

Shippensburg/Shepherd University SUMMER SESSION 2023

May 21 - June 9 in Europe



This study abroad course takes students to Europe for 19 days and features visits to:

- Dublin and Galway, Ireland
- Paris, France
- Geneva, Switzerland/Chamonix, France
- Siena, Italy and Tuscany
- Rome, Italy
- Place TBA (probably Lisbon, Portugal, or Madrid, Spain)



Students will have an opportunity to visit the major historical and cultural sites of these cities as well as participate in briefings and lectures from experts in international and European politics, business and culture.

The program will employ hands-on learning to provide students with an experiential understanding of early political thought and political systems. This is not your typical study abroad course where students go to a foreign country and take classes at a host university. It is a holistic approach that maximizes the international experience meaning students should get an appreciation of not only the history of European political systems, but also gain an understanding of European society and culture both past and present. To achieve this end, we will not only focus on historical trends of various states, but also compare these with contemporary issues. In addition, we will consider changes in culture and society as depicted in the art and architectural treasures of Europe.

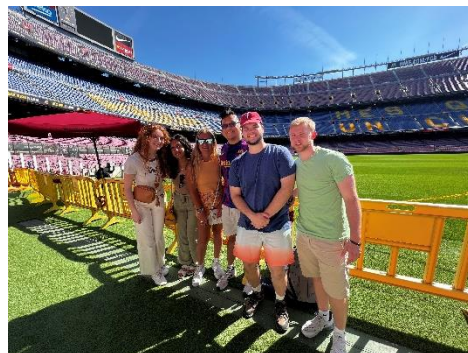
We will visit some of the world's greatest historical monuments like the Coliseum in Rome, Saint Peter's Cathedral, the Eiffel Tower, Dail Eireann (Irish Parliament), Trinity College and Campo in Siena. (Plus, some beautiful countryside featuring the Cliffs of Moher and Tuscan vineyards.) Lectures will be given on site by the course instructors.

Students with an interest in any of the following should find this a valuable experience and we seek students interested in multiple topics, including:



- International Politics
- History
- Political Economy
- Political Science
- Art
- Sociology
- Culture (including food, language and customs)
- Architecture
- International Business
- Travel

- All majors are welcome - we like diversity
- Register with Shepherd or Shippensburg just like a normal summer class.
- Summer Financial Aid is available for students taking six credits in the summer.



Tentative Itinerary

Dublin Ireland

Few countries have benefited more from the EU than Ireland. It has experienced incredible economic growth but is now feeling the economic downturn just like other countries. It has a fascinating history and relationship with Great Britain. Ireland did not attain independence until 1922, after many rebellions and revolts. Its long and turbulent history has many lessons for students of politics including integration, economic development, human rights, and identity politics. While Irish independence is



relatively recent, its recorded history dates back several centuries. Dublin is a city that reflects Irish history and nationalism, as well as key aspects of Irish identity. Activities: Briefings and tour of Dáil Éireann (Irish Parliament); 1916 Rebellion Walking Tour; Tour of Croke Park Stadium, meeting with members of the Irish Parliament.

Galway Ireland

One cannot truly understand the Irish culture or the Irish sense of identity without going outside of Dublin and into the countryside. Galway is the largest population center in Gaeltacht, the area where Irish Gaelic is most frequently spoken. It is where the British control was most tenuous, and therefore retains Irish culture and traditions more so than other parts of the island. Both the beauty of rural Ireland, and the uniqueness of Irish wit and humor are not to be missed. Travelers should not miss the famous Cliffs of Moher and historical pub-lined streets of Galway.



Siena/Florence Italy



Siena is a historic medieval city that still retains much of its fourteenth century architecture and ambience. However, it is also a vibrant college town that comes alive with a very modern energy. In addition to touring the historic Campo city center, Palazzo Signori (town hall), and Duomo (cathedral), we will discuss the various governmental structures of this and other medieval and Renaissance city-states and their lasting legacy in European society and culture. A favorite activity is joining the hordes of

students/travelers/revelers who congregate at night at the Campo. In addition, we will use Siena as a launching pad for Florence where we will explore the Renaissance arts of the Uffizi Gallery and Accademia.

Fattoria San Donato



appreciating the cultural phenomenon that is Italian food and wine.

