

# UNIVERSITY OF IOWA COLLEGE OF LAW

May 19 – June 20, 2025

## International & Comparative Law



Come study abroad in our

# *France Summer Program*

Paris & Arcachon, France 



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## OVERVIEW

For 40 years, the University of Iowa College of Law has operated an intellectually stimulating and culturally rewarding international and comparative law study abroad program in France. The program starts in Paris where students visit the courts and other institutions, while attending lectures by prominent judges and lawyers. The program then travels to Arcachon for the remainder of the stay. Arcachon is a scenic seaside town that is ideal for study and exposure to French culture. It is located less than one hour from Bordeaux, a major city and an area well known for its rich history and touristic appeal.

The program director for over twenty years is Dean Adrien K. Wing, Associate Dean for International and Comparative Law Programs. She is also the Bessie Dutton Murray Professor of Law. She is one of the core faculty members in Iowa's major specialty in international and comparative law. In addition to acting as Program Director, Dean Wing teaches the program's third course for two credits, "Law in the Muslim World." Michael Amado, a Parisian lawyer, teaches the first two courses for one credit apiece - "Introduction to French Law I & II." One two credit course is selected and taught each year by visiting faculty from the University of Iowa. For summer 2025, Professors Dawn Anderson and Judge Lars Anderson will teach "Comparative Criminal Law." Iowa students will earn two experiential credits for this course.

For more information on the France program, visit our [website](#), download this brochure, and view the program's [Facebook page](#). Additionally, you may contact Dean Wing, any of the program instructors listed below, or the program assistant, Andrea Flaherty. Contact information is provided at the end of this brochure.

## PROGRAM DATES

The 2025 program will run from May 19 - June 20, 2025.

## APPLICATION AND FEES

This program is open to law students who are attending ABA accredited schools and have completed their first year. In 2024, 12 students attended from the University of Iowa and 2 from other law schools. The program was not offered in 2020, 2021, and 2022 due to the COVID pandemic. Students from other accredited American law schools are welcome and often join our program.

**The cost of the program for 6 credits is \$8000**, which includes housing in Paris and Arcachon; group activities such as city tours in Paris and Arcachon; an opening dinner and a good-bye meal; an Arcachon bay cruise; a Dune de Pyla tour; and one small group meal. The program cost does NOT include personal or required transportation, food, laundry, or toiletries/household items needed in Arcachon. The financial aid budget includes the previously mentioned costs plus money for transportation, food for three meals a day (except meals mentioned above), books, insurance and other incidental expenses. If a student will be accompanied for all or part of the program by a non-participant, a separate fee will apply for housing and program activities. Please contact the program director for more information on this option. There will be a cap of 20 students for 2025.

**Applications and deposits will be accepted beginning January 1, 2025.** All applications must be accompanied by a non-refundable deposit of \$200, which will be applied toward the academic program fee. The remainder of the program fee, \$7800, is payable on or before April 20, 2025. Options for payment are indicated on the application. Those students not attending University of Iowa College of Law must submit a certificate of good standing from their school's registrar as soon as possible after being notified of acceptance into the program.

**Deadline for submission of applications is March 1, 2025.** Late applications may be accepted at the discretion of the program director, but students are encouraged to apply early, especially as there is a cap of 20 students for 2025. Applications are accepted on a first come, first serve basis with preference for Iowa students.

## PROGRAM OF STUDY

### *Courses*

All courses are taught in English, with American and French instructors. Introduction to French Law II has the prerequisite of Introduction to French Law I. After the week in Paris, the program will settle at the Villa Regina Hotel in Arcachon, which provides housing for the program. Classes take place nearby in downtown Arcachon. The program also maintains an office in the hotel, which is utilized by the Program Director and program faculty. French speaking research assistants complete the staff.

The schedule of classes can be found on the program's [website](#).

