Yimin’s Majors: Political Science, Economics

Program: Institut d Etudes Politiques Exchange, Fall

Academic Life: Classes were mostly taught in similar fashions as US colleges, with some exceptions. Out of the five classes I took at Sciences Po, two of them were in French and three other in English. Most were small seminars and one of them was a 300-student lecture. Unsurprisingly in the English classes, the other students were mostly international students, while in the French classes you can encounter native French students. The French classes were taught by French professors while the English classes might be taught by professors whose native tongue is not English.

Housing: I shared a studio apartment with another student in the fifth district of Paris, known as the Latin Quarters. It is comparable in size with a regular dorm room but with its own kitchen and bathroom.

Tip for Students Considering Study Abroad: Be prepared for cultural shock. Unless you are already fluent in the language of your host country, the daily conversations and pleasantness exchanged with your neighbors will become a luxury. You must be prepared mentally to embrace and overcome the alienating feeling that surrounds you at first.

“Being in Paris is an unbeatable experience in itself, I would highly recommend this program to anyone considering it.”