

欧洲文化教程

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【内容提要】 本书选取法国、英国、荷兰、比利时、德国、奥地利、瑞士、瑞典、丹麦、芬兰、西班牙、意大利、希腊、俄罗斯、波兰等 15 个欧洲主要国家,分别介绍了这 15 个国家的历史地理、城市概况、教育经济、传统文化、风土人情、民族节日和饮食旅游等内容,旨在帮助学生了解欧洲历史文化、风土人情,品味欧洲古代历史和现代文明,拓展学生的视野。

本书可作为中国大学英语文化学习者的通用教材,也供供英语学习爱好者参考使用。

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前言

欧洲的大门一打开,就像一座内存无数宝藏的博物馆一样令人沉醉。欧洲是见证人类文明发展和辉煌成就的大陆,它集古典与现代、激情与内敛、典雅与时尚于一身,是令无数旅行者身心向往的地方。在1 000多万平方千米的欧洲土地上,生息着45个国家和地区。璀璨的爱琴古文化,有如蓝天白云那样纯净;塞纳河畔的浓香咖啡,让人回味无穷;伦敦的蒙蒙大雾,让人迷失在古老的贵族气质中……没到过欧洲的人,可能会有不同的想象;到过欧洲的人,一定会流连忘返。欧洲和中国的面积相差不多,在这片富饶多情的土地上产生的国家、民族、语言、历史、景观复杂多样,丰富多彩。通过《欧洲文化教程》,我们想极力给高校学生和广大朋友展现一个真实的欧洲,选择最具代表性的国家和城市,帮助其了解欧洲历史文化、风土人情,观赏欧洲风光,享受欧洲现代文明。

本书是面向中国大学英语文化学习的通用教材,以英语语言为主,可用于本科生和研究生的英语文化知识学习。学习英语的中国大学生在阅读英文书刊和同欧洲国家人士的交往中,往往感到由于缺乏欧洲文化知识而面临许多困难。英语中有不计其数的典故、名言、成语、人名、地名等等来自欧洲的哲学、文学、历史著作,或者牵涉到各时期欧洲各国的思想、文化、政治、社会方面的重要事件和人物。通过文化来学习语言,既提升了学习兴趣,语言也会学得更好。

《欧洲文化教程》选取法国、英国、荷兰、比利时、德国、奥地利、瑞士、瑞典、丹麦、芬兰、西班牙、意大利、希腊、俄罗斯、波兰等15个欧洲主要国家,分别介绍了它们的历史地理、主要城市、风土人情、民族节日和饮食旅游等内容。全书包括一个章节的欧洲文化总体介绍和十五章欧洲各主要国家的文化风情,按时间顺序介绍了欧洲文化的源流发展。最大的特点是避免了一般英语文化书籍枯燥乏味的叙述,代之以具体的史实和丰富的图片,从而增加了趣味性和可读性。其中第一、二、五、十一章由赵硕、刘波编写,第六、七、十五、十六章由蒲冬梅编写,第三、四、九、十二章由常秦编写,第十三、十四章由刘洁编写,第八章由蒲冬梅、赵硕编写,第十章由常秦、房慧编写,书中所涉及的主要数字参考了维基百科和国家百科全书。

由于能力所限,书中难免会有一些错误,我们将在今后的工作或再版时予以纠正。

编者

2010年7月

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Chapter One

Introduction

European countries show different culture and tradition, though they have many of the common taboo on the number or colors, flowers and animals. Europeans generally taboo “13” and “Friday” because both are from Christian legend. The yellow flowers dedicated to the guests, have become the social practice in many European countries. In addition, animals in Chinese were seen as auspicious, happy and long life of the elephant, peacock, crane while in a number of European countries they were clumsy (Great Britain), prostitutes (Britain, France) and stupid (France) on behalf of the said.

Due to differences in culture, many European countries have their own characteristics. Showing farewell to the Greeks is waving his hand back the other side. Therefore, keeping in mind the following European countries on their respective national culture characterized by custom tips for economic and trade activities across the culture will be very useful.

Belgians love to do business and entertainment together and like the hospitality of others. They pay attention to appearances, business-oriented titles. Hungary is more superstitious in that New Year's dinner table does not display the production of poultry dishes, for the lucky birds will fly away. Denmark people like to sauna and drink the more expensive wine and the hospitality business in a sauna or after a few Scotch whiskeys would increase funding on the best gifts for co-operation. Norway people pay attention to punctuality and talk with the people to maintain a certain distance. In attending a private visit, it is necessary to prepare flowers or candy to the hostess.