The following courses are offered for Summer 2025:

#### ***Introduction to the Law of France I & II*** (1 s.h. credit each)

The first one-credit course (Introduction to French Law I) will introduce students to the laws of France, their characteristic features, and the role of France's main institutions. The subjects will include French Legal system, Civil law (Contracts and Torts), and Family law. As part of the course, we will visit a French law school and Paris courts. Introduction to French Law I will take place in Paris. It is a prerequisite for Introduction to French Law II and cannot be taken alone. It is part of Iowa Law's May **intersession**.

The second-one credit course (Introduction to French Law II) subjects will include Commercial Law, Criminal Law, and Labor Law. It may include a visit to the National Judge School (ENM) in Bordeaux. The course will take place in Arcachon. Introduction to French Law I must be taken before Introduction to French Law II.

Taught by [Michael Amado](#), Adjunct Professor of Law, University of Paris; Avocat à la Cour, Amado-Cabinet D'Avocats, Paris, LLM, MBA (University of Paris I Sorbonne)

### ***Comparative Criminal Law (2 s.h. experiential credit)***

Comparative Criminal Law: This course will compare the United States and select European countries' approaches to crime and punishment (including sentencing). Students earn experiential credit and will participate in simulated state court sentencing hearings and practice.

Taught by [Dawn Anderson](#), Professor of Legal Analysis, Writing & Research & Director, Writing and Academic Success Center, University of Iowa College of Law, BA (University of Northern Iowa, JD (Iowa), EdS (Iowa); Hon. Lars Anderson, Chief Judge, 6<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, Iowa, BA (Luther College), JD (Iowa)

### ***Law in the Muslim World* (2 s.h. credit)**

This course will survey a selection of the various types of laws existing in the nearly 60 countries of the Muslim world. The subjects will include Islamic law; unwritten customary law; civil law including constitutional, commercial, and criminal law; international human rights law, particularly women's rights, and a case study on the right to self-determination; and public international law relating to terrorism.

Taught by Program Director [Adrien Wing](#), Associate Dean for International and Comparative Law Programs, Bessie Dutton Murray Distinguished Professor of Law, University of Iowa College of Law, AB (Princeton), MA (UCLA), JD (Stanford)

### ***Credits***

Those attending law schools using the quarter system should speak with their school's administrators to determine the equivalent credit hours. Students are required to enroll in a minimum of the first three courses.

Grading policies in the program will be the same as regular courses of study at the University of Iowa College of Law. Details are outlined [here](#). Regular class attendance and class participation are required. Grades may be determined by various methods including a final examination, class participation, and other exercises.

Non-Iowa law students should consult with their own schools about transfer of credits earned in the program; transfer credit and grades are subject to acceptance by the student's school. It is unlikely that participation in this, or any, summer session at another law school may be used to accelerate graduation. Students should consult with their home school concerning this matter.

### ***Knowledge of French***

Participants are not required to speak French. All academic work (instructions and examinations) will be in English. However, a minimal knowledge of French will greatly enhance the experience of living in France. Participants lacking knowledge of French might consider taking introductory French lessons

prior to departure. Limited French lessons may be offered in Arcachon through the program. In addition to the program director, French-speaking research assistants will also be available to help students. Computer or phone apps like Duolingo or Busuu may be helpful in exposing you to French ahead of time. WordReference is also a super helpful dictionary from English to other languages, and even offers conjugations of specific words. Google translate, or other apps can assist you in France as well.

### *Co-Curricular Activities*

Co-curricular events may include trips to a Paris trial court; Paris Court of Appeals; a law school; Bordeaux trial court; Bordeaux Court of Appeals; and the National Judge School (ENM). Guest speakers may also provide their personal perspectives on topics related to the courses.

### *Non-Academic Activities*

Non-academic activities will include: a tour of Paris; a visit to Europe's tallest sand dune at Pyla; Arcachon Bay boat cruise; faculty-student small group meal; Paris opening dinner; and a good-bye meal in Arcachon. Students may organize a group trip to the Bordeaux wine country. Students may also wish to travel over the weekends. In the past, students have visited Greece, Ireland, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, London, Denmark, and Spain, as well as Nice, Normandy, and Monaco.

