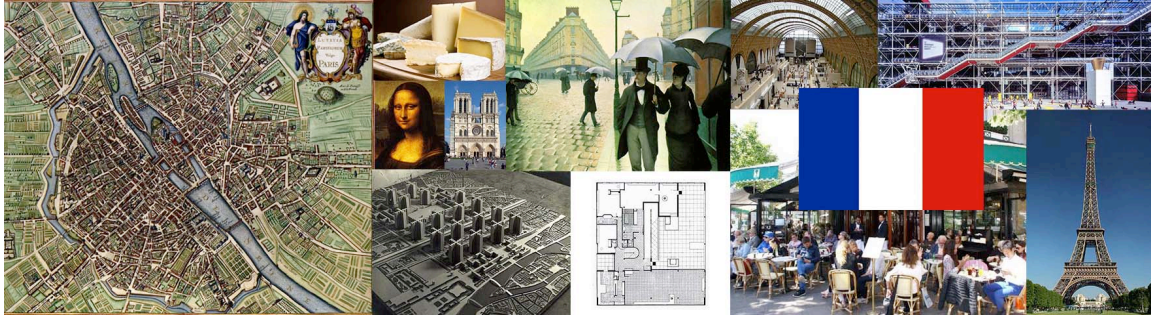


School of Architecture + Design (A+D) Study Abroad Paris (France)

Off-campus mini Summer Session II

(July 27 though August 13, 2016)

Program description and projected fee schedule



Faculty of record: Henri T. de Hahn, A+D Director and Professor

Course Title: A cultural excursion in the city of Paris through the lens of urban landscapes and its private and institutional architecture and interiors.

Course Number: ARCH 2984 (Special Study, variable credit course, no prerequisite), and ARCH 4984 (Special Study, variable credit course, no prerequisite)

Type: Off-campus

Introduction

Henri T. de Hahn, the School of Architecture + Design (A+D) Director is seeking a stronger academic class presence with the school's students as time and interest permits, thus the following proposal to offer the first in a series of urban metropolitan immersion off-campus programs during the new Mini Summer Session offered this Summer 2015. Having recently returned from a co-teaching opportunity in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland, I was reminded how important it is to keep a foot into teaching. This proposal is primarily tailored to students within A+D with an eye toward ARCH students, but as interest is expressed by CAUS and VT students, we welcome the opportunity to include non-design majors within this study abroad program.

Program description:

There is an opportunity to see firsthand, under the guidance of a Virginia Tech faculty how the influences of design decisions on the production of urban space have defined one of the most beautiful cities in the world: Paris. De Hahn wishes to offer this off-campus program for the following three reasons.

1. He is European educated under multiple French educational systems and has lived in Paris; in addition, over his academic career he has spent over a decade teaching on the city within the 19th and 20th century history and theory lectures and seminar classes.
2. The idea of connecting diverse knowledge bases is at the center of de Hahn's teaching interest, and seems critical for the students' future ambitions where they will create new knowledge based on the currencies of today's information age. Paris lends itself magnificently to this ambition as it is a city that has constantly built and rebuilt itself by transforming its history through design ideas as a political instrument for the betterment of urban and civic society.
3. While the Virginia Tech campus epitomizes one of the most rigorous, beautiful and idyllic Land Grant Universities, the increased interest of its graduates and, in particular, its design students in holding key leadership roles in cities around the world make it imperative to promote and increase metropolitan immersion programs.

Paris like many world cities may best be represented in our minds by culture, history and revolutions. And yet, no other city in Europe has transformed these attributes into artistic endeavors with such elegance and distinction over the course of several centuries. The period since the eighteenth century was not just an era of abstraction, a century of Cartesian rational thoughts based on the ideas of the Enlightenment as they applied through mathematical reasoning and geometrical formulas, but was an age where history became the central discipline for the study of mankind, by which its institutions, its social and cultural developments became the notion of culture itself. Importantly, this emerged through the fields of our interests: designer, artisans, and artists.

As a result, Paris has produced timeless institutional and private pieces of architecture, public and civic park systems, an exceptional urban identity, and distinctive period interiors that have been marked by political and visionary leadership. The following academic proposal seeks to use Paris as a three dimensional laboratory to investigate key spaces and places by understanding their making and their social and cultural impact on complex spatial organization.

Targeted time periods will build on the ideals of the 18th century and usher the class through a survey of key interventions of Haussmann's 19th century Grand Boulevard system with its monumental *architectures* commissioned by Napoleon III, leading to the birth of the temples of commerce and smaller urban passages; the introduction of key train stations as new gateways to the French Provinces; the establishment of a network of urban public parks of both modest and grand scale (within Paris and its outskirts); the architecture and interiors of the early 20th century marked by seminal key protagonists of modernism such as Le Corbusier, Robert Mallet Stevens, and Pierre Chareau; ending with visits to the ten Grand Projets initiated and completed under French President Francois Mitterrand in the 1980's and early 90's, and contemporary urban interventions by young architects building on the legacy of Paris' creativity.

