

# Institut de Touraine

## Live and learn French in the heart of France



*Torterie Hall (main building of Institut de Touraine), the Loire river in Tours, Rabelais Hall (2nd building of the Institut)*

Year 2017

## INSTITUT DE TOURAINE

[Institut de Touraine](#) is a private higher education institution. It was founded in 1912. Our school is specialized in teaching **French as a foreign language and French culture**. We operate under a cooperation agreement with the University François-Rabelais of Tours. Over 2400 students (representing 80 countries) and 100 teachers come each year to learn French or didactics.

Institut de Touraine is located in [Tours](#), a city of 300,000 inhabitants (including 30,000 students in higher education), **only one hour away from Paris** by train. The school is located in the city center and accommodation is usually within walking distance. The Loire Valley is famous for its Renaissance castles, its medieval towns and its gastronomy. It is part of the [UNESCO](#) World Heritage List.

With more than 20 full-time faculty members, the Institute offers a wide choice of courses for students over 16 and juniors (in closed groups). It offers vocational training for teachers of French as a foreign language. There are several course formats, from 15 to 22,5 hours per week.

Since 2007, the school has been awarded the "[Qualité FLE](#)" label by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The school obtained top grades for its label renewal in June 2015. Institut de Touraine is a member of [Groupe FLE](#), [CampusFrance](#) and [The Education Valley](#).

## STUDYING AT INSTITUT DE TOURAINE

We have significantly revamped our course offer in 2015-2016. The program and the duration of studies are defined upon registration, in accordance with the objectives of the students. We place the student at the center of the learning experience. We do our utmost to facilitate progress, in class and after class thanks to personal guidance.

The **standard course** (15h per week) is a general French class, alternating oral and reading / writing skills. There are morning classes, with two teachers for each group.

For **intensive courses** (22h30 per week), the following program is offered:

- A French language **standard course** (15h per week, morning class);
- A **phonetics course** (1h30 per week in half class, usually in language laboratory) to improve pronunciation and oral comprehension;
- 2 **tutorials** (3h per week, 1h30 for oral skills, 1h30 for reading/writing skills), to reinforce competences or to overcome difficulties;
- A 3h block that includes : **French culture** (civilization, literature, history of arts, songs, etc.), **French for specific purpose** (business French, international relations, gastronomy, fashion, etc.), **DEL F or DAL F exam preparation**, or **task-oriented units** (tutoring for service learning, advice on higher education or webzine).

Standard and intensive courses have 12 to 15 students per class. Starting dates are every Monday, with a minimum duration of two weeks. For **complete beginners** and **long stay courses** (over a month), please refer to the starting dates shown on the document « Course offer 2017 ».

The **combi course** enables students to associate a standard course with 3 hours of private tuition per week. The duration, objectives and content of the private lessons are highly flexible and adapted to the needs of the students.

The Institut de Touraine also offers seasonal courses: **DEL F B1 or B2 exam preparation** in springtime, a **discovery course** between June and September, to combine a French course with a cultural program (guided tours, wine tasting, cooking workshop, etc.), and lastly a **French immersion** course, on Saturday mornings.

All programs are organized through our own reference system and curricula, based on our long lasting experience and in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference.

Upon registration, students take on **online placement test** on the Internet.

Progress are constantly monitored thanks to regular assessments. Regardless of the duration of their stay, students are able to find programs that suit their levels and allow optimal learning progress.

Teachers and staff members are available daily to give **personal guidance** regarding the studies, advice on higher education in France or everyday life issues. Our **online learning platform** offers complementary material to the program.

Our **language resource center**, specialized in French as a foreign language is available to all students. The library and the media center are open every afternoon on weekdays, to further one's studies or to feed one's curiosity. At the media center, tutors are available every afternoon to guide students.

Institut de Touraine is an official **examination center**. Students can sit **DELF, DALF or TEF exams** while they are studying at Institut de Touraine. This is a definite advantage if students wish to pass an official exam of French while in France. Course units offered with the intensive course and DELF preparation courses prepare students for these exams.

**Service learning** is available for students who want to get involved in the local community: NGOs, tutoring for children, etc. Volunteering activities are followed by a teacher and can contribute to extra credits in the program. Students can also contribute to the Institute's **webzine** during their studies. These different activities give great opportunities to practice French language in context.

Institut de Touraine has a cooperation agreement with the **Université François Rabelais of Tours**. Our curricula are reviewed by university professors. Our instructors teach at the University of Tours. Thanks to our closed links with the university and its department of linguistics, our pedagogy is constantly updated. This academic supervision is a guarantee of quality for our students.

## **THE CAMPUS**

The school is in the city center, only 2 minutes away (by foot) from the medieval district and the shopping area.

The Institute occupies 3 buildings next to one another, which include:

- 30 classrooms with interactive whiteboards or PCs,
- 6 language laboratories,
- 1 multimedia laboratory
- A language resource center,
- Wi-Fi access
- A computer room with 30 PCs
- 2 rooms equipped with piano, table football, games...
- A cafeteria with vending machines
- A courtyard planted with trees, with a ping-pong table, petanque area...

## **ACCOMMODATION**

Institut de Touraine can book any type of accommodation on behalf of its students:

- Host families
- Student dormitories or private residence
- Furnished studio flats
- Hotels.

Most accommodation is within walking distance from the Institute.

**Homestay** is always a popular choice, highly valued by students. Full immersion facilitates French language practice and cultural discovery. Over 200 carefully selected and monitored families welcome our students. There are two options for homestay: half board on weekdays and full board on weekends, or a single room with breakfast and access to the kitchen to cook one's meals.

**Students' residences** offer single rooms with private bathroom or studio flats. University residences are available only in the summer (from June until August). Private residences are open all year long.

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We schedule **guided excursions** with our art history teachers all throughout the year: Loire castles, Paris, Mount Saint Michel, etc.. Several times a month, activities such as **cooking** workshop, **wine** and cheese **tasting**, **movie screening** are organized... The Institut is a partner of the [Student Cultural Passport](#), to make the most of the cultural programming in the region (music, drama, exhibitions, ...). Students can thus practice the language and discover French culture outside of the classroom.

From June until August, our entertainment coordinator plans daily activities for the students, with a cultural and social program that caters for all needs. These activities allow students to mingle and to meet French people.

## YOUR CONTACTS AT INSTITUT DE TOURAINE

### Student life - Registration and accommodation booking

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### Studies - exams

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