



Recanati student exchange program

Semester in ESCP Europe, Paris

Introduction

As a second degree student at the Recanati School I took part in the student exchange program, at ESCP Europe, Paris. I studied during the summer semester, from June till middle July.

General information

Visa: Israeli students who stay less than 90 days doesn't need visa to France. The city is amazing and has a lot to see. There are lots of museums, architecture buildings, parks, squares, churches, palaces, in addition to the famous sites. The student exchange coordinators in Paris campus were very helpful and assist in every question and problems, from the preparation till the entire semester. Moreover, they provide full guidance and information in every issue that arise. Living expenses: Paris is quite expensive relative to other European countries, however, without accommodation expenses I would say budget of 700-1000 euro per month depending on the student lifestyle and preferences.

The Campuses

ESCP Europe has 5 campuses located around Europe: Madrid, London, Berlin, Turin and Paris, which is the main campus. This fact makes the university attractive to students who attend to experience globally and internationally experience. The campus has variety of courses that learned in English and as a result the English speakers feel very welcome.

Paris Campus

Paris is dividing to 20 arrondissement while ESCP Paris is located in 11th arrondissement. The area is quite central, between the Republica and the Bastilia squares. The campus has 5 building, designed and decorated like the rest of the city. The campus has its own gym, Bar and cafeteria, which suggest a selection of lunches at low prices. The classes I participated were diversified with student especially from France, India, Australia, China and UK. Therefore the atmosphere in classes was unique and challenging.

Courses

Usually full semester is ten weeks while the test is taking part in the last session. Summer semester period is half time (five weeks) but much more intensive. Most of the courses require group works which is very important and contribute to the international experience and also to connect with other students. Generally speaking, the courses do not demand full time investment and there is enough time to travel around the city. As part of my program I studied the following courses:

1. Money market: Very interests course that extent the knowledge regarding the financial markets and financial instruments. The course includes lessons about forwards, futures, arbitrage, Repo market and etc. This course is aimed especially for finance students.
2. Advance Excel part 1: this course is actually a visual basic (Macro) for starters in excel. The course is compulsory for students who want to improve their excel skills both for study and work purposes. The course is mostly practical while the course demands (exercises and test) are done on the computer.
3. Negotiation boot camp: excellent course that combine theoretical and practical parts. The aim of the course is to improve negotiation skills in all aspects of the process (from planning and participating till reporting and etc.). The course is dividing to three rounds of negotiations between two groups. This course allows each student to experience in team work, negotiation simulations and debates.

Accommodation

Finding accommodation in Paris is quite hard, especially for a short time period. Paris campus has no dorms, however, the campus have relations with the Cite universitaire and the Vivaldi dorms. In addition, efficiency ways to find housing is trough friends, Facebook groups and rent websites.

Transportation

Transportation in Paris is very easy and convenient. The city has development net of underground trains (the Metro) and there is a station right in front of the university. Also you can rent a bike but the charges per day are pretty high.

In summary, my student exchange experience was delightful and amazing; therefore I am highly recommended on ESCP Paris.