Complementing this will be a survey of excerpts from French literature by Hugo, Zola, Baudelaire, de Certeau, Sartre, Modiano, Barthes and Queneau as well as film screenings of the French New Wave cinema represented by Godard, and in depth museum visits to the Louvre and Gare d'Orsay to contextualize the importance of parallel iconographical and film art as a major contributor to record the seminal transformations of Paris. Finally, an excursion of the French/Parisian gastronomical celebration of life (meals, rituals, marriage of food and wine, and succession of plates and presentations), which was registered in 2010 under UNESCO's *immaterial patrimony of humanity*, will accompany the group's research from café food to dinner at a nice upscale restaurant.

Students will document their discoveries, insights, and understandings of their queries through personal methods. An idea of mapping the city will be proposed as a means of understanding the urban artifact. Above documentation will be organized by students in the form of an exhibition in Cowgill's lobby during the Fall semester.

Offered Title:

A cultural excursion in the city of Paris through the study of urban landscapes, built architecture and design landscapes.

Course Number:

ARCH 2984 (Special Study, variable credit course, no prerequisite) and ARCH 4984 (Special Study, variable credit course, no prerequisite). Students of other A+D/VT disciplines may join on the approval of their program chair.

Credits:

Three credits will be given in the School of Architecture + Design. The instructor will provide required readings (online for those students not on campus prior to the trip) for group discussions.

Prerequisites:

Architecture + Design, non -A+D majors and all VT students having completed 2nd year and in good academic standing with a desire to be immersed culturally in one of the most important urban metropolises.

Program Learning Objectives

As students and faculty will consider Paris their home for three weeks, this program is set under the umbrella of a *Residency Program* model. Short out-of-town day excursions (for example, to Versailles and Poissy) will not require students to secure additional lodging. No independent student travel opportunities will be allowed during these three weeks by the faculty. Lodging at hotel or apartments (TBD) will be inclusive in the overall student program fee.

The faculty's pedagogy will emphasize that learning (what will the student know; what will the student be able to do, and what will the value of the student be) is aimed to produce articulate and confident students who are capable of understanding spaces and places in a short and targeted manner, making obvious interdisciplinary and methodological links between the School's disciplines –the urban landscape, the built environment and artifacts, and its people and cultures that make up society –both past and present. In addition, students will be able to:

- Raise clear and precise questions, use abstract ideas to interpret information, consider diverse points of view, reach well-reasoned conclusions, and test them against relevant criteria and standards.
- Demonstrate basic critical thinking to gather, assess, record, apply, and comparatively evaluate relevant information with taught coursework.
- Investigate through various drawing and digital methods (photography, video) a research agenda to understand, record and connect in an autobiographical manner what is seen.
- Develop an intellectual capacity to establish connections between taught material and on site learning opportunities –Hands-on, Minds-on approach.

Learning Indicators:

- Active participation by the students in pre-departure module and information sessions.
- Students must demonstrate competent design skills while working in a foreign environment.
- Students will reflect on the skill building exercises and cultural immersion through visual and text based documentation.

Language requirements:

- None, but it is highly recommended that students familiarize themselves with rudimentary day-to-day French vocabulary and sentences. VT has on line French lessons through Rosetta Stone (<http://www.lib.vt.edu/libnews/2014/2014-10-16.html>).

July 27 through August 13, 2016):

- The program begins typically with the first day of classes and ends with the last day of classes. The faculty member will be the faculty of record and the sole instructor during the three-week program. Guest speakers may join at key moments but will not grade students' work.

Day counts	Date	Day	Place
1	07.27.16	Wednesday	Travel to Paris
2	07.28.16	Thursday	Paris
3	07.29.16	Friday	Paris
4	07.30.16	Saturday	Paris
5	07.31.16	Sunday	Paris
6	08.01.16	Monday	Paris
7	06.01.16	Tuesday	Paris
8	08.02.16	Wednesday	Paris (self directed research)
9	08.03.16	Thursday	Paris
10	08.04.16	Friday	Paris
11	08.05.16	Saturday	Paris
12	08.06.16	Sunday	Paris
13	08.07.16	Monday	Paris
14	08.08.16	Tuesday	Paris
15	08.09.16	Wednesday	Paris (self directed research)
16	08.10.16	Thursday	Paris
17	08.11.16	Friday	Paris
18	08.12.16	Saturday	Paris
19	08.13.16	Sunday	Travel to US

Budget based on 12 students:

Description	In-State (undergrad)	Out-of-State (undergrad)	In-State (graduate)	Out-of-State (graduate)
Estimated Tuition (3)* Credits	\$1,050	\$2,655	\$1,617	\$3,252
Program Fee	\$2,150	\$2,150	\$2,150	\$2,150
Breakfast (hotel) and dinner	Provided	Provided	Provided	Provided
Lunch	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Lodging in Paris	Provided	Provided	Provided	Provided
Group Museum entrances	Provided	Provided	Provided	Provided
Passport Fee	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Airfare to/from CDG (Paris airport), estimated	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200

* Based on VT's Bursar's Office: http://www.bursar.vt.edu/tuition/2016_summer.php#undergrad