## **PREPARATION MANUAL**

The Student Preparation Manual provides information to assist students after their acceptance into the program. The Preparation Manual can be downloaded from this brochure or from the website. It has very specific information to assist you with all the details of getting ready for the trip. **Please be aware information may change on short notice, so be sure to doublecheck any information in this brochure or the participant manual.**

[Participant Manual](#)

## **FINANCING YOUR TRIP**

Students may apply for financial aid to cover the program fee, transportation, and the cost-of-living expenses. Students must make arrangements for financial assistance through their school's financial aid office. The students' school may also have other financial assistance available.

The University of Iowa College of Law also participates in consortium loan agreements. Students attending law schools other than the University of Iowa should send their consortium forms to:

Jessica Graham  
University of Iowa Financial Aid Office  
2400 University Capitol Center  
Iowa City, Iowa 52242  
Tel.: 319-467-3187

[jessica-graham@uiowa.edu](mailto:jessica-graham@uiowa.edu)

## INSURANCE

In accordance with university policy, students traveling abroad through a University of Iowa sponsored program must be registered with the Office of Study Abroad and enrolled in a University international health insurance policy provided through Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI). Students will be billed for this policy at a cost of approximately \$1.33 per day for the duration of the trip. Cost of the insurance is calculated into the student financial aid budget. See details of the policy at the [University of Iowa Office of Study Abroad website](#). You will need separate insurance for any personal travel.

## PASSPORT AND STUDENT ID CARD

Participants who do not have a valid passport should apply for one promptly. Please note that visas are not required of U.S. citizens for entry into France in connection with stays of less than 90 days. If you are not a U.S. citizen, you should contact the [French Consulate](#) to once to determine what steps you may need to take in order to obtain a visa to enter France. Do not delay.

Also, students may apply for an International Student Identification Card (ISIC). The ISIC may offer discounts for student travelers, but it is no longer required by the Office of Study Abroad, as the University's Regents mandated insurance policy now negates the need for the insurance offered under the International Student Identification Card. For more information about the International Student card, however, you may visit the Office of Study Abroad or download the application. Instructions are provided for mailing the application to the University of Iowa for processing, which requires additional time. These cards can be obtained at the University of Iowa's Study Abroad office located in the Old Capitol Town Center.

For those students who are **not** from the University of Iowa, ISIC cards may also be obtained from your respective universities; you are encouraged to check with your Registrar or university study abroad office.

## HOUSING

In 2025, the program will begin in Paris. The group will stay in Paris from May 19 until May 24, then travel together to Arcachon to live at the Hotel Villa Regina until June 20. Information will be provided on the Paris housing when these arrangements are finalized in the spring. In Arcachon, participants may choose to live in a single or double occupancy apartment at the Villa Regina. Those considering single occupancy apartments should be aware that there will be a significant additional cost for this option. Contact Andrea Flaherty at [andrea-flaherty@uiowa.edu](mailto:andrea-flaherty@uiowa.edu) for additional information if you are interested.

The Hotel Villa Regina is a beautiful facility located at 11 allée Corrigan in the "winter village" section of Arcachon. Each apartment has a bedroom or bedroom area, bathroom, toilet, equipped kitchenette, refrigerator, microwave, and television. Housing costs are included in the program fee, and include weekly cleaning service, linen change, and Wi-Fi. Housing costs do not include laundry, toiletries, or household items/product (e.g. trash bags, dish soap, food storage containers, etc.). The hotel has a

beautiful solarium as well as an outdoor swimming pool. It is located a short distance from the scenic Mauresque Park, downtown Arcachon, and the beachfront. Laundry services are available. The hotel has a wheelchair accessible entrance, hallways, elevator, and wheelchair accessible bedrooms, as well. There is free Wi-Fi throughout the hotel, which is also non-smoking. More information about the hotel is [available here](#).

## FOOD

In Paris, the hotel rooms will not have a kitchen. In Arcachon, all apartments include equipped kitchen facilities. Groceries may be somewhat expensive in Arcachon compared to the United States. There are several nearby grocery stores. Students should allocate at least \$175 per week for food (\$875 for the entire program); more if one eats out with any frequency.

