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# Honors Program

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## 2009 PASSHE Summer Honors Program

**Hosted by Shippensburg University**  
**May 10 to 31, 2009**

Since its inception in 1985, the PASSHE Summer Honors Program has provided an annual academic experience of remarkable quality for its best students. Noted for its academic rigor and sensitivity to issues central to both academe and society, the program has encouraged dedication to the pursuit of human excellence for more than two decades.

The 2009 program's theme is the construction of European identity from the Middle Ages to the present. The core program of studies will consist of two 3-credit courses that focus on European history and political culture: European Identity in the Middle Ages and European Politics and Identity in the Modern Era. Through explorations of sites in Belgium and France and interactions with Europeans, students will acquire an appreciation not only of European history and political systems, but also of European culture and society, past and present.

**Highlights**  
[Program Brochure](#)

### Contact Information

Program Director  
Dr. Kim Klein  
Director, Honors Program  
and  
Associate Professor of  
History  
[kmklei@ship.edu](mailto:kmklei@ship.edu)  
(717) 477-1604

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## Application Information

Applicant must be an undergraduate student at a PASSHE institution who is a member in good standing with his or her nominating institution's Honors Program, has completed a minimum of 30 hours of course work at a PASSHE institution, and is returning to the nominating PASSHE institution in the fall of 2009.

Please consult your home university Honors Program director for specific application requirements.

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## Curriculum

### HON 394 Honors Selected Topics

#### European Politics and Society: Identity and Integration

Europe is experiencing one of the most dynamic and interesting transformations within near and distant history. The political, social, economic, and perhaps cultural integration of the region is changing the ways in which Europeans live. Although to Americans the most notable force for integration is the European Union (EU), a number of other factors come into play as well, such as the fall of communism and the end of the Cold War, the growth and expansion of several international institutions, and the development of a single currency.

Interestingly, rather than creating an entirely new 'Europe,' many analysts argue that what in fact is occurring is the recreation of the familiar medieval framework where different sovereigns have jurisdiction over different competencies. What is driving the recovery of this ancient model are the changing dynamics of transatlantic security, migration of peoples across the region, and economic development of the 21st century. Exploring these dynamic changes is at the heart of this seminar.

### HON 395 Honors Selected Topics

#### Northern European Identity from Medieval to Modern

Between 1050-1500, most people in northwestern Europe experienced seismic changes in how they interpreted and experienced the world around them. Formerly, European identity had been predominately localized; small groups of kin and, less frequently, larger groups united under local leaders provided the basic network of both rich and poor. But in these four and a half centuries, Europeans began to identify as a common community: one with regional variations, to

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be sure, but nevertheless as a cohesive group.

We can see this in many ways, from the architecture that evolved from Romanesque to Gothic, to the increase in first names held in common among Europeans, to a culture that endured the pan-European plague and Hundred-Year War. If Italy is often cited as the place representing the most dramatic and experimental changes during these centuries, northwestern Europe (an area that included countries as diverse as England, France, and the Netherlands) can be seen as the heartland of this area. The shifts in military technology, the rapid increase in trans-state trade, and waves of ecclesiastic reform each appeared here, forever shifting European sensibilities of cultural identification.

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## Program Itinerary

- April 4: Program orientation for students, parents, and faculty
- May 10: Students arrive for core sessions at Shippensburg University
- May 11-15: On-campus courses
  - European Identity in the Middle Ages
  - European Politics and Identity in the Modern Era
- May 16: Depart for Brussels, Belgium
- May 17-23: Tour and study in Brussels. Daytrips to World War I battlefields and Ghent, Belgium
- May 24: Arrive in Bruges, Belgium
- May 25: Arrive in Bayeux, France
- May 27: Arrive in Mont-Saint-Michel, France
- May 28: Arrive in Paris, France
- May 31: Return flight from Paris

Please be advised that the program will require extensive walking.

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## Faculty

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