

THE SKIDMORE CENTER

Our program Center is located in the heart of Paris, near the Centre Georges Pompidou, the well-known and vast complex for the arts and culture. The program Center serves as your home base while in Paris; it houses classrooms for program courses, study rooms, computer and video facilities, and a small library.



Le Centre Pompidou near the Skidmore Center.

HOUSING & MEALS

Skidmore offers the special opportunity to live with host families. This allows students to fully participate in French culture on a daily basis. The host family will provide meals on most mornings and evenings and students will receive a cash allowance to be used for other meals.

COSTS

The program fee will be Skidmore's comprehensive fee. This fee covers tuition, housing and meals, on-site orientation, all program-sponsored excursions and activities, and international health insurance. The fee does NOT cover round-trip airfare, transportation in Paris, books and supplies, nor personal expenses. We suggest a budget of an extra \$2,000 to \$3,000 for personal expenses. Financial aid will apply.

TO APPLY

Applications are available in Off-Campus Study & Exchanges (OCSE), online, and from Professor Simon. The application deadline for *Writing Paris* is **MARCH 15, 2009**.

There is **NO LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT** for this program. Students with little or no French language experience are encouraged to apply.



The famous Moulin Rouge at night.

To learn more about the 2009 Paris Fall Seminar contact Prof. Linda Simon, seminar director, or Karen Horn-Jansen, Program Manager in OCSE.

PROF. LINDA SIMON

Department of English
Palamountain 314
1.518.580.5160
lsimon@skidmore.edu

KAREN HORN-JANSEN

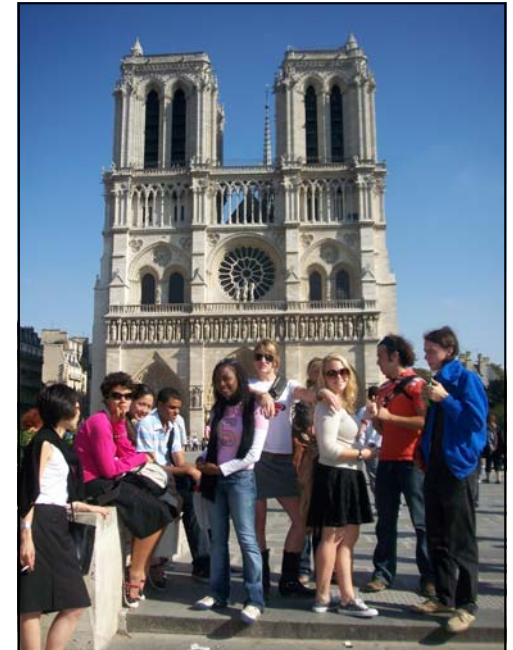
Off-Campus Study & Exchanges
Starbuck Center 202
1.518.580.5355
khjansen@skidmore.edu

http://cms.skidmore.edu/ocse/programs/paris_fall

SKIDMORE
COLLEGE

PARIS FALL SEMINAR

Writing Paris



A faculty-led study abroad program
offered for fall 2009.

THE PLACE

Paris has been called the “eternal city” and “the city of light.” More than a geographical place, Paris seems to be a special state of mind. Rich in beauty and culture, it has inspired hundreds of essays by writers who hope to evoke its ambience and to reflect on their own responses. James Baldwin and F. Scott Fitzgerald, Jack Kerouac and Ernest Hemingway, Edith Wharton and Gertrude Stein – these writers and many more have written about art, night life, food, architecture, parks, and churches. *Writing Paris* invites students to join centuries of writers whose creativity and expression have been nurtured in Paris.



THE SEMINAR

The seminar, *Writing Paris*, will be directed by Professor Linda Simon of the Department of English. *Writing Paris* gives students a chance to join the many generations of writers who have found inspiration in this cosmopolitan city, home to some of the most famous novelists, poets, and essayists in the world. The featured courses are writing workshops: one focused on reviewing a wide variety of arts experiences; the other focused on travel essays. This seminar is developed for students with little or no French language and aims to provide an opportunity for students to experience Paris in a very special way. The program will make use of the incredible resources that Paris has to offer by integrating cultural activities and excursions into the core courses. Students live with French hosts to allow them to experience French life firsthand. In addition to Professor Simon, the Skidmore in Paris Resident Director and other staff are available throughout the semester to provide whatever support students might need.

THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The *Writing Paris* program is made up of these four 4-credit courses:

JPPF195 INTENSIVE ORAL & WRITTEN FRENCH (4 credits). Introductory French language focusing on practical phrases and comprehension. Taught in French by a Skidmore Center instructor.



People relaxing at the Luxembourg Gardens in Paris.

JPFL323 CONTEMPORARY FRENCH SOCIETY (4 credits). This course is a study of the institutions, customs, mentality, and priorities of the French people today. An attempt will be made to approach reality from the French point of view and to understand the causes of incomprehension and prejudice between our two peoples. Newspapers, magazines, visual documents, on-site visits and investigations will provide up-to-date information for discussions and for the preparation of students' dossiers on a variety of subjects. On-site visits include: The National Assembly and other monuments of historical and cultural interest in the Paris area. Taught in English by Skidmore Center instructor.

JPEN205 WRITING ARTS REVIEWS IN PARIS (4 credits). Paris offers abundant opportunities to encounter the arts: painting, sculpture, architecture, music, dance, museums, galleries, theater, opera. In this course, students will write reviews of a variety of performances, exhibitions, and events. We will read, analyze, and discuss arts reviews by professional writers to consider questions of authority, voice, audience, and purpose. The course will allow students to do more than “consume” arts experiences; we will ask how these

experiences help us to understand French culture and society. *Prerequisite: completion of college expository writing requirement.* (This course may be repeated for credit with a different topic.) Taught in English by Prof. Simon.

JPEN364W ADVANCED NONFICTION WRITING WORKSHOP: TRAVEL WRITING (4 credits). Using the rich trove of travel literature that already exists about Paris, students in this course will have an opportunity to analyze the themes and strategies of professional writers, and to apply what they have learned to their own travel essays. The readings will enrich students' experiences of being in Paris, while at the same time inspiring them to reflect about their own observations and interactions. We'll consider how traveling – and writing about traveling – shapes one's sense of self-discovery; how travel writing may serve as cultural criticism; and how travel essays invite readers to share a writer's journeys. Taught in English by Prof. Simon.



Paris' Quartier Latin (Latin Quarter) is known for its lively atmosphere.