Practical guide for international students

2023-2024

You have chosen to study at Avignon University. The aim of this practical guide is to help you prepare for your stay before you leave, and to assist you with the formalities involved in settling in when you arrive.
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Avignon University

Avignon University is one of the oldest universities in France. Founded in 1303, it was abolished during the French Revolution in 1793 and became a full university again in 1984.

It is multidisciplinary and on a human scale, with 7,500 students and 700 staff. It offers more than a hundred courses spread over two campuses.

Hannah Arendt, the main campus, is located in the heart of the city centre, while Jean-Henri Fabre, the science and technology campus, is located on the Agroparc technology park.

2 campus
• HANNAH ARENDT
• JEAN-HENRI FABRE

5 components
• UFR Arts, Letters and Languages
• UFR Sciences, Technologies, Health
• Humanities and Social Sciences Department
• UFR Law, Economics, Management
• IUT

2 identity axes
• Agro&Sciences
• Culture, Heritage & Digital Societies

4 areas
• Arts, Literature and Languages
• Science, Technology, Health
• Human and Social Sciences
• Law, Economics, Management

+ more

100
route training

7 500
students

17
laboratories and research teams

10 %
of students international

700
staff (administrative, teaching and research staff)

42
associations students
Before you leave

You must have applied for a course on the ETUDES EN FRANCE platform and have been accepted by Avignon University.

Once you have been accepted, you must apply for a student visa.

Only for students from outside the European Union (EU):
Copy of your up-to-date vaccination certificate or a medical certificate stating vaccination dates.

DEADLINES

You won’t be able to enrol at the University if you arrive after the beginning of October, because courses start in September, and continuous assessment means that exams can be taken at any time during the semester, and being too late means that you’ll miss assessments.
Choice of courses, marking system and exams

Choose your courses

Visit the Avignon University institutional website:
UNIV-AVIGNON.FR
Click on Courses then Syllabus. Degrees are listed by field of study.

The detailed list of courses can be found by clicking on the Syllabus tab.

After your administrative registration, you will need to complete your pedagogical registration

The normal workload for a full-time student, whatever their field and level of study is 30 ECTS credits per semester.

Grading systems and attendance

Courses are organised into modules called Unités d’enseignement (UE).

Students are marked out of 20 points, with 0/20 being the worst mark and 20/20 the best. The minimum mark to pass an exam is 10/20.

Important
Undergraduate courses are assessed on the basis of continuous assessment only.

Attention
Attendance is compulsory. You may be absent a maximum of 3 times and these absences must be duly justified to your teacher.

For certain Master’s level courses, replacement exams are possible, provided that you have taken the first exam or have a valid justification.

Open teaching units (UEO)

These courses do not give a numerical grade on 20. Only the corresponding ECTS credits are awarded in the event of a pass, and only the words Validated or Validated will appear on your transcript. Not validated.

Each UEO is worth 2 ECTS credits.

Exchange students may choose a maximum of 2 UEOs per semester, i.e. 4 ECTS credits. One of these UEOs may be the UEO ‘French for non-French-speaking students’ (see French courses section), while the other may be chosen from the UEO Sport or UEO Culture.

Languages of instruction

Courses are taught in French, with some exceptions.

List of courses taught in English

Your level of French

You must have a minimum level of B1 French, B2 for Masters courses.

European self-assessment grid to estimate your level

All you need to know on ECTS credits
Visa studies

European Economic Area

If you are a student from the European Economic Area, you do not need a visa, whatever the length of your stay.

Outside the European Economic Area

If you are a national of a country outside the European Economic Area, a study visa is required (to be requested from the French Consulate in your country) for any stay of more than 3 months.

If you live in a country in the European Economic Area and have a residence permit, a study visa is also compulsory.

Buddy system

International sponsorship is a personalised welcome scheme for foreign students on individual mobility or exchange programmes who have recently arrived in France, Avignon University.

During the first 2 months of their stay (September and October), the "buddies" welcome, accompany and guide the new international students to help them successfully integrate into their place of study and the city.

Free scheme

Volunteer work for the local buddies, free of charge for their international buddies.

Discovering other cultures

Opening up to other horizons, other cultures and sharing your experience.

Making friends

The buddy system is also an opportunity to meet new people.

MAKE CONTACT

To be put in touch with a French student in your field of study, create an account on the Livin’France platform.
CANCELLATION

BOOKING INFORMATION

Give as much notice as possible and have the deposit refunded, with supporting documents (in the event of late withdrawal without a valid reason, the deposit will not be refunded).

You must have taken out

You should also take out “multi-risques habitation” (comprehensive home insurance) covering water and fire damage, as well as “civil liability” insurance before moving into your home.

GOOD TO KNOW

The Livin’France platform helps you with many administrative procedures and offers insurance comparisons and a number of housing offers.

HEALTH
INSURANCE

If you do not have a European health insurance card, you must join the student social security scheme. WARNING: it is very important to take out complementary health insurance (mutuelle).

