GSPIA International Experience

**Student exchange program with the Paris School of International Affairs, Sciences Po**

In 2013, the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA) signed a student exchange agreement with the Paris School of International Affairs at Sciences Po, allowing for four students enrolled in the Public and International Affairs (PIA) program to study at this institution during the fall term of the second year of the program. Only students selected by GSPIA are able to participate in this exchange program.

**Number of places:** Four places per academic year are reserved for students enrolled in the PIA program. The selection committee reserves the right to refuse to select any applicants if none of them meet the selection criteria or the requirements of the PIA program.

**Deadline to submit applications:** January 10, at 3:30 p.m., every year. Applications must be sent by email to the GSPIA (api@uOttawa.ca)

**Application content:** In their application, students must include a letter of interest stating their reasons for applying and how they hope to benefit from the exchange, along with a CV (two-page maximum). Students who submit an incomplete or late application will be not be considered. Without exception, all applicants for this exchange must be enrolled in, and complete, their capstone seminar during the winter term of their first year of the program.

**Selection process:** A selection committee, comprising three GSPIA professors, will review the applications and will select exchange students by means of a merit-based competitive process. The selection criteria will include academic achievement, motivation, how the student intends to benefit from the exchange, and the student’s ability to graduate within the deadlines prescribed by the PIA program. The selection committee members reserve the right to conduct interviews, but only if they consider that interviews are required. Only candidates who are enrolled in the capstone seminar during the winter term of their first year of the PIA program will be considered.

**Applicant selection:** Normally, the names of the applicants selected will be announced during the last week of January. The selection committee reserves the right to postpone this announcement if necessary.

**Tuition fees:** Exchange students will pay University of Ottawa tuition fees as if they were attending uOttawa.

**Financial support and immigration issues:** The International Office provides a mobility scholarship of $1000 to exchange students. The GSPIA does not provide financial support. Therefore, students must cover the cost of their exchange and take steps to purchase airfare, find housing, resolve any day-to-day issues and purchase the
required medical and accident insurance. Students will also need to make arrangements to obtain a student visa.

**Exchange process:** Once selected, students must [complete the administrative procedures required by the International Office](#).

**Length of the exchange:** The exchange is for one term, namely during the fall term of the second year of the program.

**Number of courses:** Students may take up to three courses at the Paris School of International Affairs. They must all be graduate-level courses and each must require a minimum of 24 hours contact. However, students may request permission to take additional graduate-level courses. The Graduate Studies Coordinator reserves the right to refuse permission if the requested course is not justified or does not meet the requirements of the PIA program.

**Course approval:** Courses must be approved by the Coordinator, Graduate Studies at the GSPIA. To obtain this approval, students must provide the coordinator with course outlines and detailed course descriptions. This information must be sent to the coordinator by email no later than one week before the deadline for submissions set by the International Office. Students may submit a maximum of five courses for approval and then choose three approved course from among the five submitted (unless permission for more courses has been granted).

**PIA program requirements:** Before registering for courses at the Paris School of International Affairs, selected students must have successfully completed all core PIA courses, a capstone seminar and one elective course. The PIA program coordinator reserves the right to deny participation in the exchange program if these requirements are not met.

**Course credit conversion:** Successful completion of three courses of 24 hours each at the Paris School of International Affairs will be converted into six PIA course credits, which will be credited towards the PIA program.

**Combining international experiences:** Students may wish to combine their international experiences in the following manner:

One international student exchange (Paris or Kobe or another international exchange arranged through the International Office);

plus a summer school course (Oxford or Jerusalem or another summer school);

plus an international work term (internship at a Canadian embassy or at the Washington Center);

for a maximum of three international experiences.

**Applying for both Kobe and Paris:** Students may apply for both exchanges, but must submit complete applications for each exchange. For information purposes only, students who are applying for both must indicate which destination is their first choice in both letters of interest. The selection committee reserves the right to deny the student’s first choice. Even though students may apply for both exchanges, these two exchange programs cannot be combined.

**Applying for Paris and for another uOttawa exchange program:** Although students may apply for the Paris program and for another uOttawa exchange program, they must submit a complete application for each exchange. Students who apply for two programs must indicate, for information purposes only, which of the two programs is their first choice in the letter of interest they include with their Paris application. Even though students may apply for both exchange programs, two such exchange programs cannot be combined.