

Paris Class FAQ (updated 10.23.07)

How much will it cost?

At this moment, it looks as though the course will be approximately \$3400 plus the cost of meals and airfare. Plan on food costing about 120% of what you're used to. The meals will vary depending on what you purchase obviously, with lunches on the go running about 5-10 €. (Students on the 2007 trip saved money by arranging group pasta dinners in the dorm. Kitchen facilities are available for use.)

Airfare is expected to be between \$800 and \$1200. A group rate flight will be arranged through an agent for those wanting to travel with the instructor, but students are also free to make their own arrangements provided they arrive by June 1st.

All prices are subject to fluctuation as the itinerary is refined, exchange rates and airfare change, etc. But that should be the ballpark costs.

What is the itinerary?

At this point, we'll be flying in around June 1st and the class will run through the 21st of June. We'll be staying in Paris throughout, though I plan to arrange at least two "day trips" to interesting spots around Paris. There will also be a few days "off" planned into the schedule when you could make plans of your own. (Approximately mid-session we will have a break of 2 full days.) It appears that housing will be paid for through the end of June, so students can elect, if they wish, to stay on after the class with housing "pre-paid" in Paris for an additional 9 days.

How many can go? Application process? How do you decide who gets to go? Chances of being picked?

There is room for 16 students. To apply, fill out the questionnaire and turn it in. I'll be selecting people based on that. I'll be making final decisions no later than December 1st. Your chances of being picked. I cannot know that until after I see how many people apply. I'm currently planning to pick 16 people plus a few alternates in case people have to drop out, etc.

Requirements?

Having completed 112A and 113A by the end of the Spring 2008 semester. (Not necessarily with me.)

Official Paperwork?

Yes, you will need a passport if you don't already have one. If you're a foreign student, you will probably need additional visa paperwork to exit and re-enter the country. An application must also be submitted at a later date to the SJSU Study Abroad Office, but don't worry about that until I tell you to do so.

Housing?

Currently, we are arranging 8 double-rooms at the "Maison du Canada" in the south of Paris, a mile or two south of the Latin Quarter. You will be paired up with a roommate after selections are made, two to a room.

Fees?

The fees cover tuition, housing, "university fees" (for the management of the Study Abroad office) and a small budgeted amount for rail and museum passes, coordinated events which require tickets, etc.

Supplies?

All the assignments will be completed in a sketchbook that will be turned in at the end of the class. I'll be giving out a supply list of materials that should all fit easily in a backpack for maximum portability.

Purpose / Character of the Class

This is NOT a skills class! Unlike the classes you may have had me for, I do not foresee myself demonstrating technical skills in the manner you're used to. I don't want to change how you draw with this class—I want to change how you think, how you come up with ideas, how you think about what you draw and why you draw it rather than the mechanics of it. There will be a few technical demos, but the class will not revolve around them as with 112a and 113a.

I'm going to expect students to do a significant amount of reading and research prior to departure. All the assignments will be completed in your sketchbook. We'll be delving into history, culture, creativity, the whole gamut. My intention is that it will be a thought-provoking class and experience. I aim to change the way you look at the world around you.

I'm going to be demanding a lot of you as students—the students I want to take are the ones who are going to do MORE work than I ask of them, MORE research, MORE preparation. Yes, I'm sure that at some point I'll be talking about how to handle the perspective of a cathedral . . . but that is NOT the focus of the class.