



Tel Aviv University  
**TAU Recanati**

The Leon Recanati Graduate School of Business Administration

#### Visa information

Contact the university for that. Sharon takes care of it.

#### Housing

There are two main options:

- A room in the university
- Rent an apartment in Paris

HEC is located about an hour-hour and a half ride (by train) from Paris center. My recommendation is to live in Paris and **not** in the university. since most of the classes are in a few specific days (an 8 hour day with an average of 2 days a week) you won't find anything to do around the campus.

An apartment in Paris center could cost around 1000-1200 Euros (including 'Heshbonot'). A room in the campus costs around 600-800 Euros.

Almost every district in Paris' center (zone 1) is a good place to live in, the only bad areas are north of zone 1.

#### Living expenses

Paris is an expensive city, restaurants and bars are expensive, but the supermarkets have reasonable prices. As long as you don't go out for a restaurant every evening you won't be spending more than the living expenses in Tel Aviv.

#### Transportation

In Paris' center you can get anywhere with the metro (subway). To get to HEC you need to take the RER train that goes out of Paris' center to the suburbs (Paris 'Rabati'). Since you're going to use the metro every day, I suggest you buy the monthly pass in the city center and to the suburbs (specifically until zone 4 where HEC is located).

As I've said before HEC is located about an hour-hour and a half ride (by train) from Paris' center.

There are many students in HEC that live in Paris and have a car, at the end of each day you can find somebody that goes to Paris, it can make your journey home much shorter and nicer..

#### Courses

In general, most of the courses are in a 3-5 days period in which you have classes for 6-9 hours a day, and a paper to write in the end. During this week you'll have to read a few cases and talk about them in class.

I took the following courses:

- **The Macroeconomics of Emerging Economies**  
One of the best professors I've met. He's a really impressive guy, today he's the head of the national bank of Argentina. The course gives you a clue about Macroeconomics.

- **Strategy Consulting**  
A good course. If you're interested in this area it can give you an idea if it's something you should do or not.
- **Thinking Strategically**  
Interesting course. Teaches you the logic of strategy in a business way of thinking.
- **Ethiques & Performance**  
It was one of my best experiences in HEC. They took us to a monastery in the south of France for 4 days(!). We had classes every day with the head priest of the monastery and ate great food and great wine. I have to say that it's hard to call it a course because we didn't learn a lot from the lecturer but since we were only 15 people from more than 10 different nationalities it was a very interesting experience.
- **Project Management**  
Medium course. I wouldn't recommend it unless it fits very well to your schedule.
- **Marketing Strategy**  
Interesting course. A good professor.
- **Indispensable Asia**  
Teaches you the history of the far east, their culture and a bit about their business culture. I do not recommend this course at all!
- **E-Business Strategies and Models**  
Not a good course. All day you just read cases and present them to the class.
- **French Elearning**  
I tried to take French classes in HEC but they didn't let me (TAU doesn't give credits for that). Instead I did French Elearning which is a program that teaches you French. If you don't have a clue in French it might be helpful, otherwise I wouldn't recommend it.

#### Recreation

There's a lot of things to do in Paris and around it. you'll have plenty of places to visit in Paris for at least 20 days. If you want to visit other cities around you can do it by train. The train to Amsterdam is only 3.5 hours, you can get to the German border in 2 hours by train.

Except for touring Paris and around I went to Mount Saint Michel in the north-west of France, visited Germany and went for a weekend back to Israel.

#### General experience

I really liked the experience, I think I learned a lot from it. I had the chance of living in a European city. I improved my French and my English. I think that the quality of the professors and the classes in HEC is better than in TAU.

#### Tips & important things to be aware of

If you plan to visit many different cities around Europe during your stay you should be aware that the prices are much cheaper if you book the ticket early (1-2 month ahead). I suggest to plan your trips early and book it as soon as possible.

Rent an apartment in Paris! don't stay at the HEC dorms. it's a sad place to be and I think that you will miss the Paris experience if you will stay there.

Metro - The monthly pass is a good deal if you live in the city center (zones 1-2). if you have more the 10 days during one month that you need to get to the university by train then it would be a good idea to extend the pass to zones 1-4.