

University of Iowa College of Law

May 18–24, 2026

International & Comparative Law



Come study abroad in our

France Study Abroad Program

Paris, France 

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OVERVIEW

For 40 years, the University of Iowa College of Law operated an intellectually stimulating and culturally rewarding international and comparative law summer study abroad program in France. 2026 represents a new phase in our history. The program will only meet during May intersession instead. Students will spend the week visiting the courts and other institutions with speakers, including prominent judges and lawyers. There will be time for checking out touristic Paris as well.

For over 20 years, the program director has been Dean Adrien K. Wing, Associate Dean for International and Comparative Law Programs. She is also the Bessie Dutton Murray Professor of Law. She is one of the core faculty members in Iowa's major specialty in international and comparative law. Michael Amado, a Parisian lawyer and adjunct professor at several Parisian law schools, teaches the one credit "Introduction to French Law." He has been affiliated with the Iowa program for over 25 years.

For more information on the France program, visit our [website](#), and download this brochure. Additionally, you may contact Dean Wing at adrien-wing@uiowa.edu or the program assistant, Andrea Flaherty at andrea-flaherty@uiowa.edu. Contact information is provided at the end of this brochure.

PROGRAM DATES

The 2026 program will run from May 18-24, 2026.

APPLICATION AND FEES

This program is open to law students who are attending ABA accredited schools.

The cost of the program for 1 credit is \$2000, which includes tuition; 6 nights housing (program fee only covers double occupancy); legal tours; opening dinner; and a good-bye meal. The program cost does NOT include personal or required transportation, food, laundry, or toiletries/household items needed. The financial aid budget includes the previously mentioned costs plus money for transportation, food for three meals a day (except meals mentioned above), 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. There may be a cap of 20 students for 2026.

Applications and deposits will be accepted beginning January 1, 2026. All applications must be accompanied by a non-refundable deposit of \$200 (payment link will be provided), which will be applied toward the academic program fee. The remainder of the program fee, \$1800 will be applied to your university bill and due on or before April 17, 2026. Those students not attending University of Iowa College of Law must apply to the [University of Iowa's non-degree seeking graduate program](#) and submit a certificate of good standing from their school's registrar as soon as possible after being notified of acceptance into the program. The certificate of good standing must be emailed from the Registrar's office to Andrea Flaherty andrea-flaherty@uiowa.edu

Deadline for submission of applications is March 1, 2026. Late applications may be accepted at the discretion of the program director, but students are encouraged to apply early, especially as there may be a cap of 20 students. Applications are accepted on a first come, first serve basis with preference for Iowa students.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

Course

The course is taught in English, with a bilingual instructor Michael Amado. The program also maintains an office in the hotel, which is utilized by the Program Director and program faculty. French speaking research assistants may complete the staff.

The schedule of classes can be found on the program's [website](#).

The following course is offered:

Introduction to the Law of France I (1 s.h. credit)

The one-credit course will introduce students to the laws of France, their characteristic features, and the role of France's main institutions. The subjects will include French Legal system, Civil law (Contracts and Torts), and Family law. As part of the course, we will visit Paris courts.

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)

Credits

Those attending law schools using the quarter system should speak with their school's administrators to determine the equivalent credit hours.

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 may be determined by various methods including a final examination, class participation, and other exercises.

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 (instructions 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. In addition to the program director, French-speaking research assistants may also be available to help students. Computer or phone apps like DuoLingo or Busuu may be helpful in exposing you to French ahead of time. WordReference is also a super helpful dictionary from English to other languages, and even offers conjugations of specific words. Google translate, or other apps can assist you in France as well.

Co-Curricular Activities

Co-curricular events may include trips to a Paris trial court; Paris Court of Appeals; a law school, and other institutions. Guest speakers may also provide their personal perspectives on topics related to the courses.

Non-Academic Activities

Non-academic activities will include an Paris opening dinner and a good-bye meal.

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. **Please be aware information may change on short notice, so be sure to doublecheck any information in this brochure or the participant manual.**

[Participant Manual](#)

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:

Andrew Brimeyer
University of Iowa Financial Aid Office
2400 University Capitol Center
Iowa City, Iowa 52242
Tel.: 319-335-1450
andrew-brimeyer@uiowa.edu

INSURANCE

In accordance with university policy, students traveling abroad through a University of Iowa sponsored program must be registered with the Office of Study Abroad and enrolled in a University international health insurance policy provided through Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI). Students will be billed for this policy at a cost of approximately \$1.33 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 at the [University of Iowa Office of Study Abroad website](#).

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](#) to 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 it is 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. 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 Old Capitol Town Center.

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 2026, the group will stay in Paris from May 18-24 at a hotel. Participants may choose to live in a single or double occupancy room. Those considering single occupancy apartments should be aware that there will be a significant additional cost for this option, and it is not covered by financial aid. You will be billed and responsible for paying this fee separately (payment link will be provided) and payment is required once rooms have been confirmed. Contact Andrea Flaherty at andrea-flaherty@uiowa.edu for additional information if you are interested. The hotel will have accessible rooms, and have wi-fi. Breakfast will be included.

FOOD

The hotel rooms will not have a kitchen. There are many sandwich shops and bakeries where small meals or snacks can be had for \$10-20. The average price of a modest lunch or dinner could be \$20 or more. In addition, those interested in sampling the renowned French gourmet cuisine will have many 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 to France.

Participants should fly into one of the Paris airports and arrive no later than Monday May 18. **This may involve leaving the United States on the 17th.** If you arrive earlier than the 18th and want to stay at the program hotel, which will be chosen in the early spring, let Dean Wing know. She may be able to book you there at your own expense until the program starts paying for your room on the 18th.

There are a few Apps that students in the past have found helpful when travelling around Paris:

- [The RATP App](https://apps.apple.com/us/app/bonjour-ratp/id507107090) can be used for all travel within Paris and will allow students to top-up or verify balances on metro cards: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/bonjour-ratp/id507107090>

You should plan to return to the United States on May 24, at the earliest. Flights usually return within the same day. You may decide to stay abroad and travel to other places.

Start checking flights in December. Check with airlines directly as well as with various websites. It will definitely be much cheaper to fly from Chicago directly nonstop, rather than start in Iowa.

Due to possibilities of flight changes or cancellations, you should definitely consider purchasing a refundable ticket or flight insurance. Check coverage carefully !!!

ACCESSIBILITY

France, like many European countries, has many older buildings that do not meet newer accessibility standards. Some older buildings may have issues with mold or dust which could irritate allergies or asthma. Students requiring assistance with flights should make requests directly through the airline. French trains, buses, taxis and many tourist attractions may not be accessible. Any student with health or accessibility concerns should contact Dean Wing prior to submitting the application.

INTERNET ACCESS

Free wireless internet access is provided in the Paris hotel and the classroom. Internet is also available at many other locations in the city. Students may be able to purchase an international plan with their current mobile carrier.

CANCELLATION

The \$200 program deposit is normally nonrefundable. The remainder of the program fee is normally nonrefundable after April 22, except in case of certifiable personal medical emergency. If the program cancels, the deposit and any program fees will be refunded. Program cancellation could be affected by State Department announcements, Iowa State Regents, or University of Iowa pronouncements.

Although the program has never been canceled other than the COVID-related cancellations in 2020, 2021, and 2022, 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 and such programs exist.

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, security, and health conditions, visit the [U.S. State Department Consular Information Page 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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