

HUMANITIES REPORT SAMPLE

This past summer, I completed an intensive French language program at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. In the two and a half months that I was in Montreal, I was exposed to an incredible city that is rich in culture, history, art, and food. Through this experience, I have not only furthered my language skills but I also had the opportunity to learn and live in a country that is critical to the francophone world.

In my sophomore year, I made the wonderful decision to take French I. By the end of this yearlong course, I was amazed at how much of the language I had learned. But above all, I was beyond grateful for the relationships I had developed with my professors in the French department and their encouragement for me to pursue my newfound passion. This summer, I was able to take courses that improved my French speaking skills and introduced me to the fascinating Canadian culture. During my time at McGill, I was in class for 6 hours every day for six weeks. The class incorporated a well-balanced mixture of lecture and student discussion. One of the most impactful projects I completed was designing and creating a local architecture magazine with my classmates. For this project, I was able to explore the lesser known parts of the city and discover the many architectural charms of Montreal. Overall, this program improved my language skills, boosted my confidence in communication, and allowed me an unparalleled adventure in a historic francophone region.

My primary goal for this summer was to finish learning the foundations of the French language. This past spring, I declared an Honors minor in French and Francophone Studies and I wished to spend my summer strengthening my knowledge of the language. Through McGill's program and daily self-study, I was able to achieve my goals. Upon returning to Swarthmore this fall, I took a French placement exam and placed out of the remaining two grammar courses.

This semester, I am very excited to be starting a French literature course and to continue my academic studies. I am very grateful for the opportunity of living and studying in Montreal that Swarthmore and its generous donors provided me. It was an exceptional experience and productive summer.