

Major: Business

Why did you choose Paris?

I was studying abroad in Spain at the time, and saw the online posting for the Literary Paris trip. I thought it would be the best place to study literature and get my core credits done. I also had a friend who would be studying there.

Advice: You're not going to get this opportunity in the classroom. Don't let anything hold you back. Just go! Because our world is becoming so globalized, this is the best way to understand that—by visiting other countries. The French are more reserved. They also like it when you attempt to speak French. They will help you through but they also don't want you to butcher the language, but you should at least try.

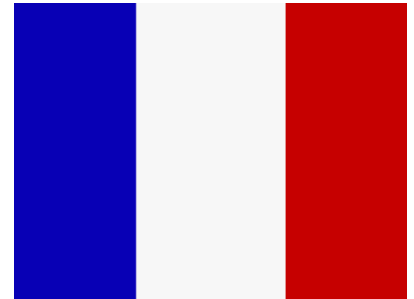
“This is the best time to explore and form your opinion, at this age, before you have a full sense of who you are!”

Housing: There is something about a small hotel with so much history. The *Hotel la Place de les Vosges* has quaint small rooms. The hotel is in the Bastille neighborhood. The concierge was very friendly, and they had the best breakfasts.

Benefits of Study Abroad: What I've learned is that any time you can get out of your regular environment and experience another culture, it is a good thing. It was important to read up on French culture in advance so to have a reference for what you're seeing when you get there. It's good to be flexible in groups, and to be ready to adapt to the culture that you're living in.

Academics: We were given three books to read on the trip: *Madame Bovary*, *Les Miserables*, and *L'Assommoir*. I read two before and the last one on the trip. We then were given an area to present on; I chose Notre Dame. We prepared for our days' excursions in the morning and went out on trips throughout the city. Seeing the same sites discussed in the books was a very authentic experience.

How were you transformed? I found that I am very adaptable and tend to fit in well in different cultures. I also discovered that I am interested in international law and trade law.



Nicolette putting her lock on the Pont de l'Archeveche Bridge, built in 1828.