

## Information

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School Programme Grande Ecole
7. Dual Degree Period : Sep. 2017 to Jun. 2018

## **I. Planning for the application**

In the Dual Degree Program in IMBA, we will stay at least 1 year in the foreign school. In my case, I am formal registration student in EMLYON, which means I can take the core course in EMLYON whereas exchange student can only take elective courses. IMBA Student can check the IMBA Dual Degree web page for everything you need. In my experience, it's super helpful and the information are accurate for my application.

<http://dualdegree.nccu.edu.tw/index.php/emlyon-business-school-lyon-france/>

For example, I provided a TOEIC score with 900+ as my English proficiency certification, and finally there is totally no problem on my screening.

If you are interested in any scholarship opportunity, in NCCU there is one called 「學海飛颺」 you may pay attention to. The application detail will be normally announced at the beginning of the year. Take 2018 as example, it was announced on the mid-January, and due on 8th March. It's worth mentioned that you must have a valid IELTS or TOEFL score to apply the 「學海飛颺」 scholarship, which means even if you can pass the EMLYON screening with TOEIC score, you still need IELTS or TOEFL score for the scholarship.

By the way, in my personal guessing, the higher score of your IELTS or TOEFL, the higher chance you may get the scholarship. In the past years, there were around 30+ students awarded every year.

## **II. Preparation before departure**



To me, the most important things to prepare before your departure are VISA, flight ticket, and the transportation to the school.

#### 1. VISA

- a. You can start apply the French VISA after you receive the admission letter from EMLYON. For Taiwanese applicants, there are plenty of successful experience shared on the internet blog, you just google and reference will be totally no problem. You will have to fill in some forms on the French Embassy website for the VISA, and after you submit your application the French Embassy will double confirm with EMLYON, so be sure to wait for the admission notification arrive before to submit the VISA application.
- b. In my experience, the application of VISA is quite smooth, there will be one oral session but it is not hard. My oral session took charge by a Taiwanese examiner, spoke 50% Chinese and 50% English during the oral session. I think they are trying to confirm you are under preparation for your study abroad, not to block your application. so, no need to be worry for that.
- c. I would highly suggest to start the application as early as possible since it will be easy full booking after June.

#### 2. Book your flight

- a. I would suggest to book your flight after you get your VISA.
- b. Now only few airlines offered student ticket, and some airline has strict rules on the return date. Since I went to Lyon,France for 1 academic year, it's hard for me to decide my return date 1 year in

advance. Therefore, I bought a one-way ticket to LYON rather than a round trip.

- c. For the destination, you may choose either Paris or Lyon, or you may even consider Geneva, Swiss (2hrs away Lyon by Train). You can use skycanner to figure out which destination can you get the best price to decide to fly to where. Basically, flying to Lyon is the most convenient but it's normally the most expensive since there is not much choice offered in the market.

### 3. Transportation to the school:

- a. There is no pick-up service available from EMLYON, you have to transport yourselves.
- b. From Lyon airport to EMLYON, you may take uber at the airport for around €60 which takes 45 mins. Taxi may be another option but it seems even more expensive so I don't have experience. To use the public transportation, you have to take the airline express for €15 to the Lyon Part Dieu Train Station first, then change metro there to Gorge de Loup metro station, finally take bus No.82 to the EMLYON campus in Ecully. Using the public transportation may take over 90 mins.
- c. From Paris airport to EMLYON, you can take the TGV(France High Speed Rail) directly at the Paris-Charles-de-Gaulle without going to the Paris center. But the price of TGV is floating based on the demand, basically the earlier booking the cheaper, from around €45 to €100+. You can book the TGV ticket on their website. You will arrive Lyon Part Dieu Train Station by TGV, and you may take uber for around €35 or take public transportation as described above.  
<https://en.oui.sncf/en/TGV>
- d. From Geneva to EMLYON, you can first get a free ticket at Geneva airport for Geneva city, then take a 10 mins train from Geneva Airport to Geneva Cornavin (the city center). Then you change train from Geneva Cornavin to Lyon Part Dieu. The trains to Lyon service every 2 hrs, cost around €30, and takes you 2hrs to arrive. After you arrive it's the same story as from Paris airport.  
<https://en.oui.sncf/en/>

### 4. Others preparation:

- a. Your personal medicines
- b. Some Taiwanese characteristics gifts for exchange to exchange student or to French people.
- c. Some Taiwanese food like Instant Noodle or Taiwanese Sauce Bag for your home sick.
- d. You can get most Asian food and sauce in Lyon, there are many Asian and Chinese supermarket in the city center.