The German is really particular about the reputation of efficiency. German negotiators of the personal relationship are very serious. They are used on all occasions to wearing a suit (not casual suit, which is considered to be unreasonable performance). They send gift to each other, even in the name of the company.

Greeks love to have nap sleep due to sub-tropical climate. Greeks still like to use more traditional business methods, so bargaining can be seen everywhere.

Austrians do not like to eat shrimp in the New Year period because the shrimp will be a symbol of bad luck. If eating shrimp, the new business year ahead will be difficult.

Spanish emphasize on individual reputation, and then it is permanent to win their friendship and trust.

The impression of the French is the most patriotic, even speaking English better will be required to negotiate in French and without concessions. Irish red, white and blue combination (the British flag colors), is due to the political and historical reasons. In addition Ireland's divorce is forbidden by law in Ireland. Italians, less rigid than the French, show a little more enthusiasm. However, in dealing with the business they usually do not arrive at decision-making in short time, they do not discuss with the staff and rush into position.

Luxembourgues are the descendants of the German people. Due to the small country, most people drive at home for dinner, the afternoon time is not spent in the office. Dutch was Europe's most traditional people so they love cleanness as well as orderness. People hope to do business when arriving in the Netherlands before the prior agreement because Dutch are frank and open in character. Portuguese are much like the Greeks and they are easy-going. Despite the hot weather they still wear a suit, and their talks may be on cleaning T-shirt. They wear a tie in work and social occasions.

British have their own behaviors. Their cars run the different directions of the rest of Europe so the opposite is true. Based on the English-speaking bear, in addition to English, British can not speak other languages.

There is much difference in European countries. Learning their culture and tradition will be urgent for Chinese students as European countries have been much connection with China and this trend will continue in the future. For English learning students they have little chance to know European culture and tradition since their intercultural study is always concerning American and British culture, it has become a barrier to influence students' further knowledge in culture and intercultural study. This book intends to make up for the loss of European culture and tradition in order to prepare for students' further study in Europe or obtain more knowledge.

Chapter Two

France

While Metropolitan France(法国本土)is located in Western Europe, France also has a number of territories in North America, the Caribbean, South America, the Southern Indian Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, and Antarctic. These territories have varying forms of government ranging from overseas department to overseas collectivity.

2.1 Geography

2.1.1 The Size of France

Metropolitan France covers 547,030 square kilometres, having the largest area among European Union member countries and slightly larger than Spain. France possesses a wide variety of landscapes, from coastal plains in the north and west to mountain ranges of the Alps in the south-east, the Massif Central in the south-central and Pyrenees in the south-west. At 4,807 meters (15,771 feet) above sea-level, the highest point in Europe, Mont Blanc, is situated in the Alps on the border between France and Italy. Metropolitan France also has extensive river systems such as the Loire, the Garonne, the Seine and the Rhône, which divides the Massif Central from the Alps and flows into the Mediterranean Sea at the Camargue, the lowest point in France (2 m/6.56 ft below sea level). Corsica(科西嘉岛) lies off the Mediterranean(地中海)coast.

2.1.2 Location and Climate

Metropolitan France is situated between 41° and 51° North Latitude, on the western edge of Europe, and thus lies within the northern temperate zone. The north and northwest have a temperate climate, while a combination of maritime influences, latitude and altitude produce a varied climate in the rest of Metropolitan France. In the south-east a Mediterranean climate prevails. In the

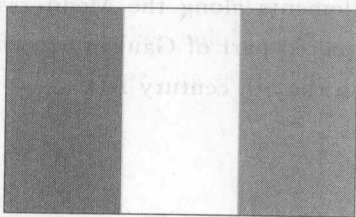
west, the climate is predominantly oceanic with a high level of rainfall, mild winters and cool to warm summers. Inland the climate becomes more continental with hot, stormy summers, colder winters and less rain. The climate of the Alps (阿尔卑斯山) and other mountainous regions is mainly alpine, with the number of days with temperatures below freezing over 150 per year and snow cover lasting for up to six months.

