

Sciences Po Paris – Various locations, France

Facts

- **Website:**
 - [Sciences Po](#)
 - [Sciences Po International](#)
- **Language of instruction:** English and French
- **Semester dates:**
 - Semester 1: Late-August – Mid-December
 - Semester 2: Mid-January – Mid-May

*Please note that semester dates may differ depending on Campus; you can find more details [here](#).
- **Campus choices:** This exchange covers all seven of Sciences Po's campuses. If you apply for this exchange, **you should be prepared to accept a place at any one of the campuses.**
- **Academic restrictions at a glance:** This exchange agreement is only open to students studying in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (CAHSS). This exchange is not suitable for students of **Economics** and **Philosophy**. Please see the *Academic Restrictions* section for more information.
 - *Please note: These are guidelines. It is your responsibility to research whether the partner provides appropriate courses for your degree programme*

About the University

The Paris Institute of Political Studies - more commonly referred to as Sciences Po – is one of the prestigious French Grandes Écoles. Founded in 1872, Sciences Po is widely regarded as France's leading university in the social sciences and is consistently ranked among the world's best institutions for Politics and International Studies. Sciences Po has approximately 14,000 students spread across seven multicultural campuses.

The Sciences Po University-wide exchange covers all seven of its campuses, each of which offers programmes focusing on different regions of the world:

Campus	Regional focus	Main teaching language	Language requirement
Dijon	European Programme, Central and Eastern Europe	French, English	French B2
Le Havre	Europe-Asia Programme, Asia and the Pacific	English	-

Menton	Middle Eastern and Mediterranean Programme	English, French	-
Nancy	European Programme, Franco-German concentration	French, English, German	French and/or German B2
Paris	General Programme	French, English	French B2 (only needed if taking classes in French)
Poitiers	Europe-Latin America Programme	French, English, Spanish	French B2
Reims	Europe-North America Programme, Europe-Africa Programme	English	-
Reims	Europe-Africa Programme	French, English	French B2

You can read more about each campus [here](#).

Selecting a Campus: Sciences Po will ask you to indicate your campus preferences at the point of application. You will then be allocated a campus based on availability. **Please note that placement at one of your preferred campuses is not guaranteed, and students applying under the Sciences Po general agreement should be prepared to be allocated to any one of the campuses.** They can only guarantee the Paris campus for students going through the subject-specific agreements (Politics and Law).

What to expect

Application process

You apply for study exchanges through SWAY. You can find out more about our [study exchange routes here](#), and more about the [application process here](#).

After applying, if you are allocated an exchange place at Sciences Po, you will be officially nominated by the European Programmes Team. Your host university will then provide you with your detailed application instructions. **You can ONLY apply to any exchange destination if you have been allocated a place there, and if you are officially nominated by us.**

Academics

For support with the academic side of your exchange, your best point of contact is your Exchange Coordinator, [found here](#). The Exchange Coordinator is a member of academic staff who will be a key contact throughout your exchange.

Course/ credit load	One full year of study should equate to 60 ECTS. One semester of study should equate to 30 ECTS.
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	<p>Sciences Po students should ensure that at least one of their course choices is worth at least 5 ECTS. You also cannot choose more than 30 ECTS per semester.</p> <p>For further information on credit and course requirements during your exchange please visit our page: Academic matters The University of Edinburgh</p>
<p>Courses available</p>	<p>On the Paris and Reims campuses, there is a specific range of courses for exchange students from which you must make you selections. You can find lists of these here: Exchange Programme on the Paris campus Exchange Programme on the Reims campus</p> <p>On all other campuses, all courses are open to exchange students. You can find the course catalogues here:</p> <p>Dijon campus website Menton campus website Poitiers campus website Nancy campus website</p>
<p>Course enrolment</p>	<p>Course registration is done online, in July for the first semester and in January for the second semester. To prepare your choice of courses, exchange students are invited to read the course descriptions provided on the website, taking careful note of pre-requisites (disciplinary and language requirements in particular).</p> <p>Please note: the course registration is on a 'first come, first served' basis. Students should ensure they check their Sciences Po email very regularly over the summer, so as not to miss information on course registration deadlines. Course selection is final and it can be difficult to add, change or drop courses so students should ensure they have carefully selected their courses in advance. Furthermore, please be aware that Sciences Po have a strict attendance policy.</p> <p>For information on how to register can be found here.</p> <p><i>**Please be aware, there may not be an up-to-date course catalogue available at this exchange destination. Please use the information available to get an idea about what you can study while on exchange**</i></p>
<p>Academic restrictions</p>	<p>This exchange agreement is only open to students studying in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (CAHSS). There are no Science and Engineering courses offered at Sciences Po. This exchange is not suitable for students of Economics and Philosophy.</p>

	<p>Students studying Politics, International Relations or Law should apply through the relevant subject-specific agreement with Sciences Po and NOT through this University-wide agreement.</p> <p>History students should not apply to the Menton campus if they are accepted.</p> <p>Undergraduate courses at Sciences Po cover six academic disciplines: Economics, History, Humanities (including Philosophy, Political Theory and Arts), International Relations, Law, and Political Science.</p> <p>Please note: These are guidelines. It is your responsibility to research whether the partner provides appropriate courses for your degree programme. Even if there are not restrictions on your degree subject, it does not mean that there are appropriate courses for you. Please check.</p>
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Accommodation

Finding accommodation that you are happy with on your year abroad is very important and there are often many aspects to consider when looking for somewhere to live.

Many host institutions do offer university accommodation but please do note, **this is not always guaranteed**. You may also need to pay for things like agent or administrative fees that is not always the case here in Edinburgh. It is a good idea to do your research so you do not have any surprises!

