Summer 2024 Faculty Led STUDY ABROAD

INSTRUCTORS: DR. MIRIAM AKOTO, DR. KRISTEN KENNEDY TERRY

COURSE

Explore the beauty of the French language firsthand in **FREN 2311** and **FREN 2312**! Immerse yourself in captivating readings of medium difficulty, serving as the perfect foundation for enhancing your reading, listening, and oral communication skills. Our instruction is entirely in French, ensuring an authentic language experience. Delve into practical aspects of communication tailored to your everyday needs. Join us in Aix-en-Provence, France for an enriching journey where language comes to life!



PROGRAM DETAILS

SAM in France (Aix-en-Provence) contributes to the education of globally-minded individuals by bringing SHSU students and faculty together as a community of scholars in an immersive French-language environment. In Aix-en-Provence, a university town in the south of France, SHSU students will have the opportunity to develop their listening and speaking skills by interacting with local French speakers on a daily basis, while also improving their reading and writing skills in French through a combination of linguistic immersion and classroom instruction.

Aix-en-Provence is located within 30 minutes of the port city of Marseille and within 3 hours (by train) of popular destinations such as Nice, Cannes, and Monaco. Students will experience not only the rich culture of the Provence region, but will also benefit from their proximity to areas of cultural and historical significance.



Study Abroad Global Engagement Center SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

ESTIMATED PROGRAM COST



Estimated Faculty-Led Program Cost	
Program Cost Item	Amount in US\$
SHSU Tuition (6 credit hours) *	\$2444.60
SHSU Study Abroad Service Fee *	\$200
Program Fee (10-11 students, fee decreases to \$3450 if 12 students enroll)	\$3750
Billable to SHSU Student Account subtotal:	\$6394.60
Airfare	\$1800
Passport	\$165
Meals (See note below)	\$500
Books and Supplies	Included
Personal Expenses	\$1000
Program Insurance	\$50
Estimated Additional Student Expenses subtotal:	\$3515.00
Total:	**\$9909.60

Note: additional meals to be purchased by student (estimate includes lunch @ \$10 per day x 30 days + dinner @ \$25 per day x 8 days – these are estimates only)

Program fee includes: Lodging, breakfast daily + 5 dinners per week at homestay, airport transportation, 1 site visit, and some excursions.

Scholarship/Financial Aid	Amount in US\$
Regular summer financial aid can be used towards SHSU tuition if available to you	
World Languages and Cultures Scholarship (SHSU GPA 2.75)	\$1,000
SHSU Bearkat Abroad Scholarship (SHSU GPA 2.75)	\$1,200
Bearkat Abroad Ambassador Scholarship (SHSU GPA 2.75)	\$2,000
Faculty Guided Global Exchange Scholarship (SHSU GPA 2.75)	\$1,000

*Important Information regarding scholarships:

- Students must have a 2.75 GPA to be eligible for all scholarships.
- Scholarships are disbursed one month before the student travels.
- Students could be eligible for additional funds to support their study abroad trip; please get in touch with your college for that information.

******The Global Engagement Center offers merit-based scholarships to assist qualifying students to cover some of the expenses of studying abroad. Each year, we give out around \$100,000 in scholarships. The funds are limited, and scholarships are awarded on a

Global Engagement Center, Farrington 116 (<u>studyabroad@shsu.edu</u>)

ESTIMATED PROGRAM COST



first-come, first-serve basis. We highly recommend that students apply early after they have submitted their study abroad application.

These amounts are the estimated costs for Summer 2024.

* Based <u>on Undergraduate Resident Tuition (Traditional Price Plan) for Summer 2023</u>. SHSU Tuition and Fees will be billed and payable online through your Student Account Center or in person at the Bursar's Office.

All other fees listed are estimated additional expenses. The total cost will vary for each participant depending on spending habits, travel plans, and exchange rate fluctuations.

The Program Fee will be charged: 2/16/2024

- \$200 study abroad service fee is due when the student commits to the program (This fee is non-refundable after (2/9/2024)
- \$3750 payment due (5/01/2024)

Study Abroad 2024

Aix-en-Provence, France

FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

Welcome to the SAM Study Abroad 2024 program in Aix-en-Provence, France! We are excited to provide you with essential information to help you prepare for this amazing adventure. This FAQ document aims to address the most commonly asked questions and concerns students may have when considering the program. If you have additional inquiries, please don't hesitate to reach out to us Dr. Miriam Akoto (maa126@shsu.edu) and Dr. Kristen Kennedy Terry (kmt090@shsu.edu)

Q1. Can I make installment payments for the program fee?

