



Program Description

This study abroad program is intended to give students experience with European culture and the business environment in France, while also completing a required course. With a rich history, beautiful scenery, centralized location within Europe, and deep cultural ties to the United States, France has long been an attractive location for study abroad programs. The country is a key trading partner to the U.S. and a net exporter since 1992. This trip will provide the students an opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding of the major drivers of the French economy.

The major component of the program is to experience business and culture in France, and by extension, Europe. We will visit a variety of businesses, and have lectures by business professionals. Particular emphasis will be on technology companies as our location provides easy access to the Sophia Antipolis Technology Park. Students will also gain cultural competency through visits to historical sites and museums, including a weekend excursion to Paris.



France

Given our proximity to one of the premier technology business parks in Europe, our focus in France will be primarily on technology business, although we will visit other businesses, too. The Riviera is also chock full of museums and cultural opportunities, and we will certainly enjoy our share of them.

No trip to France will be complete without a stop in Paris, so we will spend four days there with multiple cultural visits along with plenty of free time for exploring the city.

Student Housing and Travel

Students will stay in an extended-stay hotel in Juan Les Pins, the resort area of greater Antibes. The building is 2 blocks from the beach! Travel will be on your own by plane to Nice. The trip to Paris will be through a European airline that specializes in regional travel, most likely Easy Jet.

Instructor

Steve Skripak is Professor of Practice in Management and will teach MGT 3304. Company visits, language classes, and cultural excursions will be common to all participating students.

Registration

Space is limited to 14 seats. Applications and forms are available on-line through the program website.

www.international.pamplin.vt.edu/studyabroad/frenchriviera/



Course

MGT 3304 Management Theory and Leadership Practice
MGT 3954 Study Abroad

Eligibility

Eligible for freshmen through seniors, and graduate students.

Non-business students are also welcome to participate. Priority is given to undergraduate business students.

Minimum GPA: 2.5

We will use mid-term grades for freshmen to determine eligibility.

Students are required to participate in French language classes as well as company and cultural visits. Keeping a journal covering experiences and observations on cultural differences between France and the U.S. is also required.

