

ISEP IN FRANCE

A Preliminary Answer to the Question: What credit will I receive at U.T. for the work I do abroad?

Dear Intrepid Voyager:

Félicitations! Congratulations! You are no doubt excited to be going to France to study at a French University; and no doubt a bit nervous as well, especially about transferring the credits you will earn overseas back to your program here. Dr. Mary McAlpin, associate professor in the French section at U.T., will be your official contact concerning how the credits you earn in French will apply to your U.T. program of study (mmcalpin@utk.edu; 865-974-6097), although any of your French professors can advise you on programs and courses as well. We want you to study abroad and to be successful doing it, and we are eager to help you:

- 1) By conferring with you before you leave about what types of courses to take and how they might apply to your general academic program as well as to the requirements of our French program;
- 2) By being available, through email contact, to discuss registration or transfer issues you may have while you are abroad;
- 3) By meeting with you upon your return to discuss your French transcript and how exactly those credits will apply to your program of study at U.T.

At the MOST IMPORTANT preliminary meeting (1, above), we will go over the French major and minor and discuss how you might receive credit in our own or other U.T. departments for the work you will do in France. The first and most important piece of advice we can give is to **DOCUMENT EVERYTHING**. Your French transcript will contain only course titles and a numeric grade. Save your syllabus (should you get one) and final paper or test, or your notes, in order to demonstrate that you did work equivalent to what you would have done in the same course here. Of course it will not be exactly equivalent, and at times may vary considerably; don't forget that we *are* eager to help you, as we understand that study abroad is immensely valuable to you in ways that go far beyond the courses you will be taking. Keep in mind that proving the content equivalent of course work done in France will be particularly important if you are seeking credit from other departments, as they are not as familiar with the French system as we are. However, students regularly get credit for courses in Gen Ed, in other Schools (such as Business and Communications), and in other departments within the School of Arts and Sciences, such as English, History, etc.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

We prefer not to give more than 9 hours of credit per semester IN FRENCH, that is, applying to a minor or major; you may of course earn more hours per semester by taking courses creditable in other departments. Keep in mind that you might take all French the first semester, then other subjects the second. All of this depends a great deal on the system at the specific university where you are studying; again, contact us with any questions at any time.

For an updated list of the courses necessary for a major or minor in French, as well as for the Honors and Language and World Business concentrations within French, go to:

http://web.utk.edu/~mfl/french/major_minor.htm

Please note that while most of the courses we offer at UT as part of the French program can be done in France (under various configurations, depending on the program you choose), some courses MUST be done here in Knoxville and others (especially 353 and the 400-level literature classes) are difficult to get abroad. Here are the details:

FRENCH COURSES THAT MUST BE TAKEN AT U.T.:

422 Advanced Grammar (3) OFFERED FALL ONLY

440 Capstone Experience in French (3) OFFERED SPRING ONLY

COURSES COMMONLY CREDITED IN the French program for ISEP study; courses that are more difficult to get are indicated with an *:

333 Intermediate Composition and Grammar (3)

334 Intermediate Conversation and Phonetics (3)

345 French for Business (3)

*353 Introduction to Literary Analysis (3)

400 French-English and English-French Translation (3)

*410 (3) and 415 (3): Topics in French Literature

420 French Cinema (3)

421 Phonetics (3)

431 Highlights of French Civilization (3)

432 Contemporary French Culture (3)

491 Foreign Study (1-15) These are catch-all hours that can be applied to courses that do not quite fit any of our offerings. They count as elective hours for the French major or minor. We do our best however to fit what you have done in France into the sequence of required courses.

One last, very important point:

Bon voyage! Amusez-vous bien! Much of what you learn will come from your experiences outside the classroom; that is the true benefit of study abroad. In addition to course credits and such, we would be happy to read your email comments/complaints/praise concerning your experience and to answer any cultural questions that you may have. Nous vous souhaitons un excellent séjour dans la belle France! Don't forget to visit the gardens at Versailles Palace (bring a picnic, rent a bike, make it a memorable day!):

