

Proposed Study & Travel in Scotland & England!

The program: A spring, semester-long 3 credit course at Appalachian State University (HPC 5441) that culminates in a 15 day visit to the United Kingdom (April 18 – May 3 2017) with stops in Aberdeen, Scotland, Cardiff, London, Cambridge, Brecon, Wales, Chester, St. Andrews, Edinburgh and Glasgow. Participants will learn about the history and current programs of five campuses (with an optional day at Oxford) while taking time to participate in and enjoy the local culture, museums and sights.

Estimated Price: \$3873* including transportation, lodging, selected events & some meals

Open to all ASU Grad Students



Tentative Itinerary – Student Trip UK 2017

- Tuesday, April 18 Depart USA for UK
- Wednesday, April 19 Arrive Edinburgh, Scotland
Travel to Aberdeen
- Thursday, April 20 Visit University of Aberdeen
- Friday April 21 Travel to St. Andrews
Visit University of St. Andrews
Travel to Edinburgh
- Saturday/Sunday, April 22-23 Explore Edinburgh
- Monday, April 24 Visit University of Glasgow
Travel to Chester, England
- Tuesday, April 25 Visit University of Chester
- Wednesday, April 26 Explore Medieval Chester

Travel to Brecon, Wales

- Thursday, April 27 Explore Brecon & Countryside
Travel to Cardiff, Wales
- Friday, April 28 Visit University of Cardiff
- Saturday, April 29 Explore Cardiff
- Sunday, April 30 Travel to London, England
- Monday, May 1 Visit Cambridge University
- Tuesday, May 2 Explore London
- Wednesday, May 3 Depart London for USA

Contact: Dr. James Lancaster lancasterjm@appstate.edu or Dr. Diane Waryold
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* Not including tuition. Appalachian State University reserves the right to cancel or alter the program format or to change costs in case of conditions beyond the university's control.

Additional Information

In order to register for this course and travel, you must first complete a trip registration packet. If you have not received a packet and desire one, please contact Jim Lancaster, lancasterjm@appstate.edu. Following receipt of these packets, we will submit a registration list that will allow your acceptance into the class and the trip. A deposit of \$300 is due by December 15, 2016. This should be made payable to Appalachian State University with a memo/notation that it is for the England trip. Subsequent payments of one third of the balance (\$3573) will be due January, February and March 2017.

As indicated above, the estimated price of the trip at this time is \$3873 which includes transportation, some meals including all breakfasts, lodging and selected events. This figure does not include tuition. Appalachian State University reserves the right to cancel or alter the program format or to change costs in case of conditions beyond the university's control. Spending money for other meals, sightseeing not included in the itinerary or other purposes will be needed. A good estimate of that amount would be \$500 -\$600 depending on your tastes and habits.

Remember that the current exchange rate between US dollars and British Pounds Sterling is around 1.5 – 1 favoring the pound.

Travel from the U.S. will likely depart from NC in the early evening, arriving the next day in the UK in early morning. Travel from the UK to the US will likely depart mid-morning and arrive early evening on the same day. Effectively this means two days in transit and thirteen days “on the ground” although the remainder of our first arrival day will be available for orientation and sightseeing before the formal program begins. Participants will be responsible for

arranging transport to and from the departure airport in the US; transfers from and to the airport in the UK will be provided.

If you wish to extend your travel following our scheduled program in the UK, you will need to notify us so that we may adjust the numbers for the return trip. You will need to make any extended travel arrangements on your own and provide travel insurance for the extended part of the journey. The program officially begins April 18 and ends on May 3, 2017. Outside those dates, the university is not responsible/liable for any students who elect to travel individually outside the US. If you are currently on financial aid, you should immediately check with your financial aid counselor about adding the amount of this trip and or tuition to your financial aid award. Information on tuition and fees for currently unenrolled students for the spring semester can be found at: <http://www.extdl.appstate.edu/getting-started/financial-information>

You must have a current and valid passport in order to travel with us. You should begin the passport process as soon as possible in order to ensure receipt of the document prior to travel dates. Information on obtaining or renewing a passport is available on-line at http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html

Why Participate in the CSD in the UK Course?

The first consideration in taking this course is academic credit. The academic course is a credit bearing, 3- hour classroom experience. Students have 3 electives of credit to take in two years of study. The UK course will provide students with an understanding of the history and meaning of higher education in the UK and the manner in which student services are delivered. But the classroom time in the course is only part of the investment required for this experience. Taking the CSD in the UK course requires a further payment beyond usual tuition. While it is expensive, remember that that the currency exchange rate US Dollar for British Pounds Sterling is almost 1.5 to 1: to buy one UK Pound, it currently takes approximately \$1.50 US dollars. Where does your investment go?