- e. About the clothes, on September there may be still a little hot, but it soon cools down after October. So, I think you don't need many short sleeves. Meanwhile, there are also Uniqlo and Zara in the Lyon city center, and the price in France may even be cheaper than in Taiwan. You may buy there if you don't have enough room for the clothes.
- f. In France, it offers 220V for the electricity. Bringing electric appliances from Taiwan like hair dryer may not be a good idea. A 3C normally serves from 100V to 220V will be no problem here, but you still need an adapter for the French socket. I would suggest to buy some at 光南 before you go to France since it's much cheaper in Taiwan.
- g. On November, EMLYON will host an international event for their local students. International students from worldwide will be asked to introduce their own school and own country to the local students. You may contact your classmates or department to check out how to prepare for this event before you leave Taiwan (but no need to cook)



### III. Academic

#### 1. Semester

- a. First, I would like to introduce the semester policy in EMLYON. There are 3 semesters in total in EMLYON, with code 1S, 2S and 3B respectively.
  - i. 1S starts from mid Sep to mid Dec;
  - ii. 2S starts from early Jan to early Apr;
  - iii. 3B from end Apr to end Jun. where 3B is also called “small semester”. Normally EMLYON offers mostly intensive courses in 3B.

#### 2. Courses offered in EMLYON

- a. Every year EMLYON offers over 200 courses in 3 semesters. For the teaching language, there are about 60% of the courses in total are conducted in French and the rest 40% are conducted in English. If you have French proficiency you also can choose French conducted courses. For the English conducted courses you not only can meet international students in class, but also can meet many French speaking students.
3. EMLYON credits:
  - a. In EMLYON course registration system, you normally will see courses vary in 2 kinds of ECTS,
    - i. Course in 5 ECTS for 8 lessons/24 hrs
    - ii. Course in 2.5 ECTS for 4 lessons/12hrs.
4. How many courses you can take:
  - a. In 1S and 2S, Dual Degree Student in EMLYON have to take at least 20 ECTS and up to 30 ECTS in each semester. In 3B, you can just take nothing but up to 10 ECTS. That is to say you can take at most 70 ECTS in total in a academic year at EMLYON. In terms of NCCU credit, 1 NCCU credit = 3 ECTS, in other words it means you can obtain at most 23 NCCU credits at EMLYON in total.
5. Planning for the obligation of dual degree graduation:
  - a. The 1st obligation for graduation is the **Thesis**.
    - i. Both IMBA and EMLYON required thesis. And unfortunately, you have to satisfied the thesis requirements of both side for the dual degree, no way to waive from one to another. In addition, the thesis requirements in EMLYON is somehow different from the NCCU one, you may able to use the same topic to develop your thesis but no guarantee that you can use the same content to fulfill the both side, it's all depends on your advisor and your topic. In worst case, you may have to write two different theses for the dual degree.
    - ii. Let me introduce more about format of thesis in EMLYON. They call the thesis as PFE(End of Study Project). The concept of PFE is not very similar as the NCCU thesis, it's more like a project-like thesis. Normal student has to finish the PFE in a 2 to 3 people group, dual degree students can do it solely if they want, and you have to find an professor as your advisor in EMLYON.
    - iii. Besides PFE, one more report is required in EMLYON, it's called PPP(Personal and Professional Projects). The purpose of this report is to help you to organise your thoughts at each stage in your study path and to make

better and more coherent choices in the organization of your education program.

- iv. You can find the detail of both PFE and PPP on the IMBA dual degree page. <http://dualdegree.nccu.edu.tw/index.php/emlyon-business-school-lyon-france/>
  - v. Many French students contact their PFE with advisor by email after the 1st and/or 2nd meeting with their advisor, which means that basically it is not necessary to stay at EMLYON only for finishing the PFE. Besides, as I know many professors do not require to have presentation for the PFE, and the PFE rules also doesn't note anything about the presentation. Therefore, in many case, you can deliver your PFE outcome in anywhere on the world. But of course, I strongly recommend you to confirm with your advisor in advance.
- b. Another obligation of graduation is the **Credits**.
- i. The rules for IMBA graduation is 42 credits. To apply the dual degree for EMLYON, NCCU IMBA student has to obtain at least 20 credits to make the EMLYON application, if you sharply take 20 credits at your 1st year in IMBA, and wishing to graduate from both IMBA and EMLYON after 2nd academic year, it means you will have to earn 22 more NCCU credits or equal to **66 ECTS** at EMLYON to achieve the IMBA rules. Of course, if you take more at NCCU in the 1st year, says 3 more credits, then you will only have to take 51 ECTS at EMLYON, it will be much less pleasure. By the way, it's worth mentioned that EMLYON required dual degree students to obtained 50 ECTS by taking courses in their 2nd year in EMLYON.
  - ii. It is worth pay attention that the EMLYON PFE counts 15 ECTS in EMLYON. However, the NCCU thesis count 0 credit. Therefore, the 15 ECTS you obtained from PFE CANNOT transferred back to NCCU to waived your IMBA graduation credits.
6. Take the same example as above that you only take 20 credits in IMBA in the first year, then your expected loading in EMLYON equals to 66 ECTS + 15 ECTS = 81 ECTS. Under the design of the [ECTS system](#), you are "expected" to spend 25-30 hours for each ECTS, and this system plans 60 ECTS for each normal student yearly. Therefore, if you have to finish 81 ECTS in 1 year to make your dual degree, it means you averagely have to pay 30% more effort than general EMLYON student.



