Legislation and regulations at the UTT and in France

What you need to know to live in France
Alcohol

• You are allowed to drink (in moderation) and buy alcohol only if you are 18 years old or more

• Sometimes traders can ask you for your ID card to check your age

• Note that it is prohibited to show obnoxious signs of being drunk in the streets
Nightclubs

- To enter a night club, you must be over 18 years old

- Some nightclubs are only accessible from the age of 25

- You can be asked for your ID card to enter a nightclub
Drugs

All drugs are prohibited in France.
Smoking in public spaces

Smoking cigarettes is legal in France but you can not smoke everywhere.

It is forbidden in public and closed places (bars, malls, schools, any shop, restaurants...).

If you want to smoke you have to do so outside.
Counterfeit goods

It is forbidden to buy counterfeit goods, the customs are very careful about it.
Fighting

- You must not fight in the streets

- If you want to practice a combat sport (martial arts), you will find many clubs in Troyes.
Weapons

Bearing weapons is completely forbidden in France.

Even if you have a permit in your country, it will not be accepted here.
Aggression

What can you do to protect yourself from a possible aggression?

- Avoid going out alone at night
- Do not go out with a large sum of money in cash

What should you do if you get assaulted?

- Lodge a complaint to the nearest police station (Address of police station: 18 rue des Gayettes 10000 Troyes)
- Ask for a cancellation to the bank if your credit card has been stolen
- Warn the insurance policy and the UTT (Marie BONNETETE, Emilie RICHARD, Florent JEANNOT K008)
- Redo whatever document has been stolen from you
Community Life

In France you can do whatever you want in your accommodation (listen to music, hoover, have a party) as long as it doesn’t disturb any of your neighbours.

Important note: after 10:00pm, it is asked of everyone to tone the volume down.
Cockroaches, Sneaks, Fleas, Bedbugs and other insects

- Cockroaches are small insects living in humid, warm and dark places such like cellars, behind fridges, under sinks, inside electric household appliances, hi-fi, bathrooms, boilers, mechanical ventilation systems. They eat breadcrumbs, leftovers of food, hair and glue. Omnivorous, they eat their peers.

- Bedbugs are not visible during the day but they hide in bed bases, mattress, pillows, and bedheads. They only come out at night when human beings are presents. They can also hide in floor boards, furniture, wall papers, skirting boards. They eat human blood.

- Moths hide in the clothes that we usually use the less, in wardrobes and closets. They eat textile fibers or animal fibers (wool, silk).

- Meal moths hide in the kitchens, in the storage areas/meat-safes. They eat various foods: flour, rice, pasta, sugar, chocolate, biscuit, dried fruits...

- Ants can hide in timber frames, in floor boards, in home cracks, in window frames. They eat leftovers of food or food badly wrapped and are omnivorous (they particularly love sugar). Their diet is varied and adapted to their environment.

To get rid of that kind of insects, the only solution is to phone for a Pest Control Agency. Most of them can live between 10 to 20 months and reproduce quickly. They lay between 20 to 500 eggs! They can resist low and high temperatures, which makes it hard to exterminate without the help of professionals.

If you notice any of them in your accommodation, we kindly ask you to warn your landlord/real estate agency and/or the International office of UTT!
Bed Bugs

- Bed Bugs are parasites that can infest any type of accommodation (house, apartment, ...). They are not harmful for humans but they are responsible for nuisance. They feed on human food, mainly at night.
- The bites are the first sign of the infection. They look like mosquito bites, are very stingy and are usually grouped together in a line.
- If you spot bugs or bites, don't hesitate to report it quickly to your agency. They breed very quickly and will lodge in every corner of the apartment such as clothes, furniture, but also skirting boards and walls ...
- If you notice the presence of bedbugs in your accommodation, it's also necessary to treat your stuff. To do this, you have two possibilities: either to wash your clothes at 60 °, or to put your clothes in a trash bag and leave them in the freezer (with a temperature of -20 ° for at least 48h °).
Downloading

- You can download as much as you want, but only if you pay copyright.

- It is forbidden to download illegally.

- You risk a large fine and you can cut off the internet if you do so.
Driving

- To drive a car or a motorcycle, you must have a valid driving licence.
- Your vehicle must be insured.
- You must have an insurance certificate
- You must have a car registration document
- At any time, you can be subject to a police check during which they can ask you for the requested and documents listed above.
Traffic Laws

In a city, you cannot exceed 50km/h

In the countryside, you cannot exceed 80km/h

On the highway, you cannot exceed 130km/h
Police controls

- At any time you can be subject to a police check in the street: you have to be able justify your identity at any time.