Fattoria San Donato is a family run farm in the beautiful Tuscan countryside that was originally a tiny medieval village. We will stay in this renovated farm and take part in a cooking lesson and wine and olive oil tasting. The family that run this enterprise represent the culture of Tuscany and give a glimpse into life in rural Italy. They prepare a full meal from produce of the farm and give students a lesson in, not only making pasta, but in



Rome



famous ruins. The Catholic church has also had a major impact on culture, politics and society in Europe and we will visit its capital, Vatican City, while in Rome. We will visit St. Peter's Basilica and the Vatican Museum to see the treasures housed there.

As Ancient Rome has been the model for many of our western institutions of government, society, and culture, it is a great place to start in order to understand the heritage of European institutions. While in Rome, we will visit the site of the ancient Forum, Coliseum, Palatine Hill, and other



Geneva/Chamonix



(the lower part – the higher part has snow). One interesting aspect will be looking at the Mer de Glace (longest glacier in France) and how much it has receded.

Geneva is home to many of the centers of modern European government and international commerce. We will have an opportunity to visit the World Trade Organization, International Red Cross, and UN High Commission on Refugees. We will spend two nights in the Alps where students will have the opportunity to take the ski-lift to the highest mountain in Europe (Mt. Blanc) and hike part the way down



Paris

Paris has been a primary destination of travelers for centuries. It is a place where art, culture, architecture, money, literature, and politics intermix to create one of the most fascinating cities in the world. Our visit will allow students to explore France's role in the Enlightenment, the impact of 1789 Revolution on world politics, and its role in modern European politics. We will explore sites and hear lectures that illuminate the impact of French food, wine, art and literature on society and culture throughout Europe and the world. Students will visit major sites such as the Place de Concord, the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe, and Notre Dame Cathedral. A major theme will be the role of art and architecture on politics across time.



Instructors

Drs. Niel and Sally Brasher and Dr. Mark Sachleben will be leading the tour. Dr. Sachleben has written numerous books and articles on Human Rights and International Law and is an expert on Irish Politics. Dr. Sally Brasher has



written numerous books and articles on Medieval and Renaissance European History and is an Italian expert. Dr. Niel Brasher write on Policy Analysis and brings an economic perspective. (He also taught on the European Politics, the European Union and NATO while teaching in Belgium during the time the Berlin Wall fell.) Each brings a different student centric perspective. Combined they have led over 50 study abroad tours and over 500 students on this particular European SHIP/SHEP endeavor.

Program Costs and Logistics

Program costs (includes airfares, lodging, bus transportation, field trips, entrance fees, activities, and some meals) are \$3950. **In addition, students need to pay tuition for the six credits.** Students taking 6 credits in the summer are eligible for financial aid loans--- including program costs. Students must secure their own passports

Application: A \$250 non-refundable deposit is required with your application. Airfare (\$1000) will be due Mid-February. (We will only cash your check for the deposit once you are accepted in the program.) Applications will be taken until the program is filled. Make your check out to Shippensburg University.

To apply click the following link or use the QR code.

To apply: https://ship.col.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6fCiSCbevzXK4aq



Eligibility and Rules

Typically, we attract students from a variety of backgrounds. While there are some political science and history students, they normally make up less than a third of the trip membership. There are no academic pre-requisites for this trip. We look for people who are in good academic standing (e.g. no probationary students) and have a good attitude, who interact well with others and have an open mind toward learning. We can and will teach you everything else. Students learn a great deal about politics, history, and economics, but they report learning much more about other cultures and themselves. We find this type of program attracts a wide variety of interesting people. They self-select themselves by their eagerness to take the risk to go on such a trip and historically we have had almost a 100 percent satisfaction rate. Most report it is the most valuable learning experience they have had in college,

We are professors and facilitators, not chaperones. Students are treated like the adults that they are. We have very few rules. They mostly consist of the need to treat others (locals, tour guides, bus drivers, colleagues) with respect, attend all sessions, be attentive at all sessions, use the “buddy” system when going out, no drugs and no excessive drinking. Students who violate the rules will be dismissed from the program.

We will use a variety of forms of transportation. Students are responsible for carrying their own luggage and keeping track of the personal belongings. There is a great deal of walking and hiking so students need to be in reasonably good shape

For more information contact one of us:

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