



***New!* Exploring French Language and Culture
in the South of France**
August 16-29, 2009

Program Description

Join Continuing Studies and UBC instructor Yolande Morin for this unique French language and culture program in the Languedoc-Rousillon region of France, just north of Spain between the Mediterranean and the Pyrenees. Participants will be based in Perpignan, located near the Mediterranean Sea and only about 30 kms from Spain.

This unique new program will provide real-life opportunities for participants to practise and improve their French through trips and excursions throughout the region. Designed for those who already know some French, participants will take guided tours around the region and interact with locals in a variety of situations, from visiting local artisans and winemakers, to shopping in markets for food, cheese and wine, and learning how to cook Catalan cuisine.



All photos by Yolande Morin

Our instructors will supervise your language acquisition and provide explanations of grammar, vocabulary and idiomatic expressions. All instruction will be in French using various techniques to develop fluency and appropriate use of the language.

Perpignan and Region

With a population of 105,000, Perpignan is located between the Mediterranean Sea and Spanish border in southern France. The city offers travellers a blend of Mediterranean French and Catalan cultures as well as a mélange of contemporary French fine arts and medieval architecture.



The region surrounding Perpignan is a blend of Mediterranean charm, history and natural beauty. The climate is said to be the best in France with 300 days of sunshine per year.

Your trip will include visits to villages like Castelnaud, which dates back to the 11th century and Coullioure, a small fishing village which inspired famous painters such as Matisse and Picasso. You will also discover old monasteries such as the one at Saint-Michel-de-Cuxa or Elne, visit the rare rock formations at Ile-sur-Têt, and see Roman ruins and Cathar castles.

Immersion Objectives

This is the ultimate French immersion program! Our unique approach will allow participants to practise and improve their French in authentic situations, under the supervision of an experienced UBC instructor and a local expert. Participants will interact with locals, artisans and merchants while shopping in markets, wandering through quaint villages, and participating in cultural activities around Perpignan. This highly effective approach offers an excellent opportunity to expand fluency and vocabulary in many subjects by speaking to people in a simple and relaxed way.



UBC travel groups generally vary from seven to twelve students, providing plenty of student-teacher interaction and a student-teacher ratio akin to a semi-private all-day class. Language facilitation techniques will be implemented throughout the program, and the instructors will monitor and encourage students every step of the way, giving instruction on pronunciation, idioms, regionalisms, vocabulary, grammar, as well as functional and cultural objectives. The group will spend eight to nine hours a day together, for a total of 95 contact hours during the program.

Students will work on a special project during the program, such as preparing a short report for the group on their experiences. Participants are encouraged to keep a journal in French of everything that is discovered and learned over the two weeks. Students will be provided with an assessment at the end of the program outlining their progress during the program.

Instructors

An experienced UBC French instructor, Yolande Morin, will accompany the group throughout the trip. Yolande has taken many groups to France and this will be her seventh time to Perpignan. Our local expert, Marie-Ange Granier will also accompany and instruct the group in their discovery of the region and its many culinary and cultural charms.

Accommodation

Participants stay with a host family in Perpignan. Living with a host family is the best way to improve your fluency. Each family offers you warm hospitality and a chance to practice French in a convivial atmosphere at mealtimes (breakfasts and dinners are with the family, lunch is with the group). Private rooms are included in the fee.



Schedule

There will be an orientation meeting at UBC for participants before the beginning of the program. The time and location will be set approximately one month before the start of the program.

The program starts in Perpignan on Sunday, August 16, at which time participants will be placed with their host families. The host families will pick up participants upon arrival at the airport or train station. The program ends on Friday, August 28. Accommodation on Friday, August 28 is included in the fee and participants should plan to depart on Saturday, August 29. There are no direct flights from Vancouver to Perpignan. Participants may choose to fly to London, then to Perpignan, or go to Paris and either fly or take the train to Perpignan, or even fly to Toulouse and then take the train to Perpignan. Please check with your travel agent for the best travel options. Students are asked to contact Yolande before making travel arrangements. Yolande can be reached at yolande.morin@ubc.ca or by phone at 604-224-2426.

Please do not make travel arrangements until the program has been confirmed by UBC Continuing Studies.

Enrolment

Applicants should already speak at a lower intermediate to advanced level of French and be comfortable having a simple conversation in French. They must be a minimum of 19 years of age.

Applicants will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis provided the \$500 deposit is mailed with the registration form. Final acceptance is conditional upon receipt of the balance of payment and written agreement to program conditions.



Fees

The land package in Canadian dollars is \$3250* for UBC in Perpignan (13 days). The fee includes registration and tuition fees, homestay and accommodation with two homestay meals per day in Perpignan, all lunches, all tours and workshops, and four cooking classes. *Airfare is not included.*

Deposit and Payment of Fees

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 is required with your preliminary application. The balance is due by *Friday, June 5, 2009.*

Applicants withdrawing before *June 5* will be refunded the amount paid less the \$500 deposit. Final acceptance is conditional upon receipt of the balance of payment and written agreement to program conditions.

Participants withdrawing between *June 5* and *July 10* will be charged a \$300 administration fee in addition to the \$500 deposit. There is no refund after *July 10, 2009.*

**Fees for this program are subject to change without notice based on currency exchange or other reasons beyond UBC's control. Some restrictions may apply. UBC reserves the right to change dates, itineraries, carriers, hotels, institutions and tour leaders for this program. Participants must sign a standard release form.*

For program information and registration inquiries, please phone 604-822-0802.

EXPLORING FRENCH AND CULTURE IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE
AUGUST 16-29, 2009 AF 830 S09A
PRELIMINARY APPLICATION FORM

Last Name First Name

Home Address

City/Town Province Postal Code

Phone (Day) (Evening)

Occupation Fax

Email

I am:

- under 35 male allergies: _____
 35-50 female
 over 50 vegetarian medical conditions: _____
 accompanied by: _____

My level of French is:

- lower intermediate
 intermediate
 advanced
- Enclosed please find my non-refundable deposit in the amount of \$500.

Method of Payment:

- Cheque (payable to **The University of British Columbia**)
 Cash (do not mail cash) Visa MasterCard

CARD NUMBER EXPIRY DATE

NAME OF CARDHOLDER (PLEASE PRINT) SIGNATURE

Send completed application form and deposit to:



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