

BOSTON COLLEGE

# France



Office of International Programs



# Welcome to France

Since the late seventeenth century, France has been one of the world's most influential powers. The largest country in Western Europe, France is one of the founding members of both the United Nations and the European Union. In addition to its political prominence, France has gained fame for its art, literature, cuisine, beautiful landscapes, and architectural marvels such as the Eiffel Tower and Notre Dame Cathedral. The beauty of its cities and different countryside regions make France the most visited country in the world. Well-known French natives include Claude Monet, Victor Hugo, Jean Paul Sartre, Claude Debussy, and Coco Chanel. Today, France is a leading industrial nation

that sets the pace in many areas including transportation, with the fast-train system TGV, and the aerospace sector, with EADS/Airbus.

Boston College students wishing to spend a semester or year in France have many options. BC study abroad locations include Paris, the country's capital and largest city, and the mid-size city of Strasbourg, located in France's Alsace region. Level of immersion varies, from larger institutions offering full immersion into a French university, to smaller programs providing more individualized attention. No matter what students' academic and personal interests entail, they will find a suitable program in France.



L'Arc de Triomphe

## PARIS

Known as the “City of Lights,” Paris is one of the world’s foremost centers of business and culture. Situated on the river Seine, Paris is a beautiful, cosmopolitan city whose influence on politics, education, entertainment, fashion, and the arts is felt worldwide. Innumerable monuments built to reflect the glory of France and its rulers stand testament to the city’s rich history and have led Paris to be the world’s most popular tourist destination. Famous sites and landmarks include the Louvre, Arc de Triomphe, Place de la Bastille, and the Luxembourg Gardens. Many of the almost twelve million Parisians are recent immigrants from around the globe, and make the city one of the most diverse cultural environments in the world.



### The Program

The Boston College program in Paris allows students to study at one of seven institutions where they are fully integrated into courses and life. Students enroll in courses taught in French or English depending on the university they attend. University courses taught in French require students to have six semesters of college-level French before departure, and students must take an on-site intensive French language course. Students study alongside their French peers and other international students. A full-time on-site BC coordinator provides support and organizes cultural and social events. Students reside in homestays. Full-year students can live in an apartment or a homestay during their second semester.

#### École Supérieure de Commerce de Paris (ESCP Europe)

[www.esceurope.eu](http://www.esceurope.eu)

Established in 1819, ESCP is one of France’s foremost business schools and a member of the country’s premier league of “Grandes Écoles.” Located in central Paris and enrolling over 4000 students, ESCP has a wide range of business courses taught in English or French.

#### Program Highlights

- Student body from over 90 countries
- Wide variety of activities and events

#### Institut Catholique de Paris (ICP)

[www.icp.fr](http://www.icp.fr)

Founded in 1875, the Catholic University of Paris enrolls over 7000 students and has six faculties. Located in the Latin Quarter in central Paris, the ICP is an international community offering courses in education, literature, philosophy, theology, economics, and political science. Students take all courses in French.

#### Program Highlights

- Welcome events, integration seminars, tutoring, and student associations
- Service opportunities available





Notre Dame Cathedral

**University of Paris VII—Denis Diderot** ●●  
[www.univ-paris-diderot.fr](http://www.univ-paris-diderot.fr)

Established in 1970, Denis Diderot is one of Paris' premier universities. With a student body of approximately 26,000, the university offers a wide range of French-taught courses in social sciences, literature, and film studies. Students can also take one English-taught course at the Institute of Anglophone Studies—Charles V, which specializes in English and American literature, history, and culture.

### Program Highlights

- Recently renovated state-of-the-art classrooms and libraries
- Main campus located not far from the National Library (BNF) and Bercy Village

**University of Paris IX—Dauphine** ●●●  
[www.dauphine.fr](http://www.dauphine.fr)

Created in 1968, Dauphine has established a solid reputation for its openness to the business world and transdisciplinary approach to teaching and research. Home to approximately 9000 students, Dauphine specializes in organizational sciences, management, economics, mathematics, applied data, and law. Students take most of their courses in French. A few English-taught courses are available.

### Program Highlights

- University-sponsored lectures, evening activities, sporting events, and galas
- English-taught courses in social sciences
- Language exchange program



Versailles

**L'Institut de Langue et de Culture Française (ILCF)** ●●  
[www.icp.fr/en/ilcf](http://www.icp.fr/en/ilcf)

Centrally located in Paris's Latin Quarter, L'Institut de Langue et de Culture Française (ILCF) was established in 1948 as a French language institute connected with the ICP. ILCF has over 2500 international students who take courses in French language, phonetics, grammar, and conversation. Other courses taught in English and French are available on a limited basis.

