Paris, France

Institut International de Commerce et Distribution

USC’s exchange program in Paris is designed to expose American students to French life, culture, and business practices. The program is located at the Institut International de Commerce et Distribution (ICD), situated on the campus of the Institut de Gestion Sociale (IGS) near the picturesque Canal Saint Martin. Founded in 1980, ICD is a modern French institution with extensive facilities including a campus library, computer labs, and language center. The campus is also completely wireless. With a student body of 54 different nationalities, IDC program participants benefit from the opportunity for cross cultural exchange. Only USC undergraduate students are eligible to participate in this program.

The program at ICD offers a diverse array of courses in finance, economics, marketing, and management. Some courses in the humanities, social sciences, and math/statistics are also offered. Students attend classes with French students and other international students. All classes are taught in French by French faculty.

As a prerequisite, students must have attained at least sophomore standing prior to attending the Institut International de Commerce et Distribution. Also, students must have completed five college level French courses or the equivalent to be eligible for this exchange program and must have a very advanced level of French. A minimum 3.0 GPA is required to apply.

Courses and Credits
Students typically take five courses per semester and earn 15 credit hours. ICD is structured on a cohort system. USC students will enter a cohort upon enrollment and can only take courses available to that cohort. Course syllabi in English are available in the Study Abroad Office. Listed below are some examples of the courses offered.

Course Offerings
- Anthropology
- European Businesses
- Geopolitics
- International Trade
- Cost Analysis
- Financial Management
- Intercultural Communication
- Methods of Decision-Making
- Commercial Law
- Financial Mathematics
- International Economy
- Research Marketing

Canal Saint Martin, Paris
Living Arrangements
ICD does not offer on-campus housing but will assist students with finding roommates and suitable accommodation in Paris, either prior to and/or after arrival. Room and board costs are paid in Paris and vary based on the type of accommodation chosen. Students should expect to pay between 600€ and 700€ a month for a shared apartment in Paris.

Budgeting
Paris is one of the most expensive cities in the world so students need to plan accordingly. Depending on the type of housing the student wants, he/she should arrive in Paris with 3000€ to 5000€ available. Students pay in-state tuition and fees to USC and do not need to pay the application fees or ICD tuition. Additional costs include orientation, insurance, food, books, and transportation.

Insurance
For students under 28 years old, the French health insurance is required. The cost of the insurance is approximately 195€ and it can be purchased at the school. This is in addition to the required USC insurance. Per university policy, all USC students will be charged emergency medical, evacuation and repatriation insurance for their time abroad. Contact the Study Abroad Office for more details.

Orientation
The ICD orientation in Paris is mandatory and lasts three days.

Excursions
The program does not offer organized excursions except during orientation. Students do have the opportunity for individual travel.

Extracurricular Activities
ICD does have a variety of extracurricular organizations and activities. Students participating in the exchange at ICD will be able to take part in all campus activities.

Visa
Students that attend ICD for a semester or academic year are required to register with Campus France and go in person to the French Embassy or Consulate to obtain a French visa. For more information on the visa process, please visit http://www.consulfrance-washington.org/spip.php?rubrique=2.

Footnotes
USC students can attend ICD during the spring semester or academic year. Visit the ICD website at http://www.icd-ecoles.com/.

For more information about France and the sites you can visit, go to the French Tourist Office website at http://www.francetourism.com/