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# KEDGE BS

## Bordeaux Campus, HT16

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Growing up in Asia, I wanted to stay in Europe. KEDGE, being a triple accredited business school, seemed like a good option. The fact that Bordeaux makes great wine and is a UNESCO city didn't hurt either.

### The University

The university is located in the south of Bordeaux and it takes approximately 30 minutes to get there from the city by tram. The system in France is quite different to that of Sweden's. In terms of education, I took seven courses (French included) each of which were worth 5 ECTS. Most courses had a final exam at the end of the semester - some of which also had midterms.

Since we were enrolled in the KEDGE Bachelor program, we didn't get to choose the courses we took. Some were surprisingly interesting, while others were, quite frankly, mind numbingly boring. In my opinion, the quality of teaching is average and exams were easy. The classroom environment made me feel like I was back in high school where students were talking over the teacher and goofing around. I did appreciate the small classes though. Most of the teachers were helpful and had a fairly good level of English (most of them weren't French).

### Student Life & Housing

At KEDGE, there's a club called Melting Potes which is similar to SBS's Buddy Program. They help you with a lot of the paperwork when you arrive - opening a French bank account and finding housing. There's a lot of paperwork that needs to be done and it can be quite a hassle, especially since they want hard copies of documents so email attachments won't suffice. But unlike SBP, Melting Potes' 'program' only lasts one week (or two for master students).

Finding accommodation is a difficult wherever you are, and although Melting Potes does provide some help, it's first-come-first-served. Leboncoin is the French blocket and a lot of housing ads are posted but you'll usually need a French guarantor who can guarantee your monthly rent payments. There are some housing agencies that can help but if you're really desperate, airbnb is a good option. Highly recommend that you live in the city - between Victoire and Quinconces - or near the B tram line.

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As for the nightlife, it's also beneficial to live in the city since that's where most of the parties happen - Quai de Paludate is a popular street. The tram stops at 1 and doesn't start again until 5:30 so living within walking or biking distance is great.

## Life in Bordeaux

The weather during the autumn is quite pleasant. It's quite hot in September (~30 degrees) but cools down to ~4 in December. Cost of living (incl. housing) is cheaper than in Stockholm (approx. €700-750 per month), and the food is fantastic.

I came to Bordeaux speaking zero French and although one semester is not enough to learn it - unless you already speak a Latin language - the people there are quite forgiving and will try to help you in English.

Definitely visit the vineyards, wine museums, Dune du Pilat, the seaside, and do go to the Sunday markets. Bordeaux is a gorgeous city and you'll no doubt meet great people and make memories that'll last a lifetime.