There are also many sandwich shops and bakeries where small meals or snacks can be had for \$5-10. The average price of a modest lunch or dinner at an Arcachon restaurant was about \$15 to \$20 in 2024, the last time the program operated. In addition, those interested in sampling the renowned French gourmet cuisine will have several restaurants to choose from, but at a somewhat higher cost.

Participants should remember that out-of-pocket expenses in France may fluctuate depending upon the daily fluctuations in exchange rates between dollars and euros.

## TRANSPORTATION

**Participants must arrange and pay for their own transportation, including transportation between Paris and Arcachon. While airfare can be purchased at your convenience, train tickets from Paris to Arcachon can be purchased any time after the pre-departure meeting. You should plan to arrive in Arcachon from 3pm onwards, as you cannot check-in before that. We also suggest booking your tickets with others in the program so that you can choose seats near each other and travel together.** Tickets from Paris to Arcachon range in price from approximately \$45-\$120 depending on date, time of day, and how close tickets are booked to the date of travel. Most students travel to Arcachon as a group and the director will provide the necessary information when itinerary details are finalized in the Spring. The train trip from Paris to Bordeaux takes about 2.5 hours via the high-speed T.G.V. From Bordeaux, you will switch to a local train to Arcachon, which takes another hour. Alternatively, you may purchase a Eurail Pass (youth discounts are for any student 27 and under) and utilize it for the trip between Arcachon and Paris. There are also [SNCF Passes](#) that can be used for travel throughout France or within a region of France. In Paris, students can purchase individual tickets or can purchase a [weekly unlimited pass](#) (<https://www.bonjour-ratp.fr/en/titres-tarifs/forfait-navigo-semaine/>) that can be used throughout Paris. The cost of airfare and train travel will be part of the financial aid budget.

**Students must validate their tickets when taking public transit in Paris as well as on the buses and trams/ light rails in Bordeaux. Failure to do so can result in a fine.**

SNCF Links:

- SNCF Connect – to buy tickets: <https://www.sncf-connect.com/app/en-en/>
- The SNCF website for general questions: <https://www.sncf-voyageurs.com/en/>



Participants should fly into one of the Paris airports and arrive no later than Monday, May 19. **This may involve leaving the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup>.** If you arrive earlier than the 19th and want to stay at the program hotel, which will be chosen in the early spring, let Dean Wing know. She may be able to book you there at your own expense until the program starts paying for your room on the 19th.

There are a few Apps that students in the past have found helpful when travelling around Paris and Bordeaux:

- [The RATP App](https://apps.apple.com/us/app/bonjour-ratp/id507107090) can be used for all travel within Paris and will allow students to top-up or verify balances on metro cards: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/bonjour-ratp/id507107090>
- [The Bordeaux Metro](https://apps.apple.com/us/app/tbm-mobilit%C3%A9s/id1492096341) app is the best way to get tickets for the metro in Bordeaux and allows students to use their phones as the ticket: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/tbm-mobilit%C3%A9s/id1492096341>
- [The SNCF Connect app](https://apps.apple.com/us/app/sncf-connect-trains-routes/id343889987) is for the French rail system and allows students to purchase tickets and passes for long distance travel and has up-to-date schedules: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/sncf-connect-trains-routes/id343889987>

If you plan to return to the United States directly after the program, there are two options:

First: You must check out of the Arcachon Villa Regina hotel on June 20th no later than 11am. You will then take a train up to Paris, but by the time you get there, almost all planes to the U.S. will probably have left for the day. Thus, you will probably have to spend the night in Paris at your own expense before your June 21st flight. Some people stay downtown so they can hang out on the evening of the 20th. Some people may stay at a Paris airport hotel, so they can just rest and be close to the terminal for their June 21st morning flight. There are many hotels at every price point at the airport. One common choice is the IBIS Roissypole. For security reasons, in the past, there has been no actual camping out in the secured areas of the terminal.

