SCIENCES PO LILLE
IN FRANCE

Academic Exchange
Program: Fall/Spring/AY

Sponsored by the College of Arts & Sciences

15 - 30 Credit Units

The Program
This is an academic exchange program with Sciences Po Lille in France. Participating students may select to spend either fall or spring semester in France and will be able to obtain full-time, transferable credit for their degree program at Georgia State (subject to the approval of their major department). The fall semester at Sciences Po runs from early September through mid-December, and the spring semester runs from mid-January through late May.

The Sciences Po system is France’s most prestigious group of institutes for the study of the social sciences, including political science, economics, sociology, law, and history. French students are required to pass a highly competitive examination to be admitted to Sciences Po, and so the academic standards tend to be very high. This exchange is an excellent opportunity for an ambitious and motivated student to learn a great deal and to make lasting friends in a small and academically rigorous environment.

The exchange program is located in the northern French city of Lille. Lille is France’s fourth largest city (after Paris, Lyon, and Marseilles), making it large enough for students to have a diversity of experiences but not so large as to be overwhelming. Lille is also an extremely well located city, situated one hour from Paris, 40 minutes from Brussels, and 1 ½ hours from London by train. The center of Lille is an historic area with buildings dating from the 17th to 19th centuries, and the Sciences Po campus is located about thirty minutes south of the center by foot (or faster by bike or metro) in a reconverted factory dating from the industrial revolution.

Sciences Po Lille itself is fairly small, with just under 2000 regular students and 200 foreign exchange students. Courses are taught mostly in French, but every semester enough courses are offered for students to complete their schedule only with English language courses. A listing of courses is available from the Sciences Po Lille website: (http://www.sciencespo-lille.eu/).

For funding and scholarship information, visit mystudyabroad.gsu.edu & select Scholarships & Financial Aid tab

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 20

Program Director
Dr. Charles Hankla
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ELIGIBILITY Program size is limited and participation is contingent upon acceptance by the Program Director. Students must be in good academic standing to apply for program, and they must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. The program is open to all majors but would be most appropriate for students studying political science, sociology, economics, history, or French.

This program is one of complete immersion, where students will take courses alongside French students that are taught by French professors. An intermediate level of French is preferred, though not absolutely required. While students will be able to take English language courses, their immersion experience will be maximized if they arrive with some knowledge of French. For those interested, Sciences Po Lille offers intensive instruction in French immediately before the beginning of fall semester.

Students are encouraged to travel and participate in clubs and cultural activities while in Europe, but all of these activities will be on their own initiative. For this reason, the ideal student for this exchange will be one who is fairly independent minded.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Sciences Po Lille does not have on-campus housing, but there are many housing options nearby. The international students’ office at Sciences Po can assist international students in finding appropriate accommodation. The cost of living in Lille is relatively low compared to other French cities.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations during their study abroad experience should discuss these needs with the Program Director and the Office of Disability Services at the time of application.

CREDITS AND COURSES

Full time students at Sciences Po Lille normally take 30 credits per semester under the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). Individual courses at Sciences Po Lille are typically worth 5 or 8 credits depending on how many hours they meet per week, so students will typically choose four to six courses per semester. The program director will work with participating students to ensure that their credits are transferred appropriately to Georgia State.

COST

As this is an exchange program, students will pay their regular GSU tuition, and all of their scholarships and financial aid will continue to be in effect. Students are responsible for their own travel costs, as well as their housing, food, and other expenses while in France. Students will need to apply for a valid passport and visa. All students will be required to purchase special health/evacuation/repatriation insurance for their time abroad.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Students interested in applying should find this program’s listing at mystudyabroad.gsu.edu and begin an online application. International students at GSU who hold F-1 visas must contact Office of International Students & Scholar Services at 404.413.2070 to discuss possible implications of study abroad for their immigration status.