2.1.3 Terrain

France is about 80% the size of Texas. In the Alps near the Italian and Swiss borders is Western Europe's highest point—Mont Blanc (勃朗峰). The forest-covered Vosges Mountains are in the northeast, and the Pyrénées are along the Spanish border. Except for extreme northern France, the country may be described as four river basins and a plateau. Three of the streams flow west—the Seine into the English Channel, the Loire (卢瓦尔河) into the Atlantic, and the Garonne into the Bay of Biscay. The Rhône (罗纳河) flows south into the Mediterranean. For about 161km, the Rhine (莱茵河) is France's eastern border. In the Mediterranean, about 185km east-southeast of Nice, is the island of Corsica.



2-1 The Map of France



2-2 The National Flag of France



2-3 The National Emblem of France

2.1.4 Important Facts and Figures

President: Nicolas Sarközy (2007)

Prime Minister: Francois Fillon (2007)

Total area: 547,030 sq km (211,209 sq mi)

Population (2009): 64,057,792 (growth rate: 0.5%);

Capital and largest city (2003): Paris, 9,854,000 (metro. area), 2,110,400 (city proper)

Other large cities: Marseille; Lyon, Toulouse, Nice, Nantes, Strasbourg, Bordeaux

Monetary unit: Euro (formerly French franc)

Anthem: *La Marseillaise*

Official Language: French

In 2004, there were over 6 million Muslims, largely of North African descent, living in France. France is home to both the largest Muslim and Jewish populations in Europe. The French language derives from the vernacular Latin spoken by the Romans in Gaul, although it includes many Celtic and Germanic words. Historically, French has been used as the international language of diplomacy and commerce. Today it remains one of six official languages at the United Nations and has been a unifying factor in Africa, Asia, the Pacific, and the Caribbean.

2.2 Brief History

2.2.1 Earlier Settlers

Archeological(考古) excavations indicate that France has been continuously

settled since Paleolithic times. The Celts, who were later called Gauls by the Romans, migrated from the Rhine valley into what is now France. In about 600 BC, Greeks and Phoenicians established settlements along the Mediterranean, most notably at Marseille. Julius Caesar conquered part of Gaul in 57 – 52 BC, and it remained Roman until Franks invaded in the 5th century AD.

2.2.2 Feudal Dynasties

The Treaty of Verdun(凡尔登条约)(843) divided the territories corresponding roughly to France, Germany, and Italy among the three grandsons of Charlemagne. France became an increasingly feudalized kingdom. By 987, the crown passed to Hugh Capet, a princeling who controlled only the Ile-de-France, the region surrounding Paris. For 350 years, an unbroken Capetian line added to its domain and consolidated royal authority until the accession in 1328 of Philip VI, first of the Valois line. France was then the most powerful nation in Europe, with a population of 15 million.

2.2.3 The Hundred Years' War

The missing pieces in Philip Valois's domain were the French provinces still held by the Plantagenet kings of England, who also claimed the French crown. Beginning in 1338, the Hundred Years' War eventually settled the contest. After France's victory in the final battle, Castillon (1453), the Valois were the ruling family, and the English had no French possessions left except Calais. Once Burgundy and Brittany were added, the Valois dynasty's holdings resembled modern France. Protestantism spread throughout France in the 16th century and led to civil wars. Henry IV, of the Bourbon dynasty, issued the Edict of Nantes(南特法令)(1598), granting religious tolerance to the Huguenots (French Protestants). Absolute monarchy reached its apogee in the reign of Louis XIV (1643 – 1715), the Sun King, whose brilliant court was the center of the Western world.

2.2.4 The Birth of French Republic

After a series of costly foreign wars that weakened the government, the

French Revolution plunged France into a bloodbath beginning in 1789 with the establishment of the First Republic and ending with a new authoritarianism under Napoléon Bonaparte(波拿巴·拿破仑), who had successfully defended the infant republic from foreign attack and then made himself first consul in 1799 and emperor in 1804. The Congress of Vienna (1815) sought to restore the pre-Napoleonic order in the person of Louis XVI(路易十六), but industrialization and the middle class, both fostered under Napoléon, built pressure for change, and a revolution in 1848 drove Louis Philippe, last of the Bourbons, into exile. Prince Louis Napoléon, a nephew of Napoléon I, declared the Second Empire in 1852 and took the throne as Napoléon III. His opposition to the rising power of Prussia ignited the Franco-Prussian War (普法战争)(1870-1871), which ended in his defeat, his abdication, and the creation of the Third Republic.

