Photo Instructions
French & European Studies, UC Center Paris
Fall 2012

You must submit two (2) passport-format photos to UCEAP.
You will need to submit one (1) or two (2) additional photos to the French Consulate as part of your visa application (depending on which consulate you attend for your visa appointment).

We strongly recommend you do not make your own photographs, but have them done at a photo store, copy shop, or drug store.

Here is a list of guidelines for acceptable photos, and Frequently Asked Questions on the following page:

- Photographs must be 2x2 inches in size, identical, and taken within the past 6 months.

- Print your name and program name on the back of each photo. To avoid damaging the photos, put a slip of paper between each photo and make sure that the ink is dry before placing them in the envelope.

- The photo should be in color, and printed on high-quality photo paper, with a print resolution of at least 600 dpi (especially if taken with a digital camera).

- The photos must be full face, front view with a plain white or off-white background. The image size from the bottom of the chin to the top of the head should be between 1 inch and 1 3/8 inches.

- No other persons or objects should be visible in the photo.

- Photographs should be taken in normal street attire, without a hat or headgear that obscures the hair or hairline. Uniforms should not be worn in photographs with the exception of religious attire which is worn daily.

- If prescription glasses, a hearing device, wig or similar articles are normally and consistently worn, they should be worn when the picture is taken. Dark glasses or nonprescription glasses with tinted lenses are not acceptable unless required for medical reasons. You may be required to submit a medical certificate with your visa application to support the wearing of such glasses in the photographs.

- If you need more information on photo formatting, here are the US State Dept. guidelines:
  http://travel.state.gov/passport/pptphotoreq/pptphotoreq_5333.html

***Incorrectly formatted photographs will not be accepted!***

Updated 3/22/2012
Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to go get official passport photos or can I make my own?
Official passport photos are *highly recommended* by UCEAP because they meet all the above specifications. However, if you have access to a quality photo printer with photo paper you may make your own photos at home. Please remember that homemade photos must also meet all the specifications provided in the instructions above.

*Does it have to be the exact same photo as the one in my current passport? or Will a photocopy of my passport picture do?*
No, it does not need to be the exact photo that appears in your passport, and we cannot accept photocopies of your passport photo (see specifications above).

*Do all the photos required need to be identical?*
Yes, they do need to be identical unless specified otherwise. This is a requirement of the host universities in France.