

1. Where and when did you study abroad?

I studied abroad in Paris from September to the end of December at ISCOM, a school focused on communication and media.

2. What KEA program did you attend at the time?

At the time, I was enrolled in the Entrepreneurship and Design program at KEA (Copenhagen School of Design and Technology).

3. What classes did you take during your semester abroad? Please briefly explain what each class was about.

During my semester at ISCOM, I took several diverse classes:

Marketing: This class covered the fundamentals of marketing strategies, consumer behavior, and digital marketing trends.

Communication: We explored various communication theories and practices, focusing on effective messaging across different media.

Artificial Intelligence: This course introduced us to the basics of AI and its applications in marketing and communication.

Pop Culture: We analyzed the impact of pop culture on society and how it influences marketing strategies.

Academic Experience:

1. How helpful was the receiving school in the process of choosing classes and settling you in?

The receiving school, ISCOM, was incredibly helpful. They provided a comprehensive orientation program that guided us through the class selection process and helped us settle in. The staff was always available to answer questions and assist with any challenges we faced.

2. What classes/study experiences did you find the most rewarding? Why?

I found the Marketing and Communication classes to be the most rewarding. They provided practical skills and insights that I could directly apply to my studies back at KEA. The projects we worked on allowed me to collaborate with classmates from different backgrounds, which enriched my learning experience.

3. What classes/study experiences did you find least relevant or least valuable to you? Why?

While I enjoyed all of my classes, I found the Pop Culture course to be the least relevant to my specific interests in entrepreneurship and design. Although it was fascinating, I felt that it did not align closely with my career goals.

4. What classes would you advise other KEA students going to the receiving school to choose or not to choose?

I would highly recommend the Marketing and Communication classes to other KEA students, as they offer valuable insights and practical applications. Conversely, I would advise caution with the Pop Culture class if your focus is strictly on entrepreneurship or design, as it may not provide the same level of relevance to those fields.

How was the application process?

The application process was quite smooth overall.

What did KEA help you with?

KEA provided me with guidance throughout the application process. They helped with necessary paperwork, ensured I understood the requirements, and offered support regarding visa applications.

What help did you receive from your school abroad?

At ISCOM in Paris, the administration was very supportive. They assisted with course selection and orientation, making sure I felt welcomed and informed about the school and city.

Did you have any practical difficulties settling down at your destination?

Initially, I faced some challenges adjusting to a new city and culture, but I managed well overall.

How helpful was the receiving school in this process?

The receiving school was incredibly helpful. They organized orientation sessions, provided information about local resources, and connected me with other international students who were going through the same transition.

Where did you live?

I lived in a student apartment close to the school.

Was it difficult to find accommodation?

Finding accommodation was a bit challenging due to high demand, but with the help of ISCOM's recommendations and some online resources, I was able to secure a place.

Was it expensive?

Yes, living in Paris can be quite expensive compared to Copenhagen, but I managed to find a reasonably priced apartment that suited my needs.

What kind of expenses did you have in general?

My main expenses included rent, groceries, transportation, and leisure activities.

Did you spend more or less money than you budgeted with?

I spent slightly more than I had initially budgeted for, primarily due to higher living costs and the occasional splurge on experiences in the city. However, I believe the extra expenses were worth it for the rich experiences I had during my semester.

Cultural/Personal Experience Reflection

Challenges Experienced Culturally While Abroad:

During my semester in Paris at ISCOM, I faced several cultural challenges. One of the main difficulties was the language barrier. While I had some knowledge of French, I found that navigating daily interactions and academic discussions could be quite challenging at times. Additionally, adapting to the different academic environment and teaching styles was a bit of a hurdle. The emphasis on group work and presentations was different from my experience at KEA in Copenhagen. The receiving school, ISCOM, was incredibly supportive throughout this process. They offered language resources, cultural workshops, and peer mentoring programs that helped me adjust. The staff was approachable and always willing to assist, which made the transition smoother.

Best Cultural/Personal Experience:

One of the highlights of my time in Paris was attending a local pop culture festival. It was an immersive experience that allowed me to engage with the vibrant Parisian culture, meet new people, and explore various forms of artistic expression. Additionally, the opportunity to take classes in diverse subjects such as marketing and AI broadened my perspective and provided me with valuable insights that I could apply to my studies in entrepreneurship.

and design back at KEA.

Advice for Other KEA Students Going to Study Abroad:

My advice for fellow KEA students heading to study abroad is to fully embrace the experience. Be open to trying new things, whether it's food, cultural activities, or social events. Take advantage of the resources offered by the school, and don't hesitate to ask for help when you need it. Building relationships with local students and other international peers can greatly enrich your experience. Lastly, make time to explore the city and immerse yourself in the local culture—this is where you'll find some of the most memorable moments!