A1: No but you will have plenty of time to make the payments toward your trip. Please note that the Global Engagement Center will post the program fee (i.e., \$3750) on **February 23**, and students will have until **May 1** to pay the trip fees (i.e., SHSU tuition + SHSU study abroad service fee). Please see the cost estimation sheet or contact the Global Engagement Center, Farrington Room 116 (<u>studyabroad@shsu.edu</u>) for more details.

Q2. What is the total cost of the program, and can you provide a breakdown of the expenses?

A2: The total program cost and a detailed breakdown can be found on the attached estimated program cost sheet.

Q3. Can you describe a typical class day and the course structure?

A3: A typical class day will include approximately 3-4 hours of lectures, workshops, and interactive activities, providing a well-rounded educational experience. A course binder with a detailed class schedule and course structure will be provided upon acceptance into the program.

Q4. What travel documents do I need? Is a passport necessary, and are there required vaccinations for the trip?

A4: Yes, a valid passport is necessary for international travel. For students holding U.S. passports, visas are currently not required but the EU might be requiring some type of travel visa starting next year (see link for more details: https://www.cntraveler.com/story/americans-will-need-visa-for-the-eu

For students holding non-U.S. passports, a Schengen visa is required. Please note that all visitors holding U.S. passports will only be allowed to stay in the Schengen Area for a maximum of 90 days before being required to leave.

Additionally, all students must be vaccinated against COVID-19 to be eligible to participate in this program per CEA CAPA policy.

Q5. What are the due dates for program enrollment and payment?

A5: **Program Application Deadline:** February 1 (Application portal opens on Nov. 1, 2023 and space is limited)

- A \$200 study abroad service fee is due when you commit to the program ***This fee is non-refundable after 2/9/2024**
- The remaining amount (tuition, program fee) will be due on 5/01/2024

Program Start Date: June 3

Program End Date: June 28

Q6. Can you provide specific arrival and departure dates for the semester program?

A6: Recommended Departure date (from Texas): June 2

Arrival date (in Texas): June 29

Q7. Are there daily extracurricular activities or excursions planned for students?

A7: Yes, we have a variety of daily activities and cultural excursions designed to enhance your overall experience in Aix-en-Provence. These activities include two 1-day trips (one to Marseille and the other to Avignon) as well as a French Cooking Class. More details will be included in the program schedule that will be provided in your course binder.

Q8. Are there scholarship opportunities available for the program, and when are the application deadlines?

A8: Yes (Application portal opens on Nov. 1, 2023). There are <u>four</u> different scholarships that students can apply for:

- World Languages and Cultures Scholarship (\$1000)
- SHSU Bearkat Abroad Scholarship (\$1200)
- Bearkat Abroad Ambassador Scholarship (\$2000)
- Faculty Guided Global Exchange Scholarship (\$1000)

<u>Please note</u>: Students must have a 2.75 GPA to be eligible for all scholarships. Information about available scholarships and their respective application deadlines can be found on our website. We encourage you to explore these opportunities to support your study abroad journey.

Q9. Will transportation from the airport be provided?

A9: Yes. Our third-party program organizer (CEA CAPA) will provide airport pick-up at Marseille Provence Airport (Airport Code: MRS) for students arriving on the official program arrival date (i.e., June 3) between the hours of 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM. Return transportation to the airport on the program end date is <u>not</u> included. Students must submit flight information 42 days prior to the program start date and arrive within the specified times above in order to be eligible for CEA CAPA airport pick-up. Students who are not scheduled to arrive by plane at the Marseille Provence Airport (MRS) within the specified timeframe will not qualify for airport pickup and are considered independent arrival participants.

Q10. Will transportation to the school be provided, or should students be prepared to walk or use public transportation?

A10: No. However, CEA CAPA will provide local transportation passes to students for the duration of the program.

Q 11. How will housing and meal plans work?

A11: Students will be housed in shared homestays with daily breakfast and 5 evening meals per week. There will also be an arrival orientation organized by CEA CAPA which includes a welcome group meal and a guided tour of the city. There will also be a farewell meal on the last day of the program. The rest of the meals during the program will be purchased by students on their own. More specific information will be provided during orientation.

Q11. Will there be a meeting for interested students to learn more about the program?

A11: Yes, we will host a meeting for interested students to provide in-depth program details, answer questions, and help you make informed decisions about this exciting opportunity. Stay tuned for announcements regarding the meeting.

We are dedicated to making your study abroad experience in Aix-en-Provence unforgettable and filled with enriching experiences. If you have any more questions or need further assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to support you on your language learning journey!