam that will be used to determine your level for the intensive language course during orientation. Upon arrival in Paris, there is a two-week orientation session. French language classes will meet for approximately three hours a day for the first week (NOT FOR CREDIT). At the end of the intensive course, you will take another language evaluation test and, depending upon your results, either be required to take EDUCO's Grammaire & Communication class or be exempt. However, even if you are exempt, sometimes students opt to take Grammaire & Communication to further their study of the French language. **No academic credit is given for orientation!!!**

*Tutors will be available to those students who desire or need ongoing assistance with their courses in the French universities at no additional cost!* These EDUCO tutors are equally available to students who are studying at Sciences Po. Tutors can be very helpful, not just for French language assistance, but also for understanding the French méthodologie for different assignments.

In addition, special activities take place at the EDUCO Center that aim to prepare students for their integration into French life. These activities include sessions where you will receive practical information on daily life in the city, lectures and discussions of current issues presented by guest speakers, visits to some parts of the city, and occasional evening and theater activities. Because you will have only about two to three weeks between your arrival and the beginning of classes at the universities, you will be expected to work very hard at bringing your comprehension and
fluency up to the level required for your studies. In addition to the regularly scheduled classes, some tutoring in French will be available at the EDUCO Center throughout the semester.

After the orientation, there will be several days free before classes begin when you may explore Paris on your own, enjoy some travel through France, or simply soak in the French scene at your own pace.

Sciences Po students attend a separate week-long Welcome Programme, which includes classes on French teaching methodologies, tours that introduce students to campus buildings and libraries, and a series of activities (bar nights, Seine boat tours, picnics, etc.) that help students integrate into the Sciences Po community as well as into Parisian student life.

EDUCO & the Parisian Universities
EDUCO students can enroll in Paris 7 (Diderot), Paris 1 (Panthéon-Sorbonne), and Paris 4 (Sorbonne). Paris 7 is the largest of the thirteen separate and entirely autonomous branches of the University of Paris. Varying vastly in size, each branch seeks to establish the excellence of the particular disciplines in which it specializes. Whereas French students take all their courses in a single field or department, Cornell, Emory, Tulane, and Duke students are able to compose a course of study that will allow them to take courses in a number of different areas.

Paris 7 provides EDUCO students with the exceptional possibility of taking courses in any of its many departments. The bulk of your work is normally done at Paris 7, which offers the most extensive opportunities in the widest varieties of fields, particularly in the humanities and in the natural and social sciences. The laboratories and equipment at Paris 7, as well as the number and variety of offerings, allow students to find a great many courses with substantial academic equivalents in many departments and fields at their home institutions. In addition, Paris 7 gives you access to the Institut Charles-V, one of the most important centers for the study of English and American language, literature, and civilization, and where courses by some of the most renowned French authorities may even be given in English. In addition, through Paris 7’s relation to Paris 3 (the branch in the Latin Quarter), EDUCO students are able, for example, to study film in its excellent cinema department and French phonetics at the Institut de Phonétique.

Paris 1 is located in the 13th arrondissement on Rue de Tolbiac, adjacent to the Parisian Chinatown. Paris 1 is a school where EDUCO students can take courses in art history, history, philosophy, law, economics, management, and political science. Some troisième année classes are located in the 5th arrondissement in the Sorbonne building.

EDUCO aims to be a program "where any person can find instruction in any study." Besides taking courses at the University of Paris, for example, students have attended seminars at the Collège International de Philosophie, worked on Latin American Studies at the prestigious École des Hautes Études, studied advanced grammar at the Institut Catholique, and taken oil painting classes at a true Parisian art studio. Only courses taken at the institutions with which EDUCO has official and regular agreements can be credited at your home institutions or paid for by EDUCO. The aim of EDUCO is to find a way to meet the paradoxical requirement of permitting a student to do equivalent academic work in an environment entirely foreign to that of Cornell, Emory, Tulane, or Duke. The idea is to provide the students in Paris with the chance to encounter both the “other” and the “same”—both the full experience of taking regular French university courses and simultaneously fulfilling requirements for their major courses of study at their home universities.
Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po)
EDUCO has an equivalent arrangement with the Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris, which gives students access to one of the most celebrated of the Grandes Écoles. Sciences Po, as it is known, specializes in the fields of foreign relations and political science. Students have the opportunity of being fully enrolled there, studying under some of the most distinguished figures in French academic and governmental circles; they have full access to all the facilities of the school, including its excellent modern library. Enrollment has to be secured on the home campus prior to departure.

