University of Iowa College of Law
May 17-June 17, 2016
International & Comparative Law

Come study abroad in our
France Summer Program
Arcachon, France
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OVERVIEW

For more than 30 years, the University of Iowa College of Law has operated an intellectually stimulating and culturally rewarding international and comparative law study abroad program in France. The program starts in Paris where students visit the courts and a law school with speakers including prominent judges and lawyers. The program then travels to Arcachon for the remainder of the stay. Arcachon is a scenic seaside town that is ideal for study and exposure to French culture. It is located less than one hour from the major city of Bordeaux, an area well known for its rich history and touristic appeal.

Dean Adrien K. Wing, Associate Dean for International and Comparative Law Programs and Bessie Dutton Murray Professor of Law, has been the program director for more than fifteen years. She is one of the core faculty members in Iowa’s major specialty in international and comparative law. In addition to acting as Program Director, Prof. Wing also teaches the program’s second course, “Law in the Muslim World.” Michael Amado, a Paris lawyer, teaches “Introduction to French Law,” and the final course is selected and taught each year by visiting faculty from the University of Iowa. For summer 2016, Professor Angela Onwuachi-Willig will teach “Comparative Equality.”

For more information on the France program, visit our website, download this brochure, and view the program's Facebook page. Additionally, you may contact Professor Wing, any of the program instructors listed below, students who have attended before, or the program assistant, Amanda Bibb. Contact information is provided at the end of this brochure.

PROGRAM DATES

The 2016 program will run from May 17 - June 17, 2016.

APPLICATION AND FEES

This program is open to law students who are attending ABA accredited schools and have completed their first year. Last year, 14 students attended—13 from The University of Iowa and one from William & Mary. We were also pleased to welcome the families of two of our students, who joined the group in many of our social activities. Students from other American law schools often join our program, and in recent years, we have also welcomed auditors from India, France, Russia, and Belarus.

The cost of the program is $7500, which includes tuition for 3 courses; housing in Paris and Arcachon; plus group activities such as city tours in Paris and Arcachon, an opening dinner and a good-bye meal, Arcachon bay cruise, Dune de Pyla tour, and small group meals. The financial aid budget includes the previously mentioned costs plus money for transportation, food, books, insurance and other incidental expenses. If a student will be accompanied for all or part of the program by a non-participant, a separate fee will apply for housing and program activities. Please contact the program director for more information on this option.
Applications and deposits will be accepted beginning December 1, 2015. All applications must be accompanied by a non-refundable deposit of $100, which will be applied toward the academic program fee. The remainder of the program fee, $7400, is payable on or before April 22, 2016. Options for payment are indicated on the application.

Deadline for submission of applications is March 1, 2016. Late applications may be accepted at the discretion of the program director, but students are encouraged to apply early as the program may fill up before the deadline. University of Iowa participants are also required to register with the University of Iowa Office of Study Abroad. You can find information about registering your travel on the International Programs Study Abroad website.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

Courses

All courses are taught in English, with American and French instructors. None of the courses offered have prerequisites. After four days in Paris, the program will settle at the Villa Regina Hotel in Arcachon, which provides both housing and a classroom for the program. Classes take place in the hotel’s wifi-equipped solarium. The program also maintains an office in the hotel, which is utilized by the Program Director and program faculty. A research assistant completes the staff.

The schedule of classes can be found on the program’s website.

The following courses are offered for Summer 2016:

Comparative Equality (2 s.h. credit)

This course will provide an introduction to the landscape of U.S. anti-discrimination law along with its theoretical development. Thereafter, it will focus on comparing the structures of U.S. law to those for a variety of other jurisdictions.

Taught by Angela Onwuachi-Willig, Charles M. and Marion J. Kierscht Professor of Law, University of Iowa College of Law, BA (Grinnell, JD (Michigan)

Course Description [pdf]

Law in the Muslim World (2 s.h. credit)

This course will survey a selection of the various types of laws existing in the nearly 60 countries of the Muslim world. The subjects will include: Islamic law; unwritten customary law; civil law including constitutional, commercial, and criminal law; international human rights law, particularly women's rights, and a case study on the right to self-determination; and public international law relating to terrorism.

Taught by Program Director Adrien Wing, Bessie Dutton Murray Distinguished Professor of Law, University of Iowa College of Law, AB (Princeton), MA (UCLA), JD (Stanford)

Course Description [pdf]
Introduction to the Law of France (with an Emphasis on Labor Law) (2 s.h. credit)

This two-unit course will introduce the students to the laws of France, their characteristic features, and the role of France's main institutions. The subjects will include Civil Law, Contracts, Tort, Family Law, Commercial Law, Criminal Law and Labor Law. As part of the course we will visit a French law school, a Paris court, and the National Judge School (ENM) in Bordeaux.

Taught by Michael Amado, Adjunct Professor of Law, University of Paris; Avocat à la Cour, Amado-Cabinet D'Avocats, Paris, LLM, MBA (University of Paris I Sorbonne)

Course Description [pdf]

Credits

Each of the courses counts for 2 semester hours of credit. Those attending law schools using the quarter system should speak with their school’s administrators to determine the equivalent credit hours. Students are required to enroll in a minimum of two courses. There is no difference in the program fee, however, regardless of the number of courses selected.