Our single largest expense is the hiring of a private coach with a professional coachman. Why do we spend this money? Imagine taking a group of 17 to a foreign country, moving on average every one to two days from city to city, utilizing public transport such as trains, buses or taxis (where available) and maintaining an "on-time" schedule of meetings with 5- 6 campuses during this time? Careful scheduling in conjunction with hiring a coach and coachman means from the time of our arrival at the UK airport, we can move about safely and efficiently with little concern for time, traffic or "works" disruptions on roads, railways or other transports. Likewise, unanticipated changes in schedule (delayed flights, for example) are easily accommodated through contact with our coachman. And of course, our coachman, Alan, has become a part of our traveling family and offers students another guide to the UK experience.

Air travel is expensive and unlikely to become less so. But we book with a commercial travel broker who finds us the least expensive flights that reasonably accommodate our group and our schedule.

Lodging can be expensive but we strive to place our students in tourist class housing that is reasonably priced, clean and safe as well as convenient for our city/institutional locations.

Food and personal expenditure costs depend entirely on how one chooses to travel. But we work with our groups to help them learn how to travel smart. We also provide breakfast each day, some group dinners and some lunches and tea breaks while visiting campuses.

We structure the trip to embrace a combination of academic visits to campuses, stays in cities and villages that convey much about the culture/society of the UK, and personal time that allows each student to explore, interact with the culture and the people of the UK and reflect on their role as part of a larger international culture.

Taken into account the aforementioned investment, we think you will agree that the course and the trip area good buy! But there are good academic and career reasons for taking this course.

Our initial expectations for learning outcomes for this program were to expose students to the historical antecedents of our own higher education system while raising issues of what we do in our practice, what is done by our historical predecessors in the UK and thereby generate reflection on what our own practice might be in light of this learning. But we soon discovered that the program accomplished these goals as well as causing students to think more broadly about all aspects of higher education, their future professional track, and their developing sense of self and professional philosophy. With the first cohort to take the course, we found that students synthesized the experience into their future learning and continued to refer to the experience in subsequent coursework and career planning.

Annual surveys of our participants have demonstrated that virtually all participants recommend the experience, appreciate the academic and personal learning and feel substantially changed by the experience. One student wrote:

“By the end of the 16-day adventure alongside not just 14 members of my cohort, but 14 of my companions, I believe that not only my opinions of Student Affairs changed, but I changed as a person as well. I began my journey with an open mind. I told myself that I would not spend all of my time with the people I normally would, that I would force myself out of my comfort zone, and that I would gain as much knowledge as my brain would allow. At the beginning of the trip, I was a member of a group, and I believe I came out of the trip a leader. I’m not sure how it happened, but I believe that as the two weeks progressed, I became more and more confident in myself and the field I am preparing to enter, as well as re-affirming that Student Affairs is exactly where I need to be. The knowledge that I gained, the friends that I made, and the opinions that I formed throughout the course of my United Kingdom experience will forever inform the way I

see myself as a Student Affairs professional, and I can't imagine my graduate school experience having been as fulfilling without the opportunity.”

Our masters program is intended to create graduates who immediately stand out as potential employees. We believe those extensive opportunities for experiential learning, as well as unusual opportunities such as the UK course and summer professional practices across the United States, position our students for this fast start in their careers. Employers tell us that this is true of our students. And research in the field indicates that an internationalized curriculum, including experiences such as the UK course, is a major expectation for graduates entering the profession.

For all of these reasons, we strongly recommend participation in the UK experience. Most participants report a stronger bond with their cohort, a broadened appreciation for their coursework, and a lasting change in the way they view and interpret their development as a professional.

Tips for CSD Students Considering the UK Course/Trip

- Plan now –
- Get or renew your passport immediately!!
- Begin thinking of financial strategies including financial aid
- Financial Aid counselors will not yet be fully up to speed on the trip and one will be assigned later to coordinate all questions but....
- Contact your Financial Aid advisor now to simply establish that you have sufficient aid for the course, if needed.
- Encourage family “gifts” at birthdays and holidays to build your travel fund.
- Your GA-ship matters –
- Discuss the time of the trip with your supervisor now.
- Consider what you may miss and how you can front-load duties or how you'll “catch up” upon your return.
- Look over Syllabi now to get assignments on track so you're not working up the date of departure –Courses, except for research and a final class for the UK upon return, will be completed ! But still, why start the trip mentally exhausted??
- Begin considering how to travel –
 - What personal items will be useful? ○ Clothing for a variety of weather, not unlike Boone in early spring! ○ Footwear (one waterproof) that you can break in early if you are purchasing new.
 - Electronic supplements? – phone, iPad or other tablet, international phone or data plans?
 - Carrying cash (converted here or there?) versus debit/credit cards or some combination??