

2018 Farm internship program “Agricultural Practices” in the “Pays de la Loire” Region, France

ESA - ANGERS gives the opportunity to students from its partner universities to do a farm internship.

I - THE GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM:

The program has three main objectives:

- Language skills: ESA aims at helping international students to improve their language knowledge; this should help them in their subsequent studies at ESA.
- Professional skills: Students will have the opportunity to learn more about the western European agriculture, farm management and practices.
- Cultural knowledge: the participants will have the possibility to learn more about the French culture and the French way of life, sharing the every-day life and customs of a French farmer's family.

Please, take into consideration that the objective of the internship is not to earn money: This program is not about “summer-jobs”, but “Agricultural Practices”. It is also important to respect the fact that no family members or friends are allowed to stay in the farm even for a brief period of time.

II - THE REQUESTED PROFILE OF THE STUDENT:

- He/she is a student in agricultural sciences, food sciences or agri-Business.
- He/she has a good level of French and is able to converse with the farmer and his family.
- He/she is motivated to improve his/her French, the knowledge of French culture and farm management and practises.
- He/she has a good level of French and is able to converse with the farmer and his family.
- He/she is in good health and able to do manual farm-work.
- He/she is motivated to do manual farm work, to adapt to different life and work conditions.
- He/she is willing and engaged to write a report about the farm (see specifications below, section IV).

Non-French speaking students can be placed with an English speaking farmer family only if he has previously participated in the Summer Program in June. Nevertheless, a high level of motivation would be required from the student in order to learn and/or improve his French on his own. Places are very limited.

III - THE FARM PRACTICE:

The length of the work placement is either 4 weeks (minimum) or 8 weeks: please specify upon application! The student will be placed in a farmer family (lodging and food are included) in the “Pays de la Loire” region. The student will share his family's life.

The program “Agricultural practices” is organized with the help of a club of local farmers, called EAI (Echanges Agricoles Internationaux). This association of farmers works very closely with Groupe ESA to organize the internships.

The student will probably receive some pocket money from the farmer during his placement. The usual amount is 40€ per week depending on the financial situation of the farm and the work done by the student.

IV - THE FINAL REPORT AND CREDITS:

Credits allocated to the program: 6 European credits (ECTS) per 4 weeks period (**only if required by the home University**). The student will be required to write a report about his experience. The grading system is pass/fail.

This report has the following elements:

- Written in French or in English (only for non-French-speakers) by hand or computer
- About 10 pages
- Contents : Description of the farm, his natural and economic environment
- Choose one of the productions of the farm and describe it.

During the opening and preparation seminar (2 days at the beginning of July or 1 day at the beginning of the second period at the end of July), you can ask more details about the report. The quality of the written French is not so important. The aim of the report is for the student to awaken his curiosity and well understanding of the farm environment and its practices.

V - APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

a. Requested documents

- One **letter of motivation (cover letter) in French**: The student explains why he/she wants to do this farm internship and what kind of farm he/she is interested in.
- One **Curriculum Vitae** (computer typed, model Europass) **in French**: education, main study fields of interest, specialisation, professional experience, placements/internships, personal interests (you will find a CV sample enclosed).
- Join a copy of your passport.
- The application form “demande de stage en France” (it **must** be **typed, in French, handwritten is NOT accepted**)
- **Provide a “birth certificate” original translated in French**

Each university can present several candidates. The selection will be done in relation to the quality of the application.

A special attention will be given to the students who plan to apply for an academic program or an exchange program at Groupe ESA.

b. Application schedule:

Farm practice beginning in July

- **Application deadline: 31 March, 2018** (by email).
- **Decision of Groupe ESA:**
 - Mid-April, 2018.
 - Confirmation by the end of April. We will tell you if you are accepted in the program. Please be sure you send the right contact information so we can get in touch with you easily.
 - During the 1st week of June, we will send the following information about your placement: farm activity, farmer’s name, direction, phone number and email. And for further information, the student will have to make contact with the farmers by himself...