In order to enroll in Sciences Po, you must first be nominated by Jeremy Billetdeaux. Once nominated, you will complete an additional application particular to Sciences Po. After you've been accepted, you will follow the same visa and preparation procedures along with the other EDUCO students.

Library Facilities
You will be able to either obtain a library card or use your Paris student ID card at the university where you are registered. Library facilities are operated at a different level than those you are familiar with on campus. Hours are much shorter, weekend availability is limited, stacks are often closed to the public, and the waiting period for books is often long. They do, however, provide an excellent place to study and can be extremely helpful when you have to do research for a class. Do not expect to find lots of computers for your use at the library, so take your own laptop if you wish to use a computer. Each arrondissement has its own library and there is a large American library at 10, rue du General Camou in the 8th arrondissement (metro stop Alma-Marceau). The Centre Pompidou Library is open-access, but lines just to enter the building are often long, so if you plan to go, arrive early.

Students enrolled at Sciences Po will have access to the two libraries on 27 and 30, rue Saint-Guillaume, which provide computers, wifi, a large collection of books for checkout, and access to a comprehensive online database. The libraries are open Monday through Saturday; detailed hours of operation are online at http://www.sciencespo.fr/bibliotheque/. The EDUCO Center will provide an extensive list of library facilities available in Paris when you arrive. You can also access Emory library resources, such as databases and online journals, while abroad.

Academic Year
Generally speaking, it is not an easy task to find out what courses are being offered at Paris universities for a particular term, where they will be held, and when they will begin. Since course offerings and class schedules only become available in the weeks immediately preceding the beginning of classes, the choice of courses and registration can only be done once you have arrived in Paris. A course with the same name and code may differ from year to year in content, methodology, and approach, and in the length and number of contact hours. On all campuses it
is necessary to find out the total number of anticipated meetings rather than the average number of weekly meetings since a course may meet for five hours a week for five weeks, or one hour a week for 25 weeks, or three full Fridays and Saturdays!

In France, a "course" is not usually considered a distinct intellectual unit but rather as a part of a program of study leading to a comprehensive examination and degree. French students generally do not substitute courses in one program for courses in another.

Part of the experience of the year in France will be in adjusting to a much less organized system of course offerings. *Self-reliance and the ability to work independently is a must in France.* French courses usually consist of a one- to two-hour lecture per week over a semester or year (*Cours magistral*); in addition, class discussions (*Travaux dirigés*) related to the course and usually taught by graduate students may be held. The tutorial (*tutorat*) system, used in most French universities, is the bridge between two dissimilar educational systems. Tutors (*moniteurs*) supplement formal lectures through guided readings, discussions, and research, and they help you to acquire background that French students have already acquired through previous education. Tutorial sections on special topics may be arranged through EDUCO as needed.

Finding and taking courses and registration at the University of Paris can be a nightmare for the student on his/her own, confronted with a system in which there are no catalogues, where each department in each of the twenty branches announces its courses in forms of its own devising, and where class times and places are a mystery until a week before courses begin. Not to worry-the EDU CO staff in Paris will guide you in organizing a course of study and will provide all the necessary information allowing you to find and take courses that you might require in any of your particular fields. EDU CO, because of its experience and its official ties with the French system, is able to cut through bureaucratic impediments and official confusion in order to present the student with more clearly defined options for composing a course of study.

Under a form as close as possible to the standard American catalogue, course descriptions and evaluations from preceding years, as well as the staff's familiarity with the French system, help EDU CO students find their way through the multiplicity of offerings. A word of caution is in order, however. You must not go to Paris expecting the ordered registration system with which you are familiar with at your home institution. You must be prepared to be patient and open during the process of course selection, because, despite all its efforts, the EDU CO staff continues to receive new information on course offerings and schedules right up to the beginning of each semester.

Sciences Po uses an online course registration system somewhat similar to the system used at Emory. A list of courses offered to exchange students is available online and can be found at http://college.sciences-po.fr/siteparis/curricula. Fall semester courses will be posted in November, and Fall semester courses will be posted in June. Students should take a look at the course descriptions and prepare a list of courses of interest for departmental approval. During the online course registration process, students are given a 48-hour enrollment period to complete course registration. It is strongly recommended that students make the best of this short window, since Sciences Po can be unaccommodating to subsequent schedule changes.