Second: You will notice the schedule states the last exam and evaluations are on June 19th, and there is the possibility of early check out. Thus, a second option for your return to the U.S. is to leave Arcachon by train on the 19th in the afternoon. You will arrive in Paris that evening and probably will still need a hotel at your own expense. Some people then fly on the morning of the 20th instead of the 21st. Some people may stay 2 nights in Paris and leave on the 21st.

During the month of February, some airlines offer discount fares for their summer flights. Absent discounted fares, ticket consolidators usually have relatively inexpensive tickets for flights from Chicago to Paris via Air France or other carriers. These fares often provide greater flexibility in arranging return flights (e.g., from a European city other than Paris, or without trip-length limitations that often apply to traditional airline tickets). Many students also use websites like Student Universe or Kayak.com to find cheaper rates for flights; however, these are often inflexible, and it will be difficult if you want to change your return ticket.

Eurail passes are often useful, especially if the student expects to travel before or after the academic program. Students must purchase these passes in the United States before departure for Europe and the price will depend on the number of countries visited. Also, it is usually possible to purchase reduced-fare group and youth (age 27 and under) passes in France. These fares often include date and time restrictions.

Travel agencies are a good source of information regarding flight availability, Eurail passes, and ticket prices. In addition, reduced fares may be available when purchased directly from the airlines online, or from online ticket consolidators.

**Due to possibilities of flight changes or cancellations, you should definitely consider purchasing a refundable ticket or flight insurance. Check coverage carefully !!!**

## ACCESSIBILITY

France, like many European countries, has many older buildings that do not meet newer accessibility standards. Some older buildings may have issues with mold or dust which could irritate allergies or asthma. Some parts of Arcachon are fully accessible. The Villa Regina hotel where everyone will stay is fully accessible. Students requiring assistance with flights should make requests directly through the airline. French trains, buses, taxis and many tourist attractions are not usually accessible. **Any student with health or accessibility concerns should contact Dean Wing prior to submitting the application.**

## INTERNET ACCESS

Free wireless internet access is provided in the Paris hotel, Arcachon Villa Regina, and the classroom. Internet is also available at many other locations throughout both cities, and there is an Arcachon city Wi-Fi that is expanding its coverage in public areas. Students may be able to purchase an international plan with their current mobile carrier. Prepaid SIM cards can be purchased once students arrive in France which will allow them to use French mobile networks. In the past, some students have rented a mobile hotspot. There are many companies that rent mobile hotspots but a great French option that students have used in the past is [Hippocket WiFi](https://hippocketwifi.com): <https://hippocketwifi.com>.

## MORE INFORMATION

Interested in learning more about Arcachon? Information is available about the city and surrounding areas here:

[Arcachon Tourism](#)

## CANCELLATION

The \$200 program deposit is normally nonrefundable. The remainder of the program fee is normally nonrefundable after April 20, except in case of certifiable personal medical emergency. If the program cancels, the deposit and any program fees will be refunded. Program cancellation could be affected by State Department announcements, Iowa State Regents, or University of Iowa pronouncements.

Although the program has never been canceled other than the COVID-related cancellations in 2020, 2021, and 2022, the University of Iowa College of Law reserves the right to cancel the program should circumstances warrant such, including lack of sufficient registrations, or acts of war. In the event of cancellation, all fees and deposits paid will be refunded within twenty days of the cancellation. The program director will assist the students in finding another suitable program, if the students so desire and such programs exist.

## SECURITY

Terrorism remains a worldwide potential problem, and there is currently a U.S. State Department global worldwide caution for all Americans. For up-to-date information about travel, security, and health conditions, visit the [U.S. State Department Consular Information Page for France](#).

If the State Department issues an alert or warning applicable to France before or during the program, we will notify all participants. If a student withdraws prior to the commencement of the program due to an alert or warning, the student will receive a full refund of all monies advanced within twenty days of their withdrawal. If a student withdraws during the course of the program due to an alert or warning, or if the program is terminated, students will be refunded fees paid, except for room and board payments utilized prior to the date of termination or withdrawal.

## CONTACTS

### **Program Director:**

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