

A) Your Program of study (courses, assignments, course format). Add the exact number of class hour per course

At the University of Ottawa my program of study is International Management. When going to Kedge, this translated to me being placed in the Master's 1 program. Although it is considered a Master's program, this connotation does not exactly translate to the course work and class format that one may expect for a Master's program. As a student of International Management, it was necessary for me to take 30 credits of courses when coming to Kedge or 6 courses. The courses that I chose to take while here were

1. Business CSR and International Development
2. Cross Cultural Management
3. Emerging Market Multinationals
4. International Business Environment
5. Leadership
6. Luxury Marketing

These areas of study are not the only ones available through and there are other branches that the school assesses in, including supply chain management, wine marketing, French language and accounting or other similar classes. In regards to choosing classes, you as a student have two options in regards to taking a class in French or English. Coming to the school as a bilingual student, has its advantages because there are courses offered in English that are not offered in French and vice versa. In regards to the assignments one might expect, you can see extremely easy work that does not require much studying, or extremely hard work that will keep you inside for hours at a time.

In regards to what I experienced I found the workload much easier than that of what I must do at the University of Ottawa in terms of assignments and exams. For other people that I talked with who took other courses, it can be quite different with the professor being an extremely hard marker and expecting work that may take 3 hours to do, to be done in 1 hour. For this reason, it is important to come to the school with an open mind in regards to what to expect for work load because each class can change drastically.

For the course format, I will begin with a macro breakdown of how the courses work and then move to a more day to day analysis. For this section I can only talk about what I viewed in the macro sense for the first semester because it is possible that the format of the school changes for the second semester. Beginning with the format of the courses for the first semester in a macro viewpoint, there are three 1 month sections of studying periods, considered cycle 1, 2, and 3. For the first cycle I began late September and then went to late October. For the second cycle, I began late October and went to mid-November, and for the last cycle, I went from late November to early-December. Going to the micro sense of the classes, for each course, I was in 30 hours of lectures, or 10 lectures of three hours each. Similarly, for each cycle, I took two courses, that had to be a morning, afternoon, or night class, but that didn't overlap, because the classes could fall on the same day. Overall, the breakdown of the classes may seem a bit confusing on paper, but when you get to the school everything will begin to make more sense.

B) The timetable (academic calendar, registration dates, orientation,, beginning and end of classes, exams, holidays, number of semesters, etc.)

As outlined above, it is extremely hard to point to a calendar and say when classes begin and end or when there may be holidays, because it is different for every person, depending on the courses that are taken, and further when choosing a course to take it does not elaborate on the dates that there will be classes, only if it is a morning, afternoon, or night class. In general though I can break down each area that will help you decide when to arrive and leave.

Arrive: Orientation began on the second week of September and lasted about two weeks. The beginning of orientation is necessary to go to, but it is mostly events for integration, and are up to you to decide if you want to go or not.

Classes start: For every person, the earliest day that classes can start was the 20th of September, but it did start at later dates for some people, up to a week later.

Registration: The registration for classes was about a month and a half before the beginning cycle, but it is only possible to register for one cycle at a time, until it is about a month and a half before the next cycle and then it is possible to register for that one.

Holidays: Holidays fall on random times for each person. For myself I did not have many holidays, until I had a three week break between my second and third cycle, but some people had breaks a week at a time between each cycle. It is also important to remember that you can only miss two classes and after missing two classes you fail the course, so you can use these skips to make a vacation, but it is important to use them wisely.

Last day: The last cycle is a different makeup then all the others because each class only lasts a week, but there are still 30 hours of classes for the week. Further you can only take one class per week, but given this, it is possible to take a week one course and week two course and finish on the first of December. The issue that many came across is that they applied for week one and two but were given week two and week four because of how many people wanted this type of class makeup. Therefore the last possible day of classes was the 15th of December and it is important not to buy a ticket home before then, because the school may change your classes.

C) Procedures to follow upon arrival. List and description of services offered by the International Exchange office of the host institution. Registration and course selection. Social Activities.