Grading policies in the program will be the same as regular courses of study at the University of Iowa College of Law. Details are outlined here. Regular class attendance and class participation are required. Grades will be determined primarily by performance on the final exam, but the instructor may choose to incorporate class participation and other factors as elements of grading.

Non-Iowa law students should consult with their own schools about transfer of credits earned in the program; transfer credit and grades are subject to acceptance by the student's school. It is unlikely that participation in this, or any, summer session at another law school may be used to accelerate graduation. Students should consult with their home school concerning this matter.

Knowledge of French

Participants are not required to speak French. All academic work (instruction and examinations) will be in English. However, a minimal knowledge of French will greatly enhance the experience of living in France. Participants lacking knowledge of French might consider taking introductory French lessons prior to departure. Limited French lessons may be offered in Arcachon through the program. In addition to the program director, a fluent French- speaking research assistant will also be available to help students.

Co-Curricular Activities

Co-curricular events may include trips to: a Paris trial court, Bar Association, law school, or parliament; Bordeaux trial court; Bordeaux Court of Appeals; and the National Judge School (ENM). Guest speakers may also provide their personal perspectives on topics related to the courses.
**Non-Academic Activities**

Non-academic activities will include: a tour of Paris; a tour of Arcachon; a visit to Europe's tallest sand dune at Pyla; Arcachon Bay boat cruise; faculty-student small group meal; Paris opening dinner; and a good-bye meal in Arcachon. Students may organize a group trip to the Bordeaux wine country. Students may also wish to travel over the weekends while in France. In the past, students have visited Greece, Ireland, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, London, Denmark, and Spain, as well as Nice, Normandy, and Monaco.

**PREPARATION MANUAL**

The Student Preparation Manual provides information to assist students after their acceptance into the program. The Preparation Manual can be downloaded from this brochure or from the website. It has very specific information to assist you with all the details of getting ready for the trip.

Participant Manual [pdf]

**FINANCING YOUR TRIP**

Students may apply for financial aid to cover the program fee, transportation, and the cost of living expenses. Students must make arrangements for financial assistance through their school's financial aid office. The students' school may also have other financial assistance available. The University of Iowa College of Law also participates in consortium loan agreements. Students attending law schools other than the University of Iowa should send their consortium forms to:

Mr. Bob Upmeyer  
University of Iowa Financial Aid Office 208 Calvin Hall  
Iowa City, Iowa 52242  
Tel.: 319-335-3950  Fax: 319-335-3060  
robert-upmeyer@uiowa.edu

**INSURANCE**

International health insurance coverage is highly recommended for all students and is mandatory for all University of Iowa students traveling abroad for educational purposes. All Iowa students traveling abroad for such purposes must register with the Office of Study Abroad by completing the Study Abroad Registration Form. Upon registering, students are automatically enrolled in a University policy provided through Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI). Students will be billed for this “blanket” policy at a cost of $1.15 per day for the duration of the trip. Cost of the insurance is calculated into the student financial aid budget. See details of the policy [here](#). You may also find information at the University of Iowa Office of Study Abroad.
PASSPORT AND STUDENT ID CARD

Participants who do not have a valid passport should apply for one promptly. Please note that visas are not required of U.S. citizens for entry into France in connection with stays of less than 90 days. If you are not a U.S. citizen, you should contact the French Consulate at once to determine what steps you may need to take in order to obtain a visa to enter France. Do not delay.

Also, students may apply for an International Student Identification Card (ISIC). The ISIC may offer discounts for student travelers, but are no longer required by the Office of Study Abroad, as the University’s Regents mandated insurance policy now negates the need for the insurance offered under the International Student Identification Card. For more information about the International Student card, however, you may visit the Office of Study Abroad or download the application here. Instructions are provided for mailing the application to the University of Iowa for processing, which requires additional time. These cards can be obtained at the University of Iowa’s Study Abroad office located in the Capitol Mall.

For those students who are not from the University of Iowa, ISIC cards may also be obtained from your respective universities; you are encouraged to check with your Registrar or university study abroad office.

HOUSING

In 2016, the program will begin in Arcachon. The group will stay there from May 17, taking up residence at the Hotel Villa Regina until Monday, June 13. On June 13, the group will go together by train to Paris where we will be based until June 17. Detailed information will be provided on the Paris housing when these arrangements are finalized in the spring. In Arcachon, participants may choose to live in a single or double occupancy apartment at the Villa Regina. Those considering single occupancy apartments should be aware that there is a significant additional cost for this. Contact Amanda Bibb for additional information if you are interested in this option.