CROUS

Please note that only international students at Master’s level may be eligible for CROUS accommodation. Otherwise, private accommodation is available on the CROUS Lokaviz platform.

GOOD TO KNOW

The Livin’France platform helps you with many administrative procedures and offers insurance comparisons and a number of housing offers.

Deposito/PL

If you are eligible for the Visale guarantee and housing assistance from the CAF, create an account on the Livin’France platform: https://livin-france.com/univ-avignon/login

Terms and conditions
Accommodation is rented under a lease (contract) for a defined period, with a notice period. If you leave the property before the term specified in your contract, you must give the owner written notice, respecting the period of notice specified in the contract.

The insurers

Heyme MATMUT

Insurance comparator on the Livin’France platform
**Intergenerational housing**

The association **La logitude** puts elderly people in touch with students looking for a room. The aim is to keep companionship for the elderly person, such as eating with them. The price of the room is €200 per month, including charges.

**La Logitude**

**Self-contained accommodation in the private sector**

The **CROUS Lokaviz platform** allows you to look for your accommodation.

**Lokaviz**

Look for information in free newspapers, in shops and on ad sites:

- Le Bon Coin
- PAP
- Paruvendu

**Private housing platforms on specialised websites:**

- Adele
- Immo Jeune
- Housing
- Anywhere

**Shared accommodation**

Check out **La Carte des Colocs**, a free, easy-to-use national flat-sharing website.

**The Roommates Map**

Other accommodation solutions on the Campus France website.

**Campus France**

**Health and insurance**

If you have a disability or special needs, please let us know before you arrive so that we can organise your mobility in the best possible conditions.

**Health insurance**

Students from the European Union: you must apply for the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), which is valid for the duration of your stay.

Students from outside the European Union: register with **Ameli**

**Important**

You must take out insurance to cover costs that are not covered by French social security (hospitalisation, specialist consultations, etc.). You have the option of taking out insurance in your home country or take out a French mutual insurance company.

**GOOD TO KNOW**

**VISALE system**

If you need a guarantor to obtain your accommodation, VISALE is a free guarantee scheme. **VISALE**

**Personal Housing Assistance (APL)**

If you wish to apply for APL, the CAF (Caisse d’Allocations Familiales) will assess your entitlement.

+33(0)8 10 29 29 29 **CAF**

**Students with disabilities**

To obtain accommodation adapted to your disability, contact the CROUS social services department.

In some establishments, there are specialised services for students with disabilities (accommodation, transport and study assistance).
Your arrival at Avignon

The university is closed at weekends. If you don’t have access to your own accommodation, you can spend the night in one of the hotels in the city centre or in a youth hostel.

_The International House (Maison de l’International)_

The MDI is open from Monday to Thursday

Campus Hannah Arendt - City centre site
Office 0E44 (ground floor of the old building)

**Opening hours**

9am to 12pm / 2pm to 4pm

Immigration formalities

If you come from outside the European Economic Area, apply for your visa to be validated as soon as you arrive in France.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERMANENCES MAISON DE L’INTERNATIONAL</th>
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<tr>
<td>AT YOUR SERVICE FOR ALL YOUR ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS</td>
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</table>

From 4th September until mid-November, you will find a single information point on our premises (Hannah Arendt campus - city centre site), where you can submit your application for a residence permit and where you will get support.

Outside this period, the single information point is open all year round during the Maison de l’International opening hours.
University calendar

The first half-year starts at the beginning of September and runs until the end of January.
The second half-year starts at the end of January and finishes at the beginning of June.
This timetable is subject to variations, depending on the faculty or department and the level of study (bachelor’s or master’s).

The official academic calendar for 2022/2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
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<th>Semester 2</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welcome programme</td>
<td>4 September 2023</td>
<td>Welcome programme</td>
<td>23 January 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start of courses</td>
<td>from 5 September 2023</td>
<td>Start of courses</td>
<td>end of January 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of course and exams</td>
<td>January 2024</td>
<td>End of course and exams</td>
<td>May 2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Important
It is compulsory to attend classes from the start of the semester. If you have more than 3 absences in a course, you will not be able to validate it.

Holiday dates
2023/2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holiday</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toussaint</td>
<td>30 Oct - 3 Nov 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noël</td>
<td>23 Dec 2023 - 8 Jan 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter holidays</td>
<td>26 Feb - 1st March 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring holidays</td>
<td>22 - 26 April May 2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Provisional timetable

At Avignon University

The staff at the Maison de l'International will guide you through the administrative procedures at Avignon Université.

Welcome programme

Every year, the International Relations Office organises a welcome week for new international students.

It takes place on the Hannah Arendt campus in the city centre during the First week preceding the start of the semester. Attendance is free and strongly recommended.

Programme: Breakfast, welcome, integration activities, picnic, city tour, weekend excursion

French courses

We offer you a free 12-hour French course at the beginning of the first semester during the welcome programme.

A free French course "UEO French for non-French speaking students is offered every semester for 1h30 per week. It can give you 2 ECTS credits. This course is not graded."
Services

Catering

Each campus has a university restaurant open only for lunch (a full meal costs €3.30). The cafeteria next to the university restaurant also serves sandwiches and salads at affordable prices. You can pay with your student card, which is also a prepaid card. Izy, enabling payment for other services.

