

**What's the best advice you can give future students to maximize their experience abroad?**

“Travel during your travels, speak the language (or at least try), talk to everyone, ask people what to do for fun.”

“Enjoy yourself! Do as much as you can with the mindset that you will never be back to that area (so that you do all the things that you want to do).”

“Explore your host city. Walk around, visit all the local attractions, don't be afraid to be a tourist--you are one!!”

**What items did you not bring that you wish you had?**

- Plain clothing
- Feminine-hygiene products
- Backpack
- Over the counter pain meds
- Towel/ washcloth

**What items did you pack and NOT need while abroad?**

- Rain jacket
- Travel pillow
- Heels
- Brought too many clothes

**Which devices would you recommend others take in the future?**



**Most common ways to communicate with family and friends back home:**

#1. Through WiFi-enabled smart phones apps

- Skype
- Whatsapp
- iMessage

#2. International calling/text plan with U.S. cell phone

# French in Perpignan

*“It was a great experience that I wouldn't trade for anything. This program was everything that I thought and wanted it to be. I was able to learn more about the French language and I learned more about myself too.”*

*“It was fascinating to be in a new place. Traveling gave me a new perspective on the bravery of immigrants. It allowed me to view America as a stranger when I returned.”*

**Approximately how much did you spend out of pocket during the program (in USD)?**

	Max Value	Average Value
Communication (cell phone, Internet charges, etc.):	120.00	35.00
Food:	500.00	285.00
Going out/free time:	300.00	131.11
Lodging:	100.00	20.00
Other:	100.00	10.00
Personal travel/excursions:	600.00	211.00
Program related travel/excursions:	500.00	128.50
Required books/supplies:	150.00	20.00
Souvenirs/gifts:	500.00	160.00

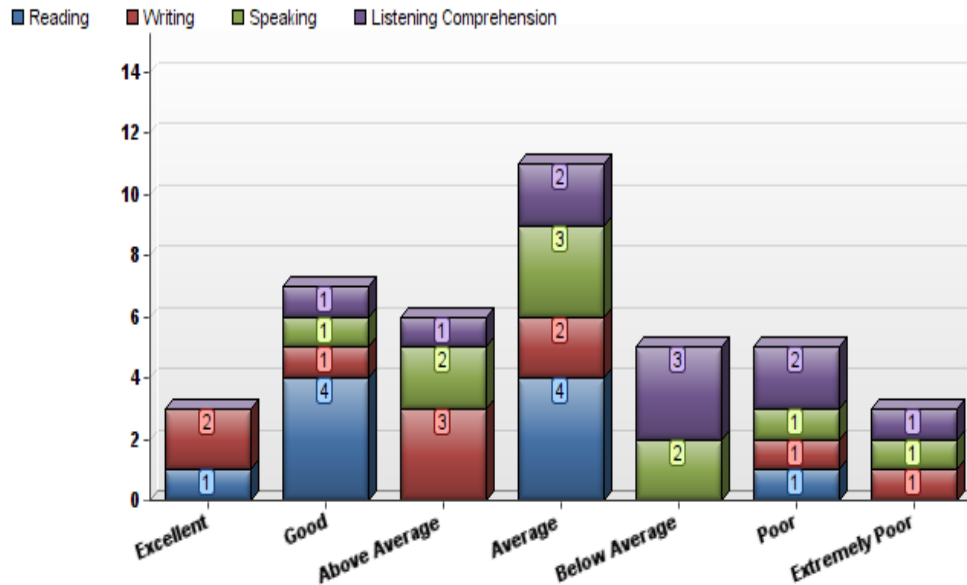
**What advice do you have for students to budget and spend money wisely?**

“Don't use a lot of money at the beginning of the trip.”

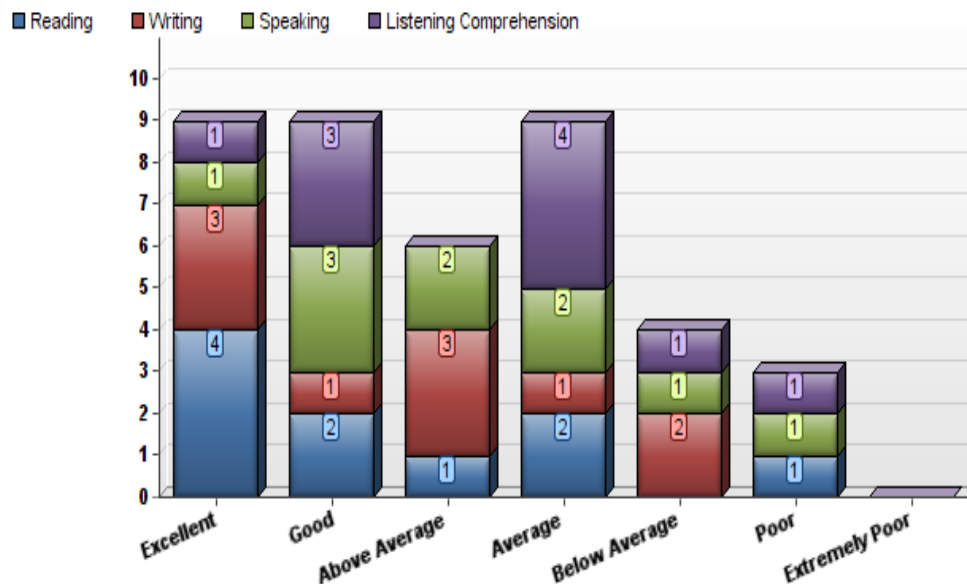
“Buy a lot of food at markets or stores. Spend money on travel, not on items.”

“Make a budget and Withdraw budgeted money once a week, try not to go over that.”

## Self – reported language proficiency before the program:



## Self – reported language proficiency after the program:



## How did you pay for things on a daily basis?

1. Cash (exchanged from U.S. currency)
2. Cash (withdrawn from local ATM/bank from U.S. bank account)
3. Credit Cards/ Debit Cards

## Most widely accepted credit cards:



**Majority of students said that living with a host family allowed them to gain a greater understanding of French culture.**

“My host home was great! I really enjoyed living in a French home, eating the food and speaking the language with my host family.”

“Being in France, living in a host home, and taking French classes encouraged me to continue to study the language.”

“At times it was difficult to understand the language, but my host family spoke slowly at times so I could understand!”