#### 7. Personal Experience in EMLYON:

- a. You will be super busy if you take 30 ECTS in one semester. Although each 5 ECTS course only have 8 lessons/24 hrs, the workload of each course normally very heavy. Furthermore, many teachers like to finish the course on almost the same time period (end Nov to early Dec for 1s, and mid to end March for 2S), you usually will have many reports and/or exam in the same weeks. It will be really very tough.
- b. Back to the example in above, if you want to graduate in 2 years, you need 66 ECTS in EMLYON, it means you need to take 30 ECTS in both 1S and 2S, and 7.5 ECTS more in 3B. Meanwhile you have to find an advisor for your PFE before the end of 2S (You have to obtain the agreement from your professor before 31 March if you want to graduate on July), then finish both PFE, PPP and NCCU thesis before 31 July. Personally, I think it will be a super tough mission from my experience. As a result, I would recommend you to take 3-4 more credits in NCCU if possible if you want to finish dual degree sharply in 2 years.
- c. My personal plan is to take 1 more semester in NCCU after I came back from EMLYON to complete the PFE and NCCU thesis, and a little left credit in NCCU. In other words, I will spend 2.5 years for my dual degree programs.

#### **IV. Clubs and Association**

Even there are not much association in EMLYON, you still can find interesting events organized by EMLYON associations. Within the events, I am impressive most by 2 events. The 1st one is a surf camp organized by Club Voile (Sailing Club). We went to a very popular surf site in called Peniche Portugal for 1 week long. The fee is 450 Euro including everything, welcome every level of surfing skill. I think this event a fantastic event, it's super interesting and you can meet many local students and international students.



Another club you have to note is the Les Gourmets, they will organize food taste events periodically. France is the capital of great food, don't miss the opportunity whenever you see event host by Les Gourmets.



Gordon Rams'em

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Réserve ta place pour **Les Grandes Tables : Restaurant VATEL**, en m'envoyant un mp !  
Promis, ça sera quali 😊

翻譯年糕

*Les Grandes Tables* **V VATEL**

Vendredi 8 Décembre  
20h00 - 23h00

LES GOURMETS 22€

12月 8日 **Les Grandes Tables : Restaurant VATEL**  
Claudio 和 3 位朋友

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## V. Life in Lyon

The campus of EMLYON for graduate student located at a small town named Ecully in the great LYON area. The closest metro is 4.5 km away the camps, named station Gorge De Loup, you can take the bus No.82 for the commuter, which normally takes you 20-30 minutes to get there.

Normally every Dual Degree student can apply for the campus dormitory “Le Galion”, which is just 5 minutes-walk to the EMLYON campus. In the academic year 2017-2018, Le Galion cost 471 Euro every month, including every utility. You will get a single room with bathroom inside, equipment like bed, mattress, desk, chairs, wardrobe, shelf are all included (as shown in the following picture). There is public washing machine available in the public area, cost 2.5 to 3 Euros each time; Drying machine cost 2Euors. The environment of Le Galion is very comfortable, tress, grass land and lake are just beside the building, you can enjoy both fresh air and bird’s singing almost every day. It is really a good

living environment. However, the main drawback is inconvenient in terms of daily necessities. You have to walk 20 minutes to the closest Carrefour, or take bus and metro to the center for further choices. Talking about the restaurants, there are limited choices within the Carrefour, and several choices in the center of Ecully, other than those, you have to take bus and metro to the city center too. As a result of the inconvenience, some exchange students rent house in city center instead of the Le Galion. In my understanding, renting a house in city will cost you a little more than Le Galion, yet there some strict rules for renting a house in France like many of the landlord require you to find a French citizen for guarantee purpose; In addition, most of the landlord don't speak English well and even only speak French, it will not quite hard to rent a house if you don't speak good French. Furthermore, during the peak hour, transporting from city center to EMLYON campus normally takes at least 30-60 mins. As a result, I personally choose to stay in Le Galion for the whole academic year.



