

**Major:** International Studies, with an emphasis in French

**Minors:** Biology, Theology

### Why did you choose Paris?

I chose Paris because I knew I would have the opportunity to practice my French, as well as experience the Parisian culture.

**Advice:** Parisians are very proud of their language, so they want you to at least attempt to speak French with them.

**Housing:** We stayed in the 5th Arrondissement in an historic hotel, the Hotel de la Place des Vosges. The staff was very nice and very helpful. There was so much to do where we were. I did go off on my own to have breakfast in a café one morning, which was my first time with no English speakers around.

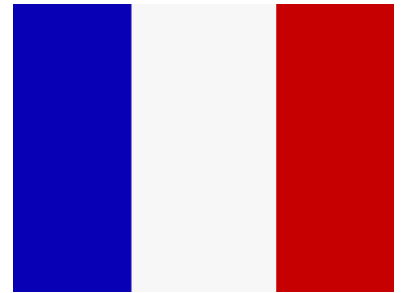
*“Just being in Paris,  
and hearing all the different languages spoken  
and seeing all the different places  
made me realize that there is a bigger world,  
and I want to explore that world!”*

**Benefits of Study Abroad:** Going to Paris made me realize I want to work in politics or for a non-profit like Amnesty International. I'm glad I changed my major because I will be able to work in areas I am more passionate about.

**Academics:** We read three books in total and would visit the sites from our readings. Each day we visited a site that connected to the reading. We discussed how the sites would have looked in the time the books were written. We had to journal each night. I found I could really relate to the characters in *Les Miserables* because I could envision the revolutionary scene that took place in the center of Paris.

### How were you transformed?

I was transformed by my study abroad experience because I experienced another culture unlike my own in Jamaica and unlike the U.S. It gave me a taste of what it would be like to live and work abroad. I realized I am a lot more independent than I thought I was. It made me want to live in Europe. It's cramped, busy, noisy, and I love that ~ I love the city life!



Shamae and a classmate  
on Champs Elysees.