2.2.5 During World War II

A New France emerged from World War I as the continent's dominant power. But four years of hostile occupation had reduced northeast France to ruins. Beginning in 1919, French foreign policy aimed at keeping Germany weak through a system of alliances, but it failed to halt the rise of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi(纳粹)war machine. On May 10, 1940, Nazi troops attacked, and, as they approached Paris, Italy joined with Germany. The Germans marched into an undefended Paris and Marshal Henri Philippe Pétain signed an armistice on June 22. France was split into an occupied north and an unoccupied south, Vichy France, which became a totalitarian German puppet state with Pétain as its chief. Allied armies liberated France in August 1944, and a provisional government in Paris headed by Gen. Charles de Gaulle was established. The Fourth Republic was born on Dec. 24, 1946. The empire became the French Union; the national assembly was strengthened and the presidency weakened; and France joined NATO. A new rebellion in Algeria threatened a military coup, and on June 1, 1958, the assembly invited de Gaulle(戴高乐将军)to return as premier with extraordinary powers. He drafted a new constitution for a Fifth Republic, adopted on September 28, which strengthened the presidency and reduced legislative power. He was elected president on Dec. 21, 1958.

France next turned its attention to decolonialization(废除殖民地运动)in

Africa; the French protectorates (保护国) of Morocco and Tunisia had received independence in 1956. French West Africa was partitioned and the new nations were granted independence in 1960. Algeria, after a long civil war, finally became independent in 1962. Relations with most of the former colonies remained amicable. De Gaulle took France out of the NATO military command in 1967 and expelled all foreign-controlled troops from the country. De Gaulle's government was weakened by massive protests in May 1968 when student rallies became violent and millions of factory workers engaged in wildcat strikes across France. After normalcy was reestablished in 1969, de Gaulle's successor, Georges Pompidou, modified Gaullist policies to include a classical laissez-faire attitude toward domestic economic affairs. The conservative, pro-business climate contributed to the election of Valéry Giscard d'Estaing as president in 1974.

2.2.6 Result from Social Inequality and High Unemployment

Rioting erupted on Oct. 27, 2005, in the impoverished outskirts of Paris and continued for two weeks, spreading to 300 towns and cities throughout France. It was the worst violence the country has faced in four decades. The rioting was sparked by the accidental deaths of two teenagers, one of French-Arab and the other of French-African descent, and grew into a violent protest against the bleak lives of poor French-Arabs and French-Africans, many of whom live in depressed, crime-ridden areas with high unemployment and who feel alienated from the rest of French society.

In March and April 2006, a series of protests took place over a proposed labor law that would allow employers to fire workers under age 26 within two years without giving a reason. The law was intended to control high unemployment among France's young workers. The protests continued after President Chirac signed a somewhat amended bill into law. But on April 10, Chirac relented and rescinded the law, an embarrassing about-face for the government.

In July, Sarkozy launched the Union for the Mediterranean—an international body of 43 member nations. The union seeks to end conflict in the Middle East by addressing regional unrest and immigration.

2.3 Religion, Culture and Education

2.3.1 Religion

Christianity is the largest religion in France, which is a secular country, and freedom of religion is a constitutional right. According to a January 2007 poll by the Catholic World News: 51% identified as being Catholics, 31% identified as being agnostics or atheists (another poll sets the proportion of atheists equal to 27%), 10% identified as being from other religions or being without opinion, 4% identified as Muslim, 3% identified as Protestant, 1% identified as Buddhist, 1% identified as Jewish.

Estimates of the number of Muslims in France vary widely. According to French census, there were 3.7 million people of “possible Muslim faith” in France (6.3% of the total population). In 2008, the French Ministry of the Interior estimated the total number of Muslims to be between five and six million (8%–10%). The current Jewish community in France numbers around 600,000 according to the World Jewish Congress and is the largest in Europe.

Certain body of beliefs such as Scientology, Children of God, the Unification Church, or the Order of the Solar Temple are considered sects, therefore do not have the same status as religions in France. “Sect” is considered a pejorative term in France.