Farm practice beginning in August

- **Application deadline: 2 May, 2018** (by email).
- **Decision of Groupe ESA:**
 - Mid-May, 2018.
 - Confirmation by the end of May. We will tell you if you are accepted in the program. Please be sure you send the right contact information so we can get in touch with you easily.
 - During the 1st week of June, we will send the following information about your placement: farm activity, farmer’s name, direction, phone number and email. And for further information, the student will have to make contact with the farmers by himself...

c. Contact persons at ESA:

Depending on your country of residence (or Master program chosen), all applications forms must be sent to:

Sylvie GUEGAN : s.quegan@groupe-esa.com	Germany, Austria
Rémy ROULLEAU : r.roulleau@groupe-esa.com	Netherlands
Claire DAVIAU : c.daviau@groupe-esa.com	Ireland, Great Britain, Balkans
Fiona CASEY : f.casey@groupe-esa.com	Central and Eastern Europe, Scandinavia
Catherine PELLIER : c.pellier@groupe-esa.com	Russia and Commonwealth of Independent States Zone
Odile GINESTET : o.ginestet@groupe-esa.com	Moscou Timiriachev University
Sylvie MICHAUD : s.michaud@groupe-esa.com	Spanish speaking countries in America (excepting Mexico)

Jose PEREZ DE LIMA NETO : zeneto@terra.com.br	Brasil
Gaël ROUL g.roul@groupe-esa.com	United States, Canada, Mexico, Italy, Portugal
Marie Claire GILLAIZEAU mc.gillaizeau@groupe-esa.com	Master Food Identity and Master Vintage
Anca BIOTEAU a.bioteau@groupe-esa.com	Romania
Carine BILLAUD c.billaud@groupe-esa.com	Spain
Stéphane BROCHIER s.brochier@groupe-esa.com	Other countries

VI - FINANCIAL CONDITIONS:

As we have no external funding for this program, we must share the costs:

- The students will pay Health insurance for the farm practice period. The students must provide a health insurance certificate (in English or French) valid for their whole stay in France. If not, we can not accept them for the farm practice. The students will pay their own personal expenses during their stay in France, visa costs etc, train, plane, and hotel if they arrive before the beginning of the program.
- All costs during the 2 days of seminar in Angers are paid by ESA
- The farmers offer accommodation and food during the placement, and, perhaps stipends.

VII - 2018 TIME SCHEDULE AND PLANNING:

FARM PRACTISE (FIRST PERIOD : JULY)

Wednesday 4 July, 2018

Student's arrival in Angers

Possibility to take the train (booked by ESA), at the airport, at 14h15 (2:15pm)

Cost: 40 euros/student (from Roissy Charles De Gaulle airport -Paris- to Angers)

Thursday 5 and Friday 6 July:

Opening seminar (French agriculture, management of French family farms, organization of the placement, students duties and rights during the placement, the final report)

From Friday evening, 6 July to Saturday 4 August

Farm internship "Agricultural practices" // 4 weeks

Friday 3 August

Students and host families meeting. Family exchange takes place for those students staying for 2 months. Attendance is mandatory.

Saturday 4 August.....End of the program for students staying only the 1st period

FARM PRACTISE (Second period : AUGUST)

Friday 3 August

In the morning: Student's arrival in Angers (railway station).

An ESA teacher picks them up at the station; then transfers them to the check point with the families.

If students arrive before this date, they have to pay their accommodation.

From Friday (evening) 3 August to Friday, 31 August

Farm Practice // 4 weeks

Friday, August the 31: Graduation ceremony

Friday, 31 August:..... Gala dinner at ESA (degree; return of the internship reports, internship evaluation...)

Saturday, 1 September:.....End of the program for all students

For organisational reasons, the students have to respect this schedule.

WELCOME TO ESA!