**Course Load and S/U**
**EDUCO students must enroll in 4 courses that total 16 credit hours.** ALL courses overseas must be taken for a letter grade at the host institution. However, Emory College allows students to designate up to one course per semester as S/U (note: only 20 graduation hours may be taken S/U at Emory). Language courses are considered integral to the study abroad experience and therefore cannot be taken as S/U. Courses intended to satisfy a GER also cannot be taken S/U. Most courses needed for major requirements cannot be taken S/U, so you should obtain approval from your academic advisor before making the decision to take a class for your major as S/U. If you want to take a semester (or year-long course) S/U, you must notify Emory College Study Abroad in writing within 16 days of the first day of classes of the study abroad program. After this period, no S/U election or changes can be made. You must receive a confirmation email from your Study Abroad Advisor to finalize your S/U request. Please keep copies of all such emails. Your grade for the course will be changed to “S” or “U” upon receipt of the overseas transcript; you must earn a grade of “D” or better for the class to receive the “S” grade.

**Course Approvals**

One of the advantages of studying on an Emory-approved program is that you earn Emory credit AND grades for the courses you take. As you know, it is Emory College Study Abroad policy that you obtain approval for ALL classes you take abroad. You cannot take classes for which you cannot obtain approval. We want to assure you that you will get credit for the courses you take at EDUCO—you may just need to go through a few extra steps to obtain course approvals—please see below. If you encounter any difficulties, please let Professor Subha Xavier and Jeremy Billetdeaux know.

**Blanket-approved courses:** A list of “blanket-approved” courses for the EDUCO program can be found on the EDUCO page of the Emory College Study Abroad website. If a course you want to take has been blanket-approved, you do not need additional approval unless you have specific questions about how the course may be applied towards a major or minor. For questions regarding credits towards the French major or minor, please email Professor Xavier directly.

**General course approvals:** For any other courses within the University of Paris system or at Sciences Po, you will need to contact the appropriate faculty study abroad representative with a course description (translated into English, of course) and ask that if an Emory equivalent can be assigned, would the faculty member please email Jeremy and Professor Xavier with the course number. You can find the current list of reps at the following website: http://cipa.emory.edu/academic/semester/course.html. Please copy Professor Xavier and Jeremy on your email so that they are kept in the loop.

**History courses:** Students taking history courses abroad on this program will generally receive pre-approval of HIST 285 for lower-level history courses and HIST 385 for upper-level history courses; no departmental signature is required prior to departure. However, students must obtain final approval upon return from study abroad by showing the History Department at least 2000 words worth of work for HIST 285 credit and at least 3000 words worth of work for HIST 385 credit. All work should include appropriate documentation and citations, and HIST 385 work must be based on primary sources and non-web-based secondary sources. Proof of work can be made with electronic versions of papers or hard copies; the work may be in the form of several short essays, a long research paper, or some other appropriate form, **excluding in-class**
exams & journals. Upon return to Emory, students must submit all written work and course syllabus to Becky Herring, Undergraduate Program Coordinator, who will forward to the Director of Undergraduate Studies for approval and evaluation of credit. History majors should consult with the History Department prior to departure.

Anthropology, psychology, and/or English or American literature: Students must consult with the faculty study abroad representative in those departments BEFORE enrolling in a specific course, as not all such courses will be approved by Emory faculty.

Music, visual arts, and/or dance courses: Emory students participating in Sciences Po are highly discouraged from taking courses in voice, visual arts, dance, etc. Grades and grade equivalencies in such courses can be complicated to coordinate, and students are encouraged instead to take advantage of the academic opportunities provided to them by the rest of the Sciences Po curriculum.

Courses For The French Major/Minor
Students should confirm French major or minor requirements with Professor Coropceanu in the Emory French department. The French course Grammaire et Communication or Phonétique et Communication is recorded at FREN 371 and will count towards the major or minor at Emory. Just because a course is taught in French does not mean that it will receive a FREN course number; approvals must be obtained as per the instructions above. French majors are allowed to count one “extra-departmental course in a suitable supporting subject (such as art history, history, or political science).”

Generally, French majors can receive up to three courses towards the major on the EDUCO program during one semester, not to exceed five total courses towards the major if studying at EDUCO for the academic year. French minors can receive up to two courses towards the minor for one semester.

