



Exchange Reports

Université Jean Moulin Lyon

Lyon, France

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Teaching and Learning Environment

- I took eight courses during the semester, which amounts to 8 weeks of class time. Jean Moulin offers only intensive one-week classes that have take-home finals worth 80-100% due every on Sunday at 10pm. The courses varied in difficulty, and the quality of professor varied with each course. Overall, however, I found the courses challenging. The courses are exclusive to English speaking students on exchange, so you are in the same room each day with the same 30-40 international students. Last, because the courses are intensive, you are in class from 10am-5/6pm every day, though you get a 2-hour lunch break. However, it is a significant amount of time spent in a classroom compared to being at Queen's.
- 8 Courses, all taught in English, but some professors struggled with English. Course is taught start to finish in one week, take home exam that weekend. Very different level of difficulty depending on the prof.
- I took 8 courses. All courses were taught in English. The quality of instruction varied depending on the professor's level of English. Of the 8 courses I took there was only one native English speaker. Instruction was largely lecture based. Assessment was based on weekly take-home exams and participation.



1 - Photo submitted by Beth B.

Quality of Administrative Support for Students

- Anne-Sophie is incredibly helpful, and I believed she was there for the students. My grandfather died during the semester, and I easily was able to get an extension on an exam. The school provides an orientation at the beginning of the semester which was useful to break the ice and settle into Lyon. Most students find housing through Airbnb, which can be very expensive, and living in residence is not common among the exchange students in this program.
- Administrator (Anne-Sophie) is very helpful. There was no help with housing. There is orientation but it's 2 days, no social events. Very accommodating if you get sick.
- There was adequate time for registration. Assistance was available for housing (but I chose to find my own). There was a half day orientation. Administration was very helpful.

Campus Facilities

- I can only speak to the law school facilities and location of the school. The classroom you use is brand new, but note it gets extremely hot. I know this sounds dramatic, but often ended early because the professors could not cope with the heat. Hopefully this problem is fixed by next year, because otherwise the facilities are very nice. The law school is central and very easy to get to by subway. I took transit to school each morning and took a 20/25-minute walk by the river home each evening. It was great. I would recommend that students live relatively close to campus so they can go home during the 2-hour lunch breaks (near Bellcour for example).
- The law school is close to the city Centre and was easily accessible. I did not use the gym or library.

Student Accommodation and Food

- The school lies directly on the Rhone in a beautiful building. I would recommend living between the two rivers, somewhere where you can walk home during the lunch break but are still in a central/fun part of Lyon. Everyone I knew in my program found housing through Airbnb, which can be expensive. I recommend trying to book in advance. You are required to take 8 courses, and 11 courses are offered, so a way to save money is to not take the last three courses and finish your lease in mid-November (then you can travel for the rest of the semester).
- Used long term Airbnb, would recommend. Most French people do not do short term leases. NOT vegetarian or vegan friendly (true of all of France, but especially bad in Lyon).



2 - Photo submitted by Kirsten H.

Travel to Downtown and Environs

- Lyon has a fantastic transit system! To get a monthly pass requires a passport photo and a form provided by the school during orientation. Lyon has a one week reading week, plus it is only an 8-week semester, so there is lots of opportunity to travel. However, weekend trips may be complicated by having an exam due every Sunday night. Exams for me required quite a lot of attention (at times entire Sundays were devoted to them), so I recommend getting them out of the way ASAP before a trip. Traveling within France is fantastic. Before the semester started, I did a two-week trip throughout France, which I highly recommend. As well, during the semester I rented a car and drove 2.5 hours to Chamonix and hiked the Alps. If you want to visit Mont Blanc before it's winter, I recommend you do it in the first three weeks of September because the gondolas to the peak close at the end of the month and reopen end of November. We even stopped in Geneva on the way. Lyon also has an airport that is an hour shuttle out of town and flies everywhere.
- Great public transit. Very easy to get to the airport. Airport connects to many other places
- Public transit is easy to use, but the city is also very walkable.

City Life Highlights

- Lyon is a fantastic city. It may be difficult to get the most out of Lyon as a vegan, as the food scene is a primary draw, but people do it and enjoy themselves by cooking. If you are a vegan, I recommend you live near campus as eating lunch out will be made difficult. In terms of living cost, for reference I lived with my partner near Hotel De Ville and we paid \$2000.00CAD. France in general is expensive, and the exchange rate at the moment is bad. That said, you can get high quality food at markets and in restaurants for relatively much lower prices than you would at home. There are markets everyday with great produce, and there are plenty of grocery stores. As well, good wine is incredibly cheap. The lifestyle in Lyon is relaxed, and the culture of drinking coffees and wine on patios is present every day, all year, rain or shine. English is limited in Lyon, but people are kind and welcoming. I absolutely love the city.
- La Fête des Lumières was great! I used an unlocked phone and Lycamobile, but many people used an international data package.



3 - Submitted by Wynn W.

Student Life

- There are no set social engagements for the exchange students. However, because you are in class exclusively with the same students everyday (like a small section), you can get to know people quite easily.
- No student life from the school but because most students in the program are exchange students, it is very easy to meet friends. Definitely not a party school.

Additional Comments

- The French Visa Process is DIFFICULT. Note you will have to go into the offices for an interview, and there are only offices in Toronto, Vancouver, Quebec. This list is by no means extensive, the requirements seem to differ based on the day and the different VFS agent. This is, from my understanding so far, what is needed:
 - Letters from both Queen's and Jean Moulin 3, stating that you are a student on exchange in France for one semester. This must be dated and stamped. I think an original copy is preferable, however they seemed to accept a printed one.
 - Travel insurance, which will pay at least 30,000 euros
 - Your passport + A photocopy of your entire passport
 - 2 copies of documents stating that you have a place to live for every day which you claim to be in France – this must have your name on it (I am asking my dad to change a hotel reservation so that it be put in my name, as I will be in a hotel with my parents for a few days)
 - If anyone else's name appears on anything (such as my dad's name on the hotel reservation) you must bring a photocopy of that person's entire passport. They also seemed to want two copies of a signed and dated contract, which outlines the nature of your relationship to that person and that they consent to sharing that hotel/apartment with you, and any transaction details such as if you are splitting rent.
 - Proof that you completed undergrad (or your most recent degree)
 - Proof that you have flights going to and leaving France - an itinerary, make sure your name is on it
 - Bank records from the last 3 months showing you have at least \$5000 (I think) – to be safe, I would say have 4 months
 - This must be recent up to the week of your appointment. My records ended May 31, and my appointment was on July 2. I was told this was not good enough, and that you must go



4 - Submitted by Beth B.

online and print the most recent bank records. Maybe even do this the day before or the morning of the appointment.

- 2 printed copies of your appointment confirmation
- An Expresspost envelope for them to mail back your passport to you
- The checklist printed from the France Visas website
- The completed Long Stay visa form from the France Visas website
- 2 photos – I got mine done at Shoppers Drug Mart; they have a “French Visa” setting for the photos, so they meet the requirements
 - The pictures can have no scratches – be extremely careful when handling these
- Photocopy of your Queen’s student card
- This was not brought up at my appointment nor online, but I will also probably bring these items to be safe:
 - Photocopy of my high school diploma
 - Bank statement from additional accounts – last 4 months
 - Visa statements – last 4 months
 - My checklist from my failed visa appointment