



# HONORS PROGRAM IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
Bloomington

## Nine Sites



Brest Ciudad Real Krefeld



León Oviedo San Luis Potosí



Saumur St. Brieuc Valencia

## Four Countries

- ◆ France
- ◆ Germany
- ◆ Mexico
- ◆ Spain



Saumur City Hall, France

## IUHPFL

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## IUHPFL—A Once-in-a-Lifetime Adventure

Since 1962, the Indiana University Honors Program in Foreign Languages (IUHPFL) has offered high school students in the State of Indiana the unique opportunity to participate in a "Total Immersion" foreign language program in France, Germany, Mexico and Spain. This Program not only significantly advances language skills and fosters cross-cultural understanding, it provides students with one of the most valuable and unforgettable experiences of their lives.

### Total Immersion Experience

- ◆ *Seven weeks in June/July*
- ◆ *Language Commitment—students pledge to speak only the language of the host culture*
- ◆ *Living with a host family*
- ◆ *Intensive language classes, theatre, music and sports*
- ◆ *Excursions to regional attractions, some overnight*
- ◆ *Cultural highlights*
- ◆ *Experiences and impressions that last a lifetime*
- ◆ *Lifelong cross-cultural understanding*

### Benefits

Foreign language learning and the participation in the Honors Program offer students and parents proven, research-based\* results, including improved English and math skills, improved test scores at the high school and college level, and significant tuition savings as most students test into fifth semester college language instruction (based on research done at Indiana University, Bloomington). Intangible benefits include personal growth, increased maturity, self-confidence, and a sense of accomplishment.

*"Our expectations as parents were fully realized. Sarah gained self-confidence and became more introspective. She made lasting friendships, both Mexican and American... Your child will have a great summer while being shepherded by the faculty and the local family. Expect your great kid to come home an ever greater young adult."*

Craig M. Stoops, Parent

### Program Overview

The Program combines academic language learning, cultural instruction, host family living and exciting, educational excursions into a once-in-a-lifetime experience. On weekday mornings, students study grammar, conversation, phonetics, culture and literature in the foreign language while participating in diverse activities in the afternoon. A significant component and one of the most important cultural experiences of the Program is the placement of students with local host families.

Participants are highly motivated, 16-18 years old, and have undergone an intensive selection process, including language testing, a detailed application and multiple appraisals of academic potential, degree of maturity, self-discipline and willingness to adapt to the host culture.

\*American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)



Ciudad Real, Spain



Cologne, Germany



City of the Gods, Mexico



Guanajuato, Mexico

***“My summer with IU Honors was the best summer of my life. Truthfully, spending an entire summer in a new country where you can practice your language first-hand is a dream come true.”***

Laurel C., Class of 2008,  
León, Spain

### Participating Cities

Depending on their foreign language of choice, IUHPFL students are placed in nine locations in four countries. They have had a minimum of three years foreign language instruction and are able to communicate verbally and in writing at a basic level. Locations include Brest, Saumur and St. Briec in France, Krefeld in Germany, San Luis Potosí or Mérida in Mexico and Ciudad Real, León, Oviedo and Valencia in Spain. Locations have been carefully selected and the IUHPFL has grown into a significant and valuable component of each city's lifestyle and the hundreds of host families that participate on a yearly basis.

***“ Take the chance. Do this program. If you are a student...debating whether to take the leap of faith and plunge into a culture unlike yours, to speak in a foreign language daily, to make new friendships—do it! It was the best choice I ever made.”*** Hannah I., Class of 2010, Saumur, France



Madrid, Spain

### Host Family Experience

A unique benefit of the Program and an important component of the cultural and language experience is the accommodation of students in host families. For many students, the host family becomes their second home and a foundation for lifelong friendship. Students learn how local families live and how to adapt to a different household. They partake in breakfasts and dinners with the host family, experience regional cuisine and culture, and often try new activities with their host parents, all the while pledging the Program's Language Commitment.



Cathedral in Santiago de Compostela near Oviedo, Spain



Trip to Angers, France

### Excursions

All students participate in several unforgettable—including overnight—excursions to cultural and historical sites. French students visit Normandy and Paris, German students tour Berlin and take excursions to Cologne and Aachen, and Spanish students travel to Mexico City, Mexico or Madrid, Spain. Aside from exploring cultural landmarks, students discover their host towns through city tours and museums, castle and café visits and local excursions with their host families.



Blue Man in Berlin, Germany

### Behavioral Expectations

To ensure success, well-being and safety, students are required to follow specific guidelines. By signing a detailed Honor Code, they agree to abide by and follow certain norms without exception. Honor Code violations are noted by onsite instructors and reported to the student's parents, the host family and IUHPFL staff in Bloomington. Repeated and egregious offenses may lead to immediate disqualification from the Program.

### Program Fees

The IUHPFL is funded through student participation fees. Selected students may qualify for financial aid. In addition, other scholarships and awards are available to offset costs. Students are also encouraged to fundraise. Program fees range from \$3,500 to \$4,500 and include all instruction, host family stays, and all Program-related excursions and expenses. Not included are travel expenses to and from the host country — which may range from \$1,000-\$1,300 — and personal expenses.

***“I still keep in touch with family members and friends I made in Germany...that trip was something that changed my life for the better, and I will never forget it.”***

Alexander B., Class of 2010,  
Krefeld, Germany



City Tour Krefeld, Germany