See the EDUCO website for more details regarding EDUCO Spring 2017 Courses

ALL COURSEWORK AND INSTRUCTION THROUGH EDUCO IS IN THE FRENCH LANGUAGE.

Personalized Linguistic Workshop: Twice during the semester, students attend mandatory custom-designed 45-minute sessions with their French professor. The professor designs the best pedagogical strategies to help the students set concrete objectives and evaluate their own progress.

Course-related tutorials (University): If you take a class that meets fewer than 35 hours per semester (3 hours per week), you must take a tutorial to complete your course. This obligatory tutorial is organized by EDUCO at the program center.

French Language Tutorials: To help you improve your skills, French tutors are available through EDUCO. They can answer all your questions regarding grammar, writing style and methodology. Tutors are available on a regular basis. They are invaluable! It will be to your great benefit to take advantage of these tutors.
**Laboratoire de Langue at Sciences Po:** A number of language tutors are available by appointment at the Laboratoire de Langue located on 56, rue des Saints-Pères. Reading, writing and speaking tutorials are offered in a range of languages, including French. There is also a Tandem de langues system that allows students to sign up to become language partners with another Sciences Po student to help him/her with English (or any other languages you are proficient in) in exchange for tutoring in French. More information is available at: http://www.sciencespo.fr/welcome/fr/content/laboratoire-de-langue.

**End of Semester “Business”**
You must take the final exams. For any other questions about Emory’s academic policies on study abroad programs, please refer to the Emory College Study Abroad website. Please give Valérie a photocopy of all your papers written for EDUCO or the university. If your French professor allows you to send a paper through email, make sure you copy Valérie (v.herbunot@wanadoo.fr). The file that is kept at EDUCO is the ultimate proof you have done the work. In case of a problem with a paper, an exam, or a take-home assignment, and we have nothing on file, you will most likely fail the course. You should also keep copies for yourself in case you need these upon return to Emory.

**Grades & Transcripts**
Institutions that have a formal agreement with EDUCO, Paris 7 and Sciences Po for instance, provide EDUCO with a written report on each student for every course taken. This report gives the instructor's remarks on student's progress, grades on tests and papers, and the quality of oral presentations made by the student in class. Students must take final exams! Be aware that final grade reports are usually not available for several weeks to months after a session ends. Fall students enrolled in annual courses may not receive a final grade until the following summer when the academic year has ended. The EDUCO staff, the Department of French and Italian, and the Emory College Study Abroad office make every effort to collect and report your final grades to the Emory University Registrar in a timely fashion. Occasionally the grades from the French universities can take up to 6 months to arrive at Emory.

**Vacation Time & Absences**
You are expected to be diligent and regular in your attendance at classes and tutorials. Absences will be noted by the EDUCO staff both in EDUCO and University of Paris courses, and you may be penalized for excessive absences. Traveling outside of Paris, except during regular university holidays and long weekends, is discouraged. If you are unavoidably called from Paris, you must leave your itinerary with addresses and phone numbers in the appropriate information box at the EDUCO Center and notify the staff if you do not return on the date anticipated. It is also a good idea to let your parents or friends at home know when you are traveling and to make frequent contact to let them know you are “okay.”
PROGRAM POLICIES

**Admission**
Students accepted into the EDUCO program will receive an acceptance letter in late October for the Fall semester and in late March for the Fall semester or academic year.

You may be liable for a financial penalty if you withdraw before the beginning of the program. If you withdraw after EDUCO has incurred expenses on your behalf, you will be responsible for the said amount. Please refer to the refund policy of Emory College Study Abroad for further details.

**Insurance**
All Emory students are covered by a supplemental study abroad insurance policy by Emory College Study Abroad. Pre-existing conditions may not be covered by this plan, so please check with your primary insurance carrier to find out if you will receive coverage while out of the country. Information about the study abroad insurance can be found on the Emory College Study Abroad website.

**Registration**
Before you leave campus, you should be sure that your student account is cleared and that you have no outstanding balance with the Emory University Bursar's Office. University regulations state that you cannot be registered until your program tuition and outstanding bills have been paid. Unpaid bills can cause major problems if you expect to be registered for your semester(s) abroad. It has been a recurring problem that students arrive at their destination abroad and are not registered at Emory because of unpaid bills, or they do not arrange payment in time to be registered for their second semester abroad. All bills must be cleared before your transcripts will be released.

