Davidson in FRANCE

Academic-Year and Semester Programs in France
The Setting

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With a population of 270,000, Tours is the cultural capital of the Loire Valley. Known for its historic towns, Renaissance châteaux, and striking natural beauty, the Val de Loire is designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. The city boasts a rich and varied architectural heritage, and the old city—Le Vieux Tours—attracts students and visitors alike to its lively Place Plumereau. A network of regional trains connects Tours to many other sites of interest. Paris is 55 minutes away by high-speed train.
Fall Semester Program
In September, fall semester and academic year students enjoy several weeks in Paris, taking an intensive language course at the Alliance Française and living at the FIAP Jean Monnet. During the month-long stay in Paris, students explore the city with the resident director, visiting museums, monuments and neighborhoods. In addition, the program organizes outings to the opera, Comédie Française and concerts of classical music, as well as excursions to sites outside of Paris, such as Monet's garden at Giverny, the château at Versailles, the gardens of Vaux-le-Vicomte or the Chartres cathedral. From October to mid-December, students take courses at the Institut de Touraine. Advanced students may be able to take courses at the Université François Rabelais in disciplines such as history, literature, philosophy, and the social sciences.

Spring Semester Program
The spring semester program offers an equally rich but different experience. It begins in early January, when students arrive in Tours and enroll at the Institut de Touraine. The Institut courses conclude at the end of March. Advanced students enrolled in courses at the Université François Rabelais remain in Tours until the end of the university exam period in mid- to late-May. Students will spend nearly a week in Paris, followed by an excursion to Senegal with the resident director.

Housing and Meals
In Paris, students are housed in a student residence, where they also take their meals. In Tours, students live with host families who provide breakfast and dinner each weekday and all three meals on the weekends. The program provides an allowance for lunch, which students may take at student restaurants or in the many restaurants, cafés and bistro in the city.

Cultural Activities
In Paris, a rich cultural program includes outings to the theater, the opera, and musical events, as well as visits to museums, monuments, and to nearby destinations such as Giverny, Versailles, Vaux-le-Vicomte and Chartres. Post-Paris, students will discover in Tours a variety of cultural opportunities and activities geared to a student audience. The city boasts a regional theater, opera house, jazz center and an extraordinary selection of first-run and foreign films at its Cinéma Studios. Beyond the academic and cultural calendar, students have reduced-price access to a number of local gyms and sports clubs, as well as the municipal swimming pool and the inviting Piscine du lac. The program sponsors day excursions to sites of interest within the region, such as Chambord, Villandry, Fontevraud, Blois, Langeais and Cheverny.
10 Great Reasons to Participate in the Davidson Program in Tours, France

1. **Individuality**: Your coursework will be based on your own level of French language competency.

2. **A Certain je ne sais quoi**: The Val de Loire is long reputed to be home to the purest French in all of France.

3. **Depth**: You will get to know two cities well—Paris and Tours.

4. **Flexibility**: In the fall or full-year program, you will earn an extra language credit during several weeks in Paris with your peers, while you enjoy Davidson program bonuses like plays, restaurant meals, excursions in Paris and the Ile de France region, lunch allowance and a Metro pass. In the spring program, a shorter Paris stay leaves time for a group cultural excursion to Senegal.

5. **Authenticity**: In Tours, live with a French family and improve your cultural literacy, share typical French meals and enjoy stimulating conversation.

6. **Global Networking**: At the Institut de Touraine, meet students from all over the world who share a common second language—French. Academic-year and advanced students may take university classes with French students fall or spring.

7. **Culture**: During both semesters, participate in the excursions and activities organized by the resident director or by the Institut de Touraine at no extra cost.

8. **More Culture**: Take advantage of your considerable free time to see a film, buy a French book or magazine, visit a museum or another French city by using your cultural activity allowance.

9. **No Worries**: Relax and let Davidson arrange your air travel and help with your visa.

10. **Freebies**: The Davidson Program includes cell phone, lunch allowance, free access to Wi-Fi and more!

For more information, visit the Study Abroad Office located in Duke Residence Hall; e-mail abroad@davidson.edu, go to www.davidson.edu/studyabroad; or speak to any member of the French Department faculty, go to www.davidson.edu/french.

**Resident Director**

The resident director oversees the work of each student and is available as adviser and counselor in matters with which students need assistance. With a group limited to no more than 20 students, the resident director can give personal attention to individual needs and problems. The director serves as primary liaison with both the Université and the Institute. As a member of the Davidson faculty, the resident director exercises his or her authority and that of the Davidson administration in academic and disciplinary questions.

**Requirements**

- sophomore class status by July 1
- the equivalent of three semesters of college French
- cumulative average of at least B-

**Financial Information**

Students pay the Davidson comprehensive fee for the semester or academic year. This covers:

- round-trip transatlantic airfare
- all expenses for the September intensive language course (or for the Paris and Senegal experience in the spring)
- tuition in Tours
- excursions
- full room and board
- cell phone
- Internet access

Applications can be downloaded from our Web site or can be picked up in the Davidson College Study Abroad Office of the Dean Rusk International Studies Program in the Weinstein Center.

Davidson College admits qualified students without discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, sex or sexual orientation.

**Application Deadlines**

**Decision (approx.)**

- February 1: Academic year & fall programs
- March 1: Spring semester program
- September 15: March 1
- September 25: September 25

Eligibility

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