

American University Center of Provence, Aix-en Provence: Quick Facts

Academics

- *Admissions Requirements*
 - 3.0 minimum GPA
 - Under 3.0 will be considered given recent academic improvement or other special circumstances
 - Minimum of two years college level French
- *Program Academics*
 - Students sign binding pledge to speak only French during stay
 - 3 AUCP credits typically translate to 4 AC credits.
 - Community service component mandatory
 - Nearly all courses taught in French
 - Textbooks are loaned by the AUCP and do not need to be purchased.
 - Semester:
 - Normal course load = 5 courses
 - Mandatory courses:
 - French Cultural Patterns
 - Advanced Written and Oral Expression ***or*** Translation
 - One AUCP course may be replaced by a course at the *Institut d'Etudes Politiques* or *Les Beaux Arts*
 - Academic focus: French and European studies, literature and the arts, and Cross-Cultural Communication.
 - *Fall term:* Student fulfills “S” course requirement
 - *Winter term:* Student fulfills “S” course *spring term* requirement when program runs through May. Student must confirm this with Registrar once dates are published.
 - Summer:
 - The program is approximately six weeks in length.
 - Student enrolls in two courses:
 - Intensive French language
 - Intercultural communications & contemporary society, taught in English
 - Fulfills “S” course requirement
 - Alma College allows pass/fail for a course provided it meets guidelines published in the Academic Catalog. Refer to the Pass/Fail Option form (provided with Step 4) for complete instructions. Pass/fail must be requested within nine weeks after the class begins.
 - Incomplete grades must be replaced by letter grades within six weeks from being recorded on the Alma transcript, or they convert to “E”. Contact the Registrar for assistance when you have received an Incomplete grade.

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Housing

- Host family: 7 breakfasts, 5 dinners/week, lunch on Sundays provided.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. *What travel documents do I need to go to France?*
 - A passport is required for international travel and must be valid at least 180 days beyond the last date of the program.
 - A student visa is not required of American students studying 90 days or less. To remain in the country for more than 90 days, a visa is required.
2. *Can I use my cell phone in France?*
 - Using a U.S. cell phone abroad to make local and/or international calls can be very costly. Check with your service provider for details.
 - One option is purchasing a mobile phone for approximately 30 Euros once you arrive at the program.
 - You could also purchase phone cards once you arrive in France. It is not recommended to purchase international calling cards while in the United States because they often will not function once you are abroad.
 - PicCell Wireless and other such companies allow students to rent a phone with a global SIM card and charger appropriate for France.
 - The cheapest option is to set up Skype or QQ, a free internet-based calling service. Look online for details.
3. *Will I have internet access at school? Should I bring my laptop?*
 - It is recommended that you bring your own laptop and take advantage of the numerous internet cafes around the city. There may be public computers available with internet access at the school center, but this is not guaranteed.
4. *What kind of public transportation options will I have?*
 - Aix-en-Provence has a good public bus system.
 - Bicycles are available to rent, and are the most recommended form of transport for sight-seeing.
 - There is a train station approximately 8 miles away from the center of the city for the TGV high speed train; shuttle buses and taxis are recommended to reach it.
5. *Who can I contact if I have questions about the application process, or general questions about the AUCP program?*
 - Your first point of contact should be the AUCP official website (www.aucp.org). If your questions aren't answered by thoroughly checking the website, e-mail the staff at info@aucp.org
 - Off-Campus Studies staff are always available to help answer your questions.