2.3.2 Culture

(1) Literature

The earliest French literature dates from the Medieval Ages when the area that is, modern France did not have a single, uniform language. There were several languages and dialects and each writer used his own spelling and grammar. The author of many French mediaeval texts is unknown, for example Tristan and Iseult and Lancelot and the Holy Grail. Much mediaeval French poetry and literature was inspired by the legends of the Matter of France, such as

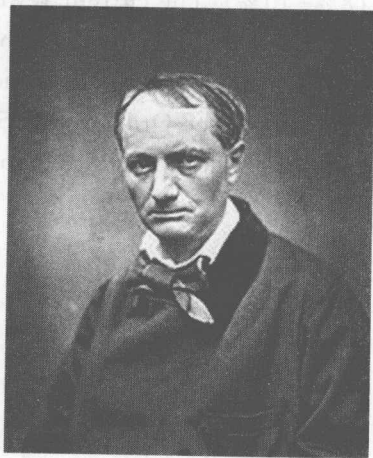
the *The Song of Roland* and the various *Chansons de geste*. The “*Roman de Renart*”, written in 1175 by Perrou de Saint Cloude tells the story of the mediaeval character Reynard and is another example of early French writing. The names of some authors from this period are known, for example Chrétien de Troyes and Duke William IX of Aquitaine, who wrote in Occitan.

An important 16th century writer was Francois Rabelais (弗朗索瓦·拉伯雷) who influenced modern French vocabulary and metaphor. During the 17th century Pierre Corneille (皮埃尔·高乃一), Jean Racine (让·拉辛) and Molière’s (莫里哀) plays, Blaise Pascal (布莱士·帕斯卡) and René Descartes’s (勒奈·笛卡尔) moral and philosophical books deeply influenced the aristocracy leaving an important heritage for the authors of the following decades. Jean de La Fontaine (拉封丹) was an important poet from this century.

French literature and poetry flourished in the 18th and 19th centuries. The 18th century saw the works of writers, essayists and moralists such as Voltaire (伏尔泰), Denis Diderot (狄德罗) and Jean-Jacques Rousseau (让·雅各·卢梭). Charles Perrault (查理斯·佩罗) was a prolific writer of children’s stories such as *Puss in Boots*, *Cinderella*, *Sleeping Beauty* and *Bluebeard*.

At the turn of the 19th century symbolist poetry was an important movement in French literature, with poets such as Charles Baudelaire, Paul Verlaine (魏尔伦) and Stéphane Mallarmé (马拉美). The 19th century saw the writing of many French novels of world renown with Victor Hugo (维克多·雨果) (*Les Misérables*), Alexandre Dumas (大仲马) (*The Three Musketeers* and *The Count of Monte-Cristo*), and Jules Verne (儒勒·凡尔纳) (*Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*) among the most well-known in France and beyond. Other 19th century fiction writers include Emile Zola (左拉), Guy de Maupassant (莫泊桑), Théophile Gautier (戈蒂耶) and Stendhal (司汤达).

The Prix Goncourt (龚古尔文学奖) is a French literary prize first awarded in



2-4 Charles Baudelaire
(夏尔·波德莱尔)

1903. Important writers of the 20th century include Marcel Proust (马塞尔·普鲁斯特), Louis-Ferdinand Céline (塞利纳), Albert Camus (阿尔贝·加缪), and Jean-Paul Sartre (让·保罗·萨特). Antoine de Saint Exupéry (安托·德·圣艾克絮佩里) wrote *Little Prince* which has remained popular for decades with children and adults around the world.

(2) Sports

Popular sports include football, both codes of rugby football and in certain regions basketball and handball. France has hosted events such as the 1938 and 1998 FIFA World Cups, and hosted the 2007 Rugby Union World Cup. Stade de France in Paris is the largest stadium in France and was the venue for the 1998 FIFA World Cup final, and hosted the 2007 Rugby World Cup final in October 2007. France also hosts the annual Tour de France, the most famous road bicycle race in the world. France is also famous for its 24 Hours of Le Mans sports car endurance race held in the Sarthe department. Several major tennis tournaments take place in France, including the Paris Masters and the French Open, one of the four Grand Slam tournaments.

France has a close association with the Modern Olympic Games; it was a French aristocrat, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, who suggested the Games' revival, at the end of the 19th century. After Athens was awarded the first Games, in reference to the Greek origins of the ancient Olympics, Paris hosted the second Games in 1900. Paris was also the first home of the International Olympic Committee, before it



2-5 Cycling in France

moved to Lausanne. Since that 1900 Games, France has hosted the Olympics on four further occasions: the 1924 Summer Olympics, again in Paris and three Winter Games (1924 in Chamonix, 1968 in Grenoble and 1992 in Albertville).