In terms of cooking utility, there are 3 common kitchens in each floor in Le Galion, around 15-20 rooms share each kitchen. In each kitchen there are stove, microwave and refrigerator available for public use. Since many of the tenant in Le Galion are foreign students, it is a very good place for you to meet students from worldwide. I think this is the main advantage of living in Le Galion.

For the student restaurant, there is a food store in the Ecully Campus, you can get breakfast, snacks, drinks, fruits, lunch box, sandwiches during the day time. Lunch box and sandwiches cost 3-5 euros, others cost 1-3 euros.

Besides, you also can walk around 7 minutes to a government hold student restaurant “Crous”, which at the campus of École Centrale de Lyon. In the Crous, each set cost 3.25 Euors, you can have a salad, a main dish and a desert in your set, and they change the menu every day. Although the dishes may not fit your taste, it’s really quite cheap and acceptable choice around the campus. During the formal semester, the Crous open from Monday to Friday for lunch time, and Monday to Wednesday for the dinner time.

It is worth mention that in Crous you only can with your EMLYON student card by topping up in the card (they will charge 8 Euros if you pay by cash), which means you will not able to eat there before you get your student card (I collect mine 1 month after I arrived EMLYON...). One potential solution for this is to go to the Crous office with your ISIC (international student card) of NCCU registration to buy one time ticket, and use the ticket to pay at the counter.



Fruit + Salad + Main Course = 3.25 Euros

## VI. Culture Exchange

You will have many opportunities to know foreign student in EMLYON, also there are some events hosted by the Lyon local community or student community. Of course, living in Le Galion is the easiest way to meet new friends. EMLYON is a famous top business school in France, so most of the exchange students here have very good background, you absolutely can learn many from them. Therefore, when you meet exchange students in the class, don't hesitate to invite them to have in the same group. You will find students from different country and different background perform different style in cooperation, and they accept this as usual, as long as they have the common goal: solve the problem.



Another interesting experience I would like to share is attending an event hosted by Lyon International. This association helps to bridge local family in Lyon and international student in Lyon, hopefully you will be finally invited to visit local family and have a formal French dinner together. Wanna know how French people have a meal for 4 hours? Go register as soon as you arrive Lyon!

<http://www.lyon-international.org/?lang=en>





4 of us are invited to a local family

## **VII、 Budget and Expense**

In terms of the living cost, my personal budget is averagely 1000 Euros per month, including 471 Euros dormitory and 10 Euros cell phone monthly fees. It matches the reference value posted on the EMLYON website. For the travel expense, it really depends how's your planning and how much trip you want to go. In Europe, it's really very convenient to travel to other country, and there are many budget transportations such as night bus and cheap flight, the travel expense may be able to be far cheaper than your imagination.

In my experience, I live in Lyon for totally 10 months, travelling averagely 1 time per month, visiting around 15 countries in total. In this case my total expense is between NTD 500,000 to 600,000. If you frequently cook yourself, you can save much money for travelling.

## **VIII、 Suggestion**

1. If you are over 28-year-old, then you are not eligible to buy student ticket and monthly student subscription in public transportation but only full ticket. Don't try to do this since the government check ticket frequently in Lyon metro. (Student month subscription cost 30Euros /month, Adult subscription cost 60Euros/Month, one time ticket cost 16.9 Euros for a 10 tickets bundle).
2. You also are not eligible for student insurance if you are over 28-year-old, so you have to take care your personal insurance. But good news is you still eligible for the public insurance program in France, after staying in France for 3 months, you can have the basic coverage provided by the government (really very basic). You can ask the school's help for applying this program 3 months later. The government will offer you a national insurance card after your successful application.
3. A good news is you can apply for the housing aid offered by the government no matter old you are, and the amount of aid depends on your living environment. You can visit the CAF website to find everything you need for the application. It's highly recommended that you prepare everything they need before you leave for France, especially for your birth place certification.
4. Please don't arrive EMLYON on Sunday, since most of the public transportation and supermarket closed in this day. It will be tough for you for your first day here in Lyon on Sunday.
5. Any question is welcome
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