

Please introduce yourself (where are you coming from? how old are you? what are you studying?)

My name is Christina Yong and I'm from Denver, Colorado. Currently, I am 24 years old and studying Health Policy at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health.

Why did you choose France? How did you learn about the EHESP?

I studied the French culture and language for a few years in the United States and had always wished to work in France. When the opportunity to combine my interest in France and health policy came up from my practicum coordinator, I immediately wanted to come out to study at EHESP.

What are the reasons you want to come to the EHESP?

I wanted to come to EHESP to work on its Alzheimer's disease project. This topic is a growing issue and EHESP has given me the opportunity to view health policy from a cross-national perspective.

What have you learned as a foreign exchange student? How do you plan to share your experiences with other students when you return?

I learned a lot about the French culture and history during my internship. Based on my conversations with French public health students, I hope to share these perspectives in discussions on health policy.

Is it necessary to speak French before coming?

I thought it was helpful to speak French before coming to Rennes. For my internship, I had the opportunity to read interviews in French which captured the experiences of patients with Alzheimer's disease along with their family members.

What are your future academic and career goals?

My goal is to continue doing health policy analysis and to eventually practice medicine.

What is your favorite thing about France? Your less favorite? How does it compare to your country?

My favorite thing about France has been visiting the various monuments and museums. I've enjoyed every aspect and can't say that there is a part which I haven't enjoyed about my visit. In comparison to the states, the crepes are amazing in Rennes - I will definitely miss the wide selection of galettes!