While you are abroad, course schedules and your transcript will indicate four sections of OISP 99XR for a total of 16 hours. These courses are place holders, showing that you are registered at Emory as a full-time student. After a transcript of your work abroad has been received by Emory College Study Abroad, the placeholders will be replaced by notations of the courses you took, credits you earned, and the grades you received.

**Course Planning**
*Save yourself much worry by becoming thoroughly familiar with Emory’s regulations and procedures for transfer of credit.* For example, clarify what you should do if you choose courses which are different from your original plans. It may be a good idea to meet with the EDUCO Academic Advisor before your departure to discuss what you types of courses you plan to take, and what kind of credit you are hoping to get (French, GER, etc.).

**Pre-Registration for the following semester**
Email reminders will be sent to you in well in advance regarding OPUS pre-registration dates and procedures. Please make sure you have synchronized your password and are familiar with the OPUS system before departure. *Emory College Study Abroad will expect you to use OPUS*
to register yourself for the courses you will take upon return to Emory. Check your Emory Outlook account on a regular basis while abroad.

Student Conduct
The EDUCO directors have complete discretion regarding the presence of students on the program. Emory students at EDUCO are subject to Emory regulations, program guidelines, and laws of the country. In the event of serious violations, academic failure, unauthorized absence from the program, or behavior which is detrimental to the student, other students, or the program, the Paris directors, in conjunction with the Emory University on-campus director and the assistant dean for study abroad at Emory will have the right to dismiss the student from the program.

Issues of academic integrity will be dealt with according to Emory University's Honor Code.

EDUCO Directory

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<tr>
<th>EDUCO - President</th>
<th>Professor Subha Xavier, Emory University</th>
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<tr>
<td>EDUCO - Administrative Director</td>
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<td>EDUCO - Program Coordinator</td>
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<td>EDUCO - Academic Services Coordinator</td>
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<td>EDUCO On-Campus Contact</td>
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<td>Emory College Study Abroad</td>
<td>Jeremy Billetdeaux, Associate Director</td>
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<td>Emory University</td>
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PRE-DEPARTURE READING

It is to your advantage to learn as much as possible about France (in general), the EDUCA Center (in particular), and your role as a participant, prior to your departure. In addition to reading this handbook, area studies books, articles, and novels, which can give you an insight as to what to expect abroad, talk with past participants, past resident directors, your campus representative, and faculty about their experiences at the EDUCA Center and in France in general. A recommended reading list follows.

You are encouraged to become acquainted with France as much as possible prior to departure and to keep up-to-date on French current events by reading articles on France in newspapers (Le Monde, Libération), magazines (L’Express, Le Nouvel Observateur), and journals. In addition, you may want to read some of the following textbooks and novels which can provide you with historical information and an insight into France and French culture:

**General Introduction**


Gopnik, Adam, *Paris to the Moon*.

Johnson, Diane, *Le Divorce*.

Platt, Polly, *French or Foe*.


**History, Politics, and Society**


Darnton, Robert, *The Great Cat Massacre and Other Episodes in French Cultural History.* (New York: Basic, 1984). A remarkable study of politics and popular culture during the first half of the nineteenth century, a blend of history and anthropology.

Debray, Régis, *Teachers, Writers, Celebrities.* (NBL, Verso). On the "intellectuals" power in France (written by one of them).


Galedan, Alain, *Les syndicats.* The role of labor unions in France.


Hamon, H. and Rotman, *Génération,* 3 vol. (Paris: Seuil, 1987). One of the most vivid and exhaustive accounts of the upheavals of 1968 in France, including a discussion of the participants and the ideological movements (for example, the birth of the women's liberation movement), which have shaped France today, and a look at what has become of them 20 years later.

Hoffmann, Stanley, *In Search of France.* (New York: Harper, 1963). An important collection of essays on how France changed and how it didn't change after the Second World War. This is still an important investigation into French political culture.


Lacouture, Jean, *DeGaulle, 1984.* An excellent biography (in French) of the man who did so much to shape contemporary France.


Miller, P., *Les Français tels qu'ils sont.* Through surveys and statistics, a view of Frenchman by themselves.


**Literature and the Arts**


For ideas of movies to watch in French, check out Amazon, Netflix or even YouTube and search in the foreign films section.

Also, check out the Emory French Club or The Consulate General of France in Atlanta on Facebook for news on French cultural events in Atlanta, as well as recommended books and movies.