Most of this was outlined above, but the main procedure to follow is to reach out to people in the Kedge Facebook page and try and makes plan with people through here. You may not like everyone that you meet, but by going out to meet people like this, it becomes much easier to meet people that you might like. Further, it is extremely important to look for housing and to get your visa, around three months in advance of leaving for Bordeaux. The queue to get a French visa is extremely long, and after having a meeting with a Visa official it can take a month

to receive your visa. Further, housing in Bordeaux is extremely hard to find. The best way to find housing is to go on Air Bnb and reach out to individuals in the area to create special prices for accommodation. You can also find possible roommates on the Facebook page in advance. From experience, there are 3 main areas that are the best to live in. The first is the Victoire area, it is near the tram that takes everyone to school and is also the downtown hub of Bordeaux. The second place, is Gambetta. This is a nice little area that many people live in. It is extremely close to shops and close to the Tram B that takes everyone to school. The last area is Grand Theatre, which is just another hub of the city and close to Tram B as well.

D) Budget outlining, the cost of studying abroad.

The most important thing to remember for budget outlining, is that the Euro is currently much stronger than the Canadian dollar, and due to this, costs are much more inflated due to the currency cost of transaction. Beginning with food, eating out and eating at ones place are extremely different. In regards to eating at home, the French Diet is much different to that of the Canadian, and therefore finding certain foods may be harder when coming on the exchange, or there may be less variety with the foods you like. In general, a meal eating at home will cost around 2 euros. On the other end of the spectrum, eating out and getting a filling meal will cost between 10- 15 euros depending on if your are sitting down or getting fast food. In regards to going out for drinks with friends, buying at the store is extremely cheap. A bottle of wine can go from 1 euro to 5 euros for extremely cheap to relatively good respectively. Further other types of similar beverages are much cheaper at the store, than that in Canada. On the reverse, going out to a bar or club, is much more expensive with mixed drinks and beers costing around 6 euros for a pint. For myself, I set a budget for going out with friends, food, and activities to around 400 euros a month. Given if you wish to travel it can cost more than this with secondary Air Bnbs, eating out, and traveling costs. For flying from Canada to Bordeaux expect to pay around 1000 Canadian for a round trip flight. When considering traveling within Europe though it is extremely cheap, for example it cost be 120 euros to fly to Italy from Bordeaux. At the end of the day, it is possible to spend 200 euros or less a month in Bordeaux but for myself I found it important to have fun while here and make the most out of my studying and living abroad.

E) Application procedures before your arrival.

Refer above to area C

F) Address and description of housing. Cost of housing.

To further elaborate on the housing outlines in section C, expect to pay around 600 euros a month for housing. It is possible to pay a little less, but this is the general cost of living in and around the city center (Grand Theatre, Victorie, Gambetta). For these locations, it is important to note as well that, it is around a 30-40-minute commute to the school every day. The importance of being at these places, rather than closer to the school is that public transportation usually finishes around 11:30 on week days and 1:00 on weekends. Due to this,

many people living close to school did not want to go out often because of how they would either must leave an event extremely early, pay 40 euros for a uber home, or stay out extremely late until public transport works again. Living close to the school has its benefits though, in regards to being close and cheaper living, averaging around 400 euros. For sizes of apartments, it can vary greatly in the choice of living alone or living with others. If choosing to live with others, places are usually much larger with separate rooms for the kitchen, living room and bedrooms. If choosing to live alone though, expect to live in a studio apartment where everything is visible from your bed.

G) Summarization of my experiences in Bordeaux.

Overall, my experience in Bordeaux will be one that I remember for the rest of my life. The people that you meet on these exchanges become friends for life and the experiences shared are even better. Through studying abroad you have the opportunity to travel to many places that are unique to yourself and further you have the opportunity to learn from other cultures as well. I had the opportunity to rent a car for a week with friends and travel southern France, as well as go to Italy and Paris. In regards to the school life, the classes were in consensus extremely easy and although work load could be a lot it did not necessary mean that it was hard. It is crazy how fast time flies during the exchange and after your exchange you will look back at all the memories and feel that it passed just a little bit ago. What I have learned it is important to do here, is to document your experiences. Either bring a camera or a video camera and capture as much as you can.