

RE: Strikes in France: Update on Academic Program in Aix-en-Provence (APA)
FROM: Dr. Rob Howell, Director for International Academic Programs
DATE: March 17, 2009; updated March 26, 2009

The current academic semester at the Université de Provence and at other French universities has been disrupted by a faculty strike over important issues of academic freedom. While strikes are commonplace at French universities, this strike is unusual in its length and because the strikers are faculty rather than students. At this point in the semester, with no resolution in sight, we are faced with the unusual prospect of the cancellation of the academic semester at the Université de Provence.

The three partner institutions (Indiana University, University of Michigan, University of Wisconsin) in the Academic Program in Aix-en-Provence (APA) remain committed to providing participants with a full semester of academic credit regardless of the outcome of the strike. Toward that end, we have created an array of courses offered by the APA program and taught by local French faculty. These courses will run from now until late June and will allow students to earn the equivalent of a full semester of academic credit. Even if the strike is resolved and the Université de Provence manages to stage a truncated version of the academic semester, program participants will need to remain in these newly created program courses in order to obtain academic credit.

Students taking courses at the Institut d'Études Politiques are not affected by the strike and will continue to take their regularly scheduled courses at the IEP.

Our on-site APA Resident Director, Professor Kelley Conway, has carried out a complete analysis of the courses enrolled in by APA students and has created the following APA courses for APA students staffed by local faculty. Several additional courses will be added to this list this week:

- Introduction à la géopolitique
- La France et l'Europe de la Révolution au XXe siècle
- Histoire de l'art français du 20e siècle
- Histoire de la religion en France
- Littérature et philosophie françaises au 18e siècle
- La Provence et la littérature au XIXe et XXe siècle
- Psychologie sociale
- Littérature et art de l'Amérique latine
- Idéologies politiques contemporaines
- Psychologie du développement
- Histoire de l'art antique
- Histoire et évolution de la langue française et des styles
- Théâtre français du 17e et du 18e siècle

We are grateful that Professor Conway and the on-site staff in Aix-en-Provence have been able to assemble a palette of courses that effectively replaces those courses students had chosen at the Université de Provence. Professor Conway will continue to work to ensure that the academic

needs of each participant in APA will be met and that all students will receive full and appropriate academic credit for the semester.