

American  
University  
Center of  
Provence

# Summer in Provence

French Language and Art of Living

June 2 - July 15, 2012



## Program *en bref*

- For university undergraduates and adult learners
- Small class size
- Interactive learning
- French peer group encounters
- Individual homestay
- On-campus language pledge
- Weekly field trips
- Optional cooking and wine tasting courses

## What you will learn

Intensive French language coursework at intermediate to advanced levels, includes a strategic weekly seminar which focuses on the cultural context of contemporary France and accompanies the students' adaptation process.

Experiencing the rituals and traditions of contemporary France, students develop lasting intercultural skills while *living with and like the French*.

# Summer Study in Provence

The French have perfected an appreciation for beautiful settings, fresh delicious food, and the pleasure of present moments shared.

Nowhere in France is this more true than in Aix-en-Provence. Tourists just skim the surface, never touching the essence of an art of living deeply root-

Aix-en-Provence, known for centuries as  
*Le Petit Paris au Soleil*

ed in an ancient and lasting philosophy of life. Through your authentic encounters with the French, your growing language skills, and your increasing cultural insight, you will access that knowledge and absorb some of the secrets of “artistic” living as your own.

Aix has been a leading European university town since 1409 and counts over 30,000 university students today.

The AUCP in Aix-en-Provence welcomes motivated students willing to stretch their knowledge and their sense of self to embrace other languages, peoples, and cultures.

Join us and discover the AUCP difference.

**Lilli Engle, Founding Director**

## About the AUCP

Founded in 1993 and recognized by the French Ministry of Education, the American University Center of Provence has been proud to welcome students from over 120 top-ranking North American colleges and universities.

Pioneers in the field of experiential learning abroad, the AUCP has set the standards in French language acquisition and intercultural sensitivity development, as confirmed by more than twenty semesters of independent testing.

# Academics

## French Language

French classes take place three-five hours a day. Courses are designed to make ample use of the rich local setting for learning both inside and outside the classroom.

French language courses are offered for intermediate to advanced levels. Small class size allows for extensive personal interaction and attention. Students benefit from an active approach to the development of conversation and listening skills, as well as written comprehension, accurate usage and current idiomatic expression. Thematic, contextual course modules target pragmatic language needs and desired domains of fluency.

## Language in Context

As a complement to language instruction, a weekly seminar focuses on the cultural context of contemporary France and accompanies students in their adaptation process. Related focus on the French *Art of Living* explores the rituals and traditions, values and beliefs that structure French society.

Four course-related field trips (seaside, vineyards, farmland, and local villages) allow students to witness first-hand the concepts developed in the classroom.



# About Aix-en-Provence

The preferred city of the French themselves, Aix is intimate yet cosmopolitan. Sunny beaches are close by, as are hilltop villages, rich farmland and world renowned vineyards. The 300 days of sunshine per year favour outdoor cafés and open-air markets, for an *art de vivre* so very *Aixoïis*.

# Where you will study

The Aix study site is situated right next door to a large city park and just a three-minute walk from the historic city center. Built in 1852, the *Maison des Palmiers* and its stately grounds offer convenience, comfort, and charm in an authentic *Provençal* setting.

## Field Trips

Expanding the classroom, local excursions and four full-day field trips include:

### The Vineyards

Geography and history of France through an exploration of wine.

### The Mediterranean

Marseille and its vibrant port, an example of ethnic and religious pluralism.

### Farmland of Provence

Ancient cheese-making traditions and the taste of fresh goat cheese on the farm!

### Hilltop villages

Architecture and traditions of Provence.

## Living

### Housing & Meals

Housing is in carefully selected French families, one student per family. Meals include seven breakfasts and five dinners a week, plus Sunday lunches.

### Orientation

The initial orientation program allows students to master the practical details of daily life in Aix. Activities include a walking tour of the city, a group lunch with French peers and sessions on cultural differences, safety, security, and academics. On-going support and personal assistance is provided throughout the program.



“Go to the buzzing, colorful, and fragrant *marché* on Saturdays. You will fall in love. Go to the beach - Cassis, Carry-le-Rouet. Go to the Sainte Victoire mountain and smell the wild rosemary! And last but not least, EAT!”

Jennifer Lee  
Scripps College

## Dates

June 2 - July 15, 2012

Saturday June 2	Arrival in Homestay
Monday June 4	Orientation
Tuesday June 5	Course work begins
Saturday 14	Last night in Homestay
Sunday July 15	Students Depart

## Credit

Contact hours:	90 contact hours
Recommended credit:	6 semester credits

AUCP credits are home-university approved and transferable by prior agreement.

# Courses

## CREATIVE FRENCH EXPRESSION

Designed to develop all four language skills, this course emphasizes the texture and content of the student's lived experience in France. Vocabulary, idioms, style and diction focus on personal expression - the sensations, subjective observations, emotions, impressions inspired by the local setting and the student's personal reaction to it.

## FRENCH PRECISION REPORTING

Focusing on all language skills, with specific emphasis on the precision of language use and the nuance of meaning, this course combines exercises in grammar and translation with the development of journalistic skills including interviews, note taking, and unbiased reporting.

## WEEKLY SEMINAR

In addition to French language courses, a strategic weekly seminar focusing on the cultural context of contemporary France accompanies the students' adaptation process.

*All language courses place emphasis on reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills, are pertinent to communication needs, and balance ease and precision of expression. All are taught in French.*

# Coursework

## Program Requirements

Students must have at minimum a low-intermediate level in the French language. This is generally understood as the equivalent of two semesters of college French. A placement exam is administered on-line prior to departure to determine incoming language level.

## Faculty

Courses are taught by local faculty or visiting professors.

## Class Size

The average language class size is 7-14 students making for close personal interaction and guidance.

## Languages of Instruction

French and English (weekly seminar only)



## Student Resources

Students have in-house access to a multimedia language lab and reference library. Communication resources include designated PC's, connections for student laptops, high-speed internet access, network printers, and photocopy facilities.

## Program Costs

Summer 2012: \$6,520

Costs include tuition, housing in carefully selected French families on a *demi-pension* basis (seven breakfasts and five dinners a week plus Sunday lunches), comprehensive health and personal liability insurance, book fees, and four full-day field trips. Airfare and local daily transport are not included.

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## Head Admissions Office

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