



Language & Culture in Southern France

FRANCE

Fall Semester
Spring Semester
Academic Year
Summer Session



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



TERM

Fall Semester
Spring Semester
Academic Year
Summer Session



LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

French



HOUSING

Apartment | Homestay



ELIGIBILITY

2.5 GPA
B average in French
Freshmen and above
Language requirements vary



WEBSITE

[UMabroad.umn.edu/
programs/
europe/montpellier](http://UMabroad.umn.edu/programs/europe/montpellier)



About Language & Culture in Southern France

Integrate into French culture in Montpellier, a vibrant city located miles from the Mediterranean. Take classes in a variety of subjects at University Paul Valéry or the University of Montpellier, among Europe's oldest and most prestigious universities.

Housing & Meals

Immerse yourself in the culture and strengthen your language skills while living and sharing most meals with a French host family. Or opt to live in a centrally located studio or shared apartment with other program participants. For the studio and apartment options, you can shop for and cook your own meals or explore French cuisine at nearby restaurants.

Excursions

Each semester, local excursions introduce you to the unique character of southern France. In addition, social assistants organize activities to help you become familiar with Montpellier and meet French students. You can join skiing, hiking, and photography clubs or take optional excursions visiting Paris, touring French castles, or seeing the wonders of nearby Morocco.

Learning Outcomes

- Strengthen French linguistic skills
- Deepen cross-cultural understanding through interaction with local students, host families, and community members
- Gain French, European, and international perspectives on academic disciplines
- Increase independence and self-reliance by learning to navigate French society
- Develop professional skills such as problem-solving and teamwork



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LEARNING ABROAD CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



Language & Culture in Southern France

COURSEWORK

Home to 100,000 university students, Montpellier is a youthful city that offers a centuries-old history of intellectual advances and social tolerance. It is the ideal place to immerse yourself in French language and culture.

Centrally located in downtown Montpellier, the program center provides you a home base with on-site staff, a common space, and classrooms.

This program offers a large variety of academic options: Courses are available at the program center exclusively to program participants; at University Paul Valéry in the languages, humanities, and social sciences; and at the University of Montpellier in business and physical sciences.

Beginning Track

Summer Session

Earn 5 credits in one four-week session or 10 credits in two four-week consecutive sessions. In this track, you can make progress toward completing a second language requirement.

Intermediate Track

Fall or Spring Semester, Summer Session

During the semester, earn 15–18 credits taking language and culture courses with other international students at University

Paul Valéry. This track, intended for students with two to three semesters of French, allows you to develop strong language skills and deepen your cultural understanding. You can also enroll in an English-taught course at University Paul Valéry alongside French and international students.

During the summer, continue your French language study and hone your writing, listening, and speaking during one or two four-week consecutive sessions.

Advanced Track

Fall or Spring Semester, Academic Year, Summer Session

During the semester, earn 15–18 credits by enrolling directly in French-taught university courses. This track, intended for students with four or more semesters of French language, also offers courses designed for students learning French as a second language: art history, business, French language, international relations, literature, phonetics, and more.

During the summer, continue your language study or enroll in French-taught topics courses on multiculturalism, cinema, and science and technology during one or two three-credit consecutive sessions.

INTERNSHIPS/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Advanced Track students can earn credit in an internship, as well as in an accompanying seminar that provides theoretical background for these unpaid positions. Students in the Intermediate Track can participate in the English-taught *Community Engagement* course, which includes a placement in the community.

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Most financial aid may be applied to study abroad. In addition, University of Minnesota students are eligible for \$1.5 million in University of Minnesota study abroad scholarships. For more information about other financial resources, visit the Learning Abroad Center website.

STUDY ABROAD FITS YOUR DEGREE

Study abroad credits can count toward your major, minor, liberal education, and second language requirements. Contact an adviser on your campus to find out how this program fits for you.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation.

“Study abroad is not a one-time thing. It’s life changing. The experience, the things that you learn and the ideas that it either awakens or reinforces in you, just continue throughout life.”

—Jon

SOUTHERN FRANCE BECKONS

Live and study in Montpellier, one of France’s fastest-growing cities and home to thousands of students from around the world. Stroll the narrow, intimate streets. Explore the hub of the city, the Place de la Comédie, which is the center of Montpellier’s social scene. Participate in French daily life through conversation with *Montpelliérains*, shopping at markets, and commuting or walking to class. Take excursions to the beautiful Provence region, nearby Medieval towns, and the famous historic cities of Avignon and Arles. Situated within easy reach of both the Cévennes mountains and the Mediterranean Sea, Montpellier is an ideal location for cultural exploration.