University accommodation	<p>Universities in France do not have their own student residences; these are run either by governmental agencies, or by private businesses and are not specific to one university. Sciences Po has some accommodation on the private market which is reserved for their students, and is available to apply for via their official housing website.</p> <p>A useful overview of accommodation options for Sciences Po students can be found on their Housing page as well as Housing: Paris and Housing: Regional Campuses.</p> <p>**Please note that finding accommodation in Paris has been very challenging for UoE exchange students in the past and you should take this into consideration when applying to study at Sciences Po**</p>
Private accommodation	<p>Guidance on alternative housing options can be explored on this page.</p>

Costs

It is important to budget for different expenses while on exchange. Your exchange destination may be more expensive than Edinburgh, and different expenses may be required. For example, rent may be higher; you might need to take public transport more; essentials may be more expensive or different, like sun cream in warmer climates or woolly socks in colder climates! These costs will add up so it is good to have an estimate of how much money you might need.

Estimated cost of living	<p>Estimated €1,250 per month for Paris, less for the regional campuses. Further details and information about costs of living on various Sciences Po campuses can be found on this page.</p> <p><i>Please note that you may also be required to pay for administrative fees at your host institution.</i></p>
Insurance	<p>Information about insurance can be found on Sciences Po's Health Services page.</p> <p>Furthermore, eligible students studying at one of our European partner institutions should apply for a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC).</p> <p>For up-to-date information on healthcare in France and using UK issued EHIC cards after Brexit please see UK Government's website.</p>
Tuition Fees	<p>While on exchange, you will continue to pay fees to the University of Edinburgh, as appropriate, and your fee status will determine how much you pay.</p> <p>Consult our webpage here and follow the link to consult the university's information on tuition fees for students studying abroad.</p>

Living

Employment	<p>Those with EU passports should not face any barriers to employment. Non-EU/EEA students face restrictions on the hours they can work and will need to apply for a work permit.</p> <p>For up-to-date information on working in France after Brexit please see UK Government's Guidance on Living in France</p>
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<p>Orientation</p>	<p>Orientation programmes are optional and vary by campus:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="587 255 1385 698"> <thead> <tr> <th>Campus</th> <th>Programme</th> <th>Cost</th> <th>Credit</th> <th>Mandatory /optional</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Paris</td> <td>Available here</td> <td>€250</td> <td>2 ECTS</td> <td>Optional</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reims</td> <td>Available here</td> <td>Free</td> <td>5 ECTS</td> <td>Optional</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other campuses</td> <td colspan="4">Please contact your campus for information</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Students on the Paris campus who do not attend the optional, fee-paying welcome week outlined above will have the opportunity to attend a free information session for exchange students upon arrival. More information about this will be provided by Sciences Po once you have been accepted by them.</p>	Campus	Programme	Cost	Credit	Mandatory /optional	Paris	Available here	€250	2 ECTS	Optional	Reims	Available here	Free	5 ECTS	Optional	Other campuses	Please contact your campus for information			
Campus	Programme	Cost	Credit	Mandatory /optional																	
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<p>Visas</p>	<p>The visa process will vary from country to country, and your own citizenship will influence the visa process you need to undertake. You must make sure to enter your host country on the appropriate visa.</p> <p>You can find more information on visas and residence permits on Sciences Po’s website here.</p> <p>Here in SWAY we cannot give specific visa advice. Please research using the relevant embassy and government websites for more information. There is more information on our webpage about things to consider regarding visas here.</p> <p>Once you have received an offer from a host institution, you should be given more advice from them about the visa processes.</p>																				
<p>Disability</p>	<p>Some destinations may be more accessible than others for disabled students. If you require any adjustments due to disability or specific learning difficulties or disabilities and you wish to study abroad please contact The European Programmes Team via email: europe.outgoing@ed.ac.uk.</p> <p>We will work together with you to explore the help available at your host institution. It may also be helpful if you discuss this with your Personal Tutor and the Disability Office as well.</p>																				

Passports	<p>Make sure that your passport will be in date for the entirety of your stay, and for any additional required time after the end of your exchange for entry requirements and visa purposes.</p> <p>If you need to apply for a new passport during the application process to your host institution, this may delay the application and visa processes.</p>
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What other students had to say about the University

The best part

“The academic environment was incredible, there were very varied course choices and students and tutors were very supportive. There were also a lot of opportunities relating to work events, networking etc that were very unique to Sciences Po.”

“I love their academic focus, the resources, the library. The teachers and the beautiful campus.”

“Prestigious, holistic and interdisciplinary courses, interesting professors, great opportunities and alumni.”

Advice for future exchange students

“Course registration is first come first serve and is very stressful. Make sure you are free on the day of registration and remember to take into account the hour difference.”

“Prepare - a lot of the stresses of year abroad can be alleviated by preparing in advance. From the moment you apply through to the end of the year when your finishing your exchange.

If you think you want to go and have any interest just apply and see what comes from your application. It's an amazing year away, you learn so much and discover a university experience outside that of just Edinburgh's.”

“If you want to go abroad, go! You'll regret another year in Edinburgh more than you will going to your second-choice.”

Accommodation

“Try not to be stressed out by it all. Seek advice from past exchange students and keep in mind that safe places to live are one of the most important things.”

“ There are no student halls for Sciences Po and private rental in Paris is very expensive. Start looking as soon as possible.”

“ Keep searching! Private agencies are good. Only sign a flat once they've let you or a trusted person view it.”

General advice

“ Keep an open mind. An exchange is better than no exchange. Where ever you go there will be a bunch of new students all in a new place all trying to make the most of it and if you go in with an open mindset you'll probably come out having loved it and discover a university experience outside that of just Edinburgh's.”

“ It will be hard but it is so worth the experience. It will teach students to be resilient, adaptable, independent and mature.”