The Hotel Villa Regina is a beautiful facility located at 11 allée Corrigan in the “winter village” section of Arcachon. Each apartment has a bedroom or bedroom area, bathroom, toilet, equipped kitchenette, refrigerator, microwave, phone, and television. Housing costs are included in the program fee, and includes weekly cleaning service, linen change, and wi-fi. The hotel has a beautiful solarium for study and leisure activities, as well as an outdoor swimming pool. It is located a short distance from the scenic Mauresque Park, downtown Arcachon, and the beachfront. Laundry services are available. The hotel has a wheelchair accessible entrance, hallways, elevator, and wheelchair accessible bedrooms, as well. There is free wi-fi in the public areas. The hotel is non-smoking. More information about the hotel is available here.
**FOOD**

All apartments include equipped kitchen facilities. Groceries may be somewhat expensive in Arcachon compared to the United States. There are several nearby grocery stores. Students should allocate at least $100 per week for food ($500 for the entire program); more if one eats out with any frequency.

There are also many sandwich shops and bakeries where small meals or snacks can be had for $5-10. The average price of a modest lunch or dinner at an Arcachon restaurant is about $15 to $20. In addition, those interested in sampling the renowned French gourmet cuisine will have several restaurants to choose from, but at a somewhat higher cost.

Participants should remember that out-of-pocket expenses in France may fluctuate depending upon the daily fluctuations in exchange rates between dollars and euros.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Participants must arrange and pay for their own transportation, including transportation between Arcachon and Paris. While airfare can be purchased at your convenience, train tickets from Arcachon to Paris should not be purchased prior to notification by the program director. All students must travel from Arcachon as a group and the director will provide the necessary information when itinerary details are finalized in the Spring. Alternatively, you may purchase a Eurail Pass and utilize it for the trip between Arcachon and Paris. You will still be required to travel with the group, but may utilize the Pass when you are provided with the itinerary. The cost of airfare and train travel will be part of the financial aid budget.

Participants should fly into one of the Paris airports, and arrive no later than Tuesday, May 17. Most students will then take a train to Arcachon. The train trip from Paris to Bordeaux takes three hours via the high-speed T.G.V. Then you will switch to a local train to Arcachon, which takes another hour. If you plan to go directly back to the states after the program, schedule your flight for Friday June 17, the day after the close of the program.

During the month of February, some airlines often offer discount fares for their summer flights. Absent discounted fares, ticket consolidators usually have relatively inexpensive tickets for flights from Chicago to Paris via Air France or other carriers. These fares often provide greater flexibility in arranging return flights (e.g., from a European city other than Paris, or without trip-length limitations that often apply to traditional airline tickets). Many students also use websites like Student Universe or Kayak.com to find cheaper rates for flights; however, these are often inflexible and it will be difficult if you want to change your return ticket.

Eurail passes are often useful, especially if the student expects to travel before or after the academic program. Students must purchase these passes in the United States before departure for Europe and the price will depend on the number of countries visited. Also, it is usually possible to purchase reduced-fare group and youth (25 and under) passes in France. These fares often include date and time restrictions.
Travel agencies are a good source of information regarding flight availability, Eurail passes, and ticket prices. In addition, reduced fares may be available when purchased directly from the airlines online, or from online ticket consolidators.

The Council Travel web site may be helpful when participants are making travel arrangements, as it caters to students traveling internationally. It sells and provides information on airline tickets, Eurail passes, hotel and hostel reservations, and international student IDs (many museums and attractions provide discounts upon presentation of the ID).

Council Travel/Star Travel Agency

ACCESSIBILITY

France, like many European countries, has many older buildings that do not meet newer accessibility standards. Some parts of Arcachon are fully accessible. The Villa Regina hotel where everyone will stay and where classes are held is fully accessible. Students requiring assistance with flights should make requests directly through the airline. French trains, buses, taxis and many tourist attractions are not usually accessible. Any student needing accommodation should contact Professor Wing prior to submitting the application.

INTERNET ACCESS

Free wireless internet access is provided in the public rooms of the Villa Regina. Internet is also available at several other locations throughout the city.

MORE INFORMATION

Interested in learning more about Arcachon? Information is available about the city and surrounding areas here:

Arcachon Tourism

CANCELLATION

The $100 program deposit is nonrefundable. The remainder of the program fee is not refundable after April 22, except in case of certifiable personal medical emergency.

Although the program has never been canceled, the University of Iowa College of Law reserves the right to cancel the program should circumstances warrant such, including lack of sufficient registrations, or acts of war. In the event of cancellation, all fees and deposits paid will be refunded within twenty days of the cancellation. The program director will assist the students in finding another suitable program, if the students so desire.
SECURITY

Terrorism remains a worldwide potential problem, and there is currently a U.S. State Department global worldwide caution for all Americans. For up-to-date information about travel and security conditions in France:

U.S. State Department Consular Information Sheet for France. If the State Department issues an alert or warning applicable to France before or during the program, we will notify all participants. If a student withdraws prior to the commencement of the program due to an alert or warning, the student will receive a full refund of all monies advanced within twenty days of their withdrawal. If a student withdraws during the course of the program due to an alert or warning, or if the program is terminated, students will be refunded fees paid, except for room and board payments utilized prior to the date of termination or withdrawal.

CONTACTS

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Student Point of View:
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