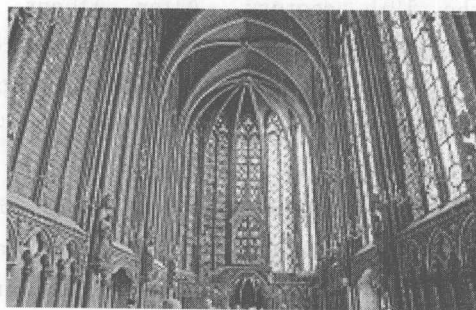
Both the national football team and the national rugby union team are nicknamed "Les Bleus" in reference to the team's shirt color as well as the national French tricolor flag. The football team is among the most successful in

the world, particularly at the turn of the 21st century, with one FIFA World Cup victory in 1998, one FIFA World Cup second place in 2006, and two European Championships in 1984 and 2000. Rugby is also very popular, particularly in Paris and the southwest of France. The national rugby team has competed at every Rugby World Cup, and takes part in the annual Six Nations Championship. Following from a strong domestic tournament the French rugby team has won sixteen Six Nations Championships including eight grand slams, and has reached the semi-finals and final of the Rugby World Cup.

(3) Architecture

There is, technically speaking, no architecture named French Architecture, although that has not always been true. Gothic Architecture's old name was French Architecture (or Opus Francigenum). The term "Gothic" (哥特式) appeared later as a stylistic insult and was widely adopted. Northern France is the home of some of the most important Gothic cathedrals and basilicas, the first of these being the Saint Denis Basilica (圣丹尼斯大教堂) (used as the royal necropolis); Other important French Gothic cathedrals are Notre-Dame de Chartres and Notre-Dame d'Amiens. The kings were crowned in another important Gothic church; Notre-Dame de Reims (巴黎圣母院). Aside from churches, Gothic Architecture had been used for many religious palaces, the most important one being the Palais des Papes in Avignon (阿维尼翁).

During the Mediaeval Ages, fortified castles were built by feudal nobles to mark their powers against their rivals. When King Philip II took Rouen from King John, for example, he demolished the ducal castle to build a bigger one. Fortified cities were also common, but unfortunately most French castles did not survive the passage of time. This is why Richard the Lionheart's Château-Gaillard was demolished, as well as the Chateau de Lusignan. Some important French castles



2-6 Saint Louis' Sainte Chapelle
(圣路易斯礼拜堂)

that survived are Chinon, Château d'Angers, the massive Château de Vincennes and the so called Cathar castles.

Before the appearance of this architecture France had been using Romanesque architecture like most of Western Europe (with the exception of the Iberian Peninsula, which used Moorsque architecture). Some of the greatest examples of Romanesque churches in France are the Saint Sernin Basilica (圣赛尔南教堂) in Toulouse and the remains of the Cluniac Abbey (克吕尼修道院) (largely destroyed during the Revolution and the Napoleonic Wars).

In the late 19th century Gustave Eiffel (古斯塔·埃菲尔) designed many bridges (like the Garabit viaduct) and remains one of the most influential bridge designers of his time, although he is best remembered for the Eiffel Tower. In the 20th century the Swiss Architect Le Corbusier (勒·柯布西耶) designed several buildings in France. More recently French architects have combined both modern and old architectural styles. The Louvre Pyramid is a good example of modern architecture added to an older building. Certainly the most difficult buildings to integrate within French cities are skyscrapers, as they are visible from afar. France's largest financial district is La Defense (拉德芳斯), where a significant number of skyscrapers are located. Other massive buildings that are a challenge to integrate into their environment are large bridges; a good example of the way this has been done is the Millau Viaduct (米约高架桥). Some famous modern French architects include Jean Nouvel (让·努维尔) or Paul Andreu (保罗·安德鲁).

2.3.3 Education

The educational system of France is similar to those of most European countries. Education in France is free, beginning at age 2 and mandatory between ages 6 and 16. The public education system is highly centralized. Private education is primarily Roman Catholic. Higher education in France began with the founding of the University of Paris in 1150. It now consists of 91 public universities and 175 professional schools, including the post-graduate Grandes Ecoles (大学校). Private, college-level institutions focusing on business and management with curriculums structured on the American system of credits and semesters have been growing in recent years.