

Political Science Department
Europe Summer Travel Study Program for 2013
Provisional Itinerary and Schedule



Buckingham Palace

Dates

Here is some important information about the 2013 Political Science travel-study program for Western Europe. Our program will begin with an orientation meeting in London on Tuesday evening, June 18th at 7:00 pm. Our program will conclude with a final examination, in Paris,

France on Friday, July 12th. Your hotel check-out in Paris will be Saturday, July 13th.

France's major national holiday, Bastille Day, will take place on Sunday, July 14th, the day after check-out. If you plan to remain in France for Bastille Day, you will need to make separate arrangements.

What do my fees cover?

Your fee for this program will provide upper division UC credit for two 4-unit courses. One course will be Political Science 153A, West European Government and Politics. The second class will be Political Science 127A, Atlantic Area in World Politics. In addition to the two courses, your program fee also covers all hotel costs and internal transportation between countries within Europe. In the past, our hotels have provided breakfast. Where they do not do so, the program arranges for breakfast at an alternate location on class days.

The program also provides for a number of group excursions connected with the academic subject-matter; these may include a visit to the European Union, a visit to the International Criminal Court and/or the International Court of Justice in The Hague and a 17th century French chateau called Vaux le Vicomte. We also plan to arrange special excursions such as a Thames River cruise to the Town of Greenwich, an Amsterdam canal cruise and a Seine River cruise. Several of our excursions will be to European gardens.

Students must be prepared to cover the following costs. 1. Round-trip travel from the United States to Europe; 2. Incidental costs such as meals, laundry and the cost of visits to museums and other places that are not a formal part of our program. Many students also plan to attend musical and theater performances while we are traveling. Europe can be expensive: the key is to budget wisely and spend carefully.

How Much Should I Plan to Spend?

The amount of money individual students spend obviously varies greatly. Although we make every effort to keep our program costs as low as possible, we presently anticipate that the core cost of this program will be between \$5,500 and \$6,000. In addition to that amount, you should plan on spending a minimum of \$50/day. This amount should be adequate to cover the cost of meals not provided by our dormitories and hotels, laundry, transportation costs not covered by the program, museum entrance fees, etc... Many students find that even with the most careful budgeting, their daily expenses exceed that amount. Many of Europe's major museums have entry fees and even public transportation can be costly. Although our hotels provide breakfast each day and several of our hotels have rooms with small kitchenettes where you can prepare your own meals, expenses can quickly add up.

Is Financial Aid Available for this Program?

Yes. Financial aid is available for this program. To find out exactly how much and how to obtain it, you should check with your financial aid counselor and with the staff members in the Travel-Study Office, which is located in Murphy Hall B – 300. Although financial aid is available, however, it may not cover more than a modest portion of the total cost of this program. You may need to plan to cover a substantial balance out of personal or family funds. In addition, the financial assistance you obtain for a summer academic program may be deducted from the total amount of financial aid you hope to receive for the regular academic year. You should be sure to keep these possibilities in mind as you plan your summer 2013 academic and work schedule.

Passports

To travel abroad you must have a valid and up-to-date passport. Most countries require that your passport have at least six months of validity remaining when you enter the country. The purpose is to insure that your

passport does not expire while you are there. Therefore, your very first step in preparing for this trip is to check on your passport to make sure that it will be valid for entry in the countries we are visiting. If you don't have a current passport, you should begin right away to obtain one.

If you will be traveling on a U.S. passport, you will be able to enter the European Union with no difficulty. No special visa is required. However, if you will be traveling on the passport of another country than the U.S., you should inquire well in advance as to any special requirements such as an entry visa for the countries we will be visiting.

Travel Guides

In addition to the required course readings, which are available on-line, we suggest that students purchase travel guides for each of the major cities and/or countries we visit. A good travel guide contains valuable historical, cultural and political information, often in readable and succinct prose, as well as vital information about the most interesting places to visit and how to get there. The best approach is to pay a visit to a bookstore that has a large travel section. The time you spend browsing the travel guides could be considered a valuable part of the trip.

Laptop Computers

A laptop computer can be extremely useful and we encourage students to bring one along if at all possible. All of the hotels we stay in now provide internet connections, which are extremely useful for students who wish to enroll for Fall UCLA classes, access the class readings for this class or find supplemental travel information about such things as train and airline schedules. A laptop computer would also permit easy access to your e-mail and some students have also begun to use inexpensive internet technology to make phone calls, by using such services as Skype. On the other hand