

SciencesPo

Frequently Asked Questions

Should I complete the application in English or French?

Please complete the application in English, even if you can complete it in French. Make sure to translate the page into English if you need to upon logging in.

What type of photo should I use for the ID photo?

Please check to see if there are any specific guidelines on your application. If not, ideally, the photo should be a jpg or jpeg format, and it should be a clear headshot with nothing too distracting in the background. This photo will likely be used for your Sciences Po Student ID.

Do I really need an official transcript?

The transcript can be official or unofficial, as long as it has your name and the name of the university clearly indicated on the transcript. Please do not upload your degree audit or academic record. We would recommend either getting an official transcript from the Registrar's office, or your Program Manager can send you the PDF version that was pulled for your BU Study Abroad Application! Please just email your Program Manager when you are ready to upload your transcript.

How do I complete the "Evaluation of Language Levels" question?

- The "Test" option is no longer applicable.
- For **English**, you should select Mother Tongue, even if it is not your first language
- For **French**, your relevant options are:
 - No level: If you have not taken any French classes previously or if you have not taken at least AP French
 - Mother Tongue: If you are a native French speaker
 - 2 years of study in the language: If applicable and you have taken some college-level courses
 - Certificate delivered by your university: If you have taken LF212 or higher, please select this option, and email me to obtain the certificate.

*If you have any questions about your language level, please reach out to your Program Manager!

What is the Sciences Po Exchange certificate?

Exchange students can complete a "Certificate of Studies in Social Sciences and Humanities." To earn the certificate, students must take a full course load of five courses, including one lecture course. Students who do not enroll for a lecture course are not eligible for the certificate. This equates to 30 ECTS credits per semester, and you must pass at least 20 ECTS credits. All students must directly enroll at Sciences Po for 30 Sciences Po ECTS anyway, which is equivalent to 16 - 18 BU credits. You can read more about the certificate on the Sciences Po website [here](#).

The application asks if I would like to pursue a French language course option. Should I?

It is strongly encouraged that students take a French language course as part of the program, but it's not required. Sciences Po offers French language courses at all levels.

What do I choose for the "Our Programmes" section?

The choice of programmes is determined by your English/French level, the options you selected in the previous sections, and the campus that our university has the exchange agreement with at Sciences Po.

- **If you are taking courses only in English OR if you are taking your courses in English and a French language course**, then you should select, "Campus de Paris – Coursus en anglais – 1 semestre."
- **If you are taking some of your elective courses in French**, then you should select, "Campus de Paris – Coursus en anglais et français."