Access to services and tools digital

Digital tools

All students have the opportunity to take part in a “digital tools” tutorial session in the computer room scheduled in their timetable. We strongly advise you to take this training when you arrive.

Computer rooms

Computer rooms are available and are generally open from 8am to 7.30pm. You can use your own computer there. Room 2w32 (Hannah Arendt campus, North building) is set up so that you can use your computer in good conditions. Opening times are posted outside office 2w25.

WIFI access

It is possible to access the network via wireless connections (Wi-Fi) at various locations in the university (BU, cafeteria, recreation hall, etc.).

Area code

To call from abroad to France, you need to remove the 0 from the beginning of the number and precede it with the French dialling code, 33.
To call France from France, you need to always dial all 10 digits, even if you are in the same city.

Fixed lines in France

Issue starts with 01/02/03/04/05

Mobile lines in France

Start of issue with 06/07

Freephone numbers

Number begins with 0800/0806 and 809

GOOD TO KNOW

The 4-digit numbers correspond to service numbers and may be free, paid or premium rate. Only numbers beginning with 1 or 3 are free.


Services d'aides

**CROUS social assistance**

**Hannah Arendt Campus**
Site centre-ville - South Building - 1st floor
Office hours Monday to Friday
9am to 12pm E 1.30pm to 4.30pm

**Jean-Henri Fabre Campus**
Agroparc
Weekly presence on campus
☎ +33(0)4 90 80 65 20

**Help for students in difficulty**

**Relais Handicap**
Campus Hannah Arendt - City centre site
office 0W18
✉ relais-handicap@univ-avignon.fr
☎ +33(0)4 90 16 25 62
See the website

If you are disabled (even temporarily), a service is available to enable you to follow the courses.

**Psychologist**
Free, confidential meetings with a psychologist are organised.
☎ +33(0)4 90 16 65 20

**Centres medico-psychological**

**CMP**
4 rue Vallayer - 84000 Avignon
☎ +33(0)4 90 87 38 45

**CMP**
164 bd de la fraternité - 84140 Montfavet
☎ +33(0)4 90 23 98 38

**St Lazare II**
160 av de la Synagogue - 84000 Avignon
☎ +33(0)4 90 85 01 21

**University Preventive Medicine Service**
Campus Hannah Arendt - Site centre-ville
Ground floor of the old building, entrance opposite room OE31.

**Contact**

secretariat
✉ mail: medecine-preventive@univ-avignon.fr
☎ +33(0)4 90 16 28 23

nurse
✉ mail: medecine-preventive@univ-avignon.fr
☎ +33(0)4 90 16 25 72

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**Practice a cultural activity**

Avignon University offers a range of cultural activities throughout the academic year.
☎ Visit the dedicated page

A Culture Patch allows you to see various shows (theatre, music, dance, cinema) for just €5 or €6 per person. This card will be given to you on arrival.

**Practice a sport**

Throughout the year, the clubs at Avignon Université offer a wide range of professionally supervised activities, as well as tournaments in a wide range of sports and outdoor activities for a day, a weekend or a course.
☎ Visit the dedicated page

For all sports activities, you will be asked to pay a contribution of €20 per year when you register.

**Student associations**

Find the list of student associations at Avignon University. Consult the dedicated page

**A place to meet and find out more**

Local Student Life Network (REVE)
Campus Hannah Arendt - City centre site
Located on the ground floor in the left wing of the South building.

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<table>
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<th>COST OF LIVING</th>
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| **Bus**
| Single ticket 1.40€
| Day pass 3.50€
| Monthly for young people (under 25) 26€
| **Restaurant**
| 12€ - 30€
| **Lavomatic**
| 3€ – 5€
| **Doctor**
| 25€
| **Café**
| University cafeteria 0.70€
| In the city centre ± 1.50€
| **Water**
| 1.5L 1.3€
| **Bread**
| 1.5€ – 2€
| **Milk**
| 0.7€ – 1€
| **Rice**
| 1€ – 2€

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Practical guide for international students / Avignon University
Help administrative

The Maison de l'International will guide and support you through the various administrative procedures involved.

Programme

Every year, the International Relations Department organises a welcome week for new international students.

It takes place on the Hannah Arendt campus in the city centre during the week before the start of the academic year, before the start of each course. Attendance is free and strongly recommended. All students who have applied through the Etudes en France procedure receive an email informing them of the dates of the welcome week. A breakfast followed by...

French courses

We offer a free French language course, "UEO français pour étudiants non francophones", every semester for 17 hours a week. It can earn you 2 ECTS credits. This course is not graded.
HOUSE OF INTERNATIONAL

Campus Hannah Arendt
City centre site
74 rue Louis Pasteur
84029 Avignon Cedex 1 - FRANCE

International Relations Department

+33 (0)4 90 16 29 89
mdi@univ-avignon.fr

UNIV-AVIGNON/International