- As a foreign student you must be able to provide your residence permit/visa at any time (or at least a copy of it).
• If you do something that is forbidden you will certainly get a fine.

• Depending on the offense, you even risk to go to prison.

• Any offense will be reported in your criminal record and will follow you all your life, even if you leave the country.
Reminder of the rules and conditions listed on the accommodation form application
Conditions

• If I stay between 1 month and 1 semester:

  I undertake to occupy the assigned accommodation for all the duration of my stay (I can’t leave my accommodation during my stay).

• If I stay for more than 1 semester:

  I undertake to occupy the assigned accommodation for at least one semester and for a maximum of one year. I will then have to find another accommodation by myself to free my place for new students.

During the entirety of my stay

I undertake to keep the accommodation clean and in good condition; controls will be regularly conducted by a member of the International Department. If the housing is found degraded or unsafe, I will have to remedy it immediately, otherwise the International Department will inform my home university about it.
General clauses

I undertake:

- not to exchange housing with a friend, neither during my stay nor when I leave the accommodation. The International Department is in charge of accommodation allocation.

- not to sublet the housing to another person (prohibited in France).

- not to accommodate other people, only the people whose names appear on the lease have the right to occupy the unit durably. If the International Department staff notice such facts, they will warn the real estate agency about it.

- to assume all the financial charges bound to my accommodation.

- to leave the accommodation at the earliest on December 31st and at the latest on January 31st (Fall semester).

- to leave the accommodation at the earliest on June 30th and at the latest on July 15th (Spring semester).
When I leave the accommodation

I undertake to notify the International Department AND the real estate agency respecting the following notice periods:

One month's notice when I’m at the end of my studies and about to return to my home country or to begin my internship (3 month’s notice for any other reasons).

I undertake to make sure the accommodation is totally clean and empty on the day the inventory of fixtures is done. Otherwise, I won’t get my deposit back, or only part of it. Moreover, I might be charged for cleaning (the amount may reach hundreds of euros).
Compulsory: home insurance

Home insurance is subscribed for a full year, which means that you will have to pay for your new contract every year (at the anniversary date of your contract). It is not possible to subscribe two home insurance policies so if you want to subscribe another home insurance company after one year you will have to cancel your first contract!

HOME INSURANCE REMAINS UNDER YOUR SOLE RESPONSIBILITY EVEN WHEN THE INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO BOOK THE ACCOMMODATION: You must notify any change of accommodation to your insurance company.

The home insurance policy protects your home and your property against the many disasters that may occur:

- Fire and explosion
- Theft and vandalism
- Water damage
- Glass breakage
- Natural disasters
- Civil liabilities

In case of non-compliance with the conditions expressed in this document, you will be asked to leave the accommodation.
To rent an accommodation

- You will sign a lease: it is a contract that lists the different characteristics of your accommodation and the conditions of the rent.

- You will have to pay for a deposit (one month’s rent), which is cashed by the landlord and will be used as a guarantee if any damage is done in the accommodation or will be refunded to you at your departure (up to two months after your departure),

- You MUST pay your rent every month.

NB: UTT will make all the requested appointments for you BUT if ever you miss one of the appointment you will have to manage things on your own.

See with Emilie Richard and Florent Jeannnot for any questions (K008).
Covid-19 regulations

• In France, regulations regarding COVID-19 have been lifted. However, there are a few elements to respect:
  • If you are tested positive, you will have to isolate for 7 days; 10 days if you are not fully vaccinated.
  • You need to warn anyone you have been in contact with in the last few days.
  • If you have been in contact with someone who has been tested positive: you need to get a COVID test and be careful about your state during the following days.

The mask isn’t mandatory, but it is highly recommended in highly populated places.
The documents you need to provide:

- Passport or ID card (for European students), VISA/resident permit
- Home insurance certificate
- 4 passport-style photographs
- Birth certificate (The original version and the French translation)
- Your Medical Information Sheet
The information contained in this presentation is not exhaustive.

For more information you can visit the official websites that exist in the different fields or contact the IRO of UTT (incoming@utt.fr) or come in room K008) if you have any doubts about the legality of an action.
Merci !