### Program Highlights

- Located in Paris' renowned Latin Quarter
- Courses taught in English and French

**University of Paris IV—Sorbonne** ●●●  
[www.paris-sorbonne.fr](http://www.paris-sorbonne.fr)

Enrolling approximately 23,000 students, the Sorbonne is the largest institution in France focusing on the humanities. One of the country's best known universities, the Sorbonne enjoys a worldwide reputation and promotes international relationships with institutions around the globe. Disciplines offered include classics, literature, linguistics, history, art history, archaeology, musicology, and philosophy. BC students take all courses in French.

### Program Highlights

- Situated centrally in Paris' Latin Quarter
- Strengths include civilizations and linguistics
- Full integration with French students



Paris

### Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris ● (Sciences Po)

[www.international.sciences-po.fr](http://www.international.sciences-po.fr)

Innovation, creativity, and excellence in research and education have been the hallmarks of Sciences Po since 1872. Today, Sciences Po is one of the most selective schools among France's premier league of "Grandes Écoles" and is considered one of Europe's most distinguished universities. With an enrollment of about 7000 students, including over 2000 exchange students from across the world, Sciences Po is dedicated to shaping future leaders of our global society. Various social science and other courses are offered, including journalism, law, communications, international relations, and economics. Classes are taught in French and English.

### Program Highlights

- 1400 renowned instructors, academics, and professionals from the business world, public administration, and international organizations
- Various activities for international students, including a comprehensive welcome program

## STRASBOURG

Strasbourg is the most "European" of French cities. Bordering Germany and Switzerland, it is literally set "at the heart of Europe." This city of half-timbered houses and flower-lined canals is home to the European Parliament, the Council of Europe, and the European Human Rights Commission. The city offers easy access to lakes, mountains, and valleys of the surrounding Vosges region and nearby wine-producing villages. As sister cities, Boston and Strasbourg share a lively cultural, educational, and economic exchange.

### The Program

Students can opt to study at the Université de Strasbourg (UdS) or one of its schools:

- École de Management de Strasbourg (EMS)
- Institut d'études Politiques (IEP)

BC students concentrate their studies at one of the three schools. The Strasbourg program has an advanced track for students with a minimum of six semesters of college-level French before departure, and an intermediate track for students with a minimum of one semester of Intermediate French. An on-site coordinator offers academic advising and organizes many activities that immerse students in the local culture. All BC students reside in homestays. Full-year students can opt to live in a local apartment with French-speaking students in the spring semester.

### Université de Strasbourg (UdS) ●●●

[www.unistra.fr/](http://www.unistra.fr/)

The Université de Strasbourg offers a wide curriculum in the humanities, including courses in languages, the arts, historical sciences, philosophy, social sciences, theology, and physical education. Students can also take science and psychology classes. Intermediate-track students take all of their courses at the Institut International des Études Françaises (IIEF), which is affiliated with the Université de Strasbourg. BC students take all courses in French.



Strasbourg

## Institut d'Études Politiques (IEP) ●●●

[www.iep.u-strasbg.fr/](http://www.iep.u-strasbg.fr/)

The IEP, also known as Sciences Po Strasbourg, is another member of France's "Grandes Écoles" and part of the Université de Strasbourg. Its student body, which consists of about 800 students, is selected from a highly competitive pool of applicants. The IEP offers an ideal intellectual environment for BC students majoring in economics, political science, and international relations. Courses in law, history, and other social sciences are also available. Students take all courses in French and can also take classes at UdS.

### Program Highlights

- Large offering of foreign languages
- A broad range of activities
- Excellent facilities and a sports center

## École de Management de Strasbourg (EMS) ●●●

[www.em-strasbourg.eu](http://www.em-strasbourg.eu)

Located in a prime position on the university campus of the Esplanade district, EMS is a member of France's premier league of "Grandes Écoles" and one of the best business schools in France. EMS takes advantage of being located in the middle of the region's "Golden Triangle of Research and Innovation" with a high density of laboratories and researchers in Germany, France, and nearby Switzerland. EMS trains future European managers and is an excellent program for BC business students in particular. A number of English-taught courses are offered. Students can also take courses at UdS.

### Program Highlights

- Small class size permits easy engagement with peers and faculty members
- Unique exposure to European business and corporate environment
- Finance courses offered in English
- Student activities program in Arts, Sports and Culture

### Program Highlights

- Spring semester Semaine Européenne at the European Parliament offers various lectures on European politics
- Small class size with internationally oriented students
- IEP-organized activities that encourage international and French students to integrate with one another, including day trips in the Strasbourg area

In addition to these BC programs, students also have the choice to enroll in approved external programs. For details visit [www.bc.edu/international](http://www.bc.edu/international).

