All students of French are encouraged to pursue study abroad or immersion programs as part of their undergraduate or graduate curriculum. Students may enroll in approved college credit programs for summer, a semester, or an entire year.

They may split a year abroad into a semester in each of two languages they are studying, in France or Canada or the Caribbean and Germany or Russia or Spain or Italy.

**Summer programs** which we recommend and work with include

**Programs in French states:**
- Guadeloupe (Média Langues Inst.)
- New York University in Paris
- Bryn Mawr College in Avignon
- Rutgers in Tours

**Immersion programs in the U.S.:**
- Middlebury College, Vermont
- Millersville University, Pennsylvania

**Semester and full academic Year Abroad programs** include programs in France coordinated by CEA and ABROADCO and Junior year abroad programs with:
- Middlebury Language School (Paris)
- Syracuse University (Tours)
- Davidson College (Montpellier)
- Univ of Minnesota (Montpellier)
- Rutgers University (Tours)
- University of Delaware (Caen)

[Students spending the fall semester abroad must be sure to be back at WCU in time for the opening of the spring semester in mid January of the following year. Students spending the spring semester abroad need to double check the beginning and end dates of the program to be sure they don’t conflict with any stateside plans.]

Qualities of American group study abroad programs versus programs offered directly by foreign schools:

- ease of credit transfer to WCU
- assistance in obtaining visas, flights, housing
- excursions to points of interest
companionship and shared experience with other American college students
predictable expenses including tuition, room & board and travel
group travel and excursions
English speaking social group of other American students
course offerings taught in English designed to attract non language majors
assistance in integrating into life in the host country, housing, etc.

There are a number of universities in France and Canada which welcome foreign students and offer a variety of courses and programs. These include Grenoble, Paris Sorbonne IV, Aix-en-Provence, Rennes, Laval, Chicoutimi. This is a more independent approach to the experience.

Study programs sponsored directly by foreign universities have
flexibility of travel arrangements
experience of living with students from all over the world or with host families
greater variety of courses taught in the foreign language
added responsibilities regarding enrollment in courses and obtaining grades for transfer equivalencies
greater variety of course difficulty levels
adjustment to foreign culture class schedules and testing procedures
diversity of social groups and activities throughout the stay

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Students enrolling in any program must get their courses approved before leaving. Credits from non affiliated foreign schools must be evaluated through WES upon return.