

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 affords students the opportunity to study at one of six universities where they are fully integrated into university 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 also take an early-start intensive French language course on-site. Students study alongside their French peers as well as a large number of international students. A full-time on-site BC coordinator provides support and organizes a variety of cultural and social events. Semester students reside in homestays, while full-year students can choose to live in either a local apartment or a homestay.



Versailles

Centre Sevrès—Facultés Jésuites de Paris

www.centresevrès.com

Located in the beautiful historic quarter of St. Germain-des-Prés, Centre Sevrès is a Jesuit institution with both philosophy and theology departments. BC students with an interest in furthering their spiritual growth will find rich opportunities among the Centre’s programs in Spirituality and Religious Life, Church History, Religions and Cultures, and Ethics. All courses are taught in French.

Program Highlights

- Small class size and individual attention
- A stimulating learning environment promoting reflection and debate






Notre Dame Cathedral

University of Paris VII—Denis Diderot 
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 communications, social sciences, and literature. Students can also take English-taught courses 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 a short walk from Notre Dame and the Pantheon

University of Paris IX—Dauphine 
www.dauphine.fr

Created in 1968, the 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, the 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

- 180 exchange programs with more than 40 countries
- University-sponsored lectures, evening activities, sporting events, and galas
- English-taught courses in business



Institut Catholique de Paris (ICP) 
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 the heart of Paris, the ICP is an international community which offers excellent courses in education, philosophy, theology, economics, and political science. Students take courses in French and English.

Program Highlights

- International student services include welcome events, integration seminars, tutoring, and student associations
- Five specialized libraries

University of Paris IV—Sorbonne 
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, history, art history, archaeology, architecture, musicology, and philosophy. BC students take all of their courses in French.

Program Highlights

- Situated in the heart of Paris' renowned Latin Quarter
- Strengths include research and teaching of civilizations and classics



Paris

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, but can also take courses at any of them. 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 year of elementary French. Intermediate-track students take all of their courses at the Institut International d'Etudes Francais, which is affiliated with the Université de Strasbourg. An on-site coordinator offers academic advising and organizes many activities that immerse students into the local culture. Semester students reside in homestays, while full-year students live in a local apartment or homestay.

Université de Strasbourg (UdS) 
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 taught by distinguished faculty. BC students take courses in French.

Institut d'études Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po) ●

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 all over the world, Sciences Po is dedicated to shaping future leaders of our global society. The university offers a variety of courses in the social sciences. Students can take courses taught in French or a combination of classes taught in French and English.

Program Highlights

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



Strasbourg

Institut d'études Politiques (IEP) ●●●

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 of their classes in French.

Program Highlights

- Spring semester Semaine Européenne at the European Parliament offers various lectures on European politics
- Small class size with internationally oriented students

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

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.

Program Highlights

- Small class size permits easy engagement with peers and faculty members
- Unique exposure to European business and corporate environment
- One-year bachelor's program in European Management for international students with basic management background

COMING SOON!

École le Supérieure de Commerce de Paris (ESCP Europe) ●●●

Boston College plans to begin a program with ESCP Europe, one of the foremost business schools in France. ESCP is located in the heart of Paris. Students will be able to choose from a wide variety of courses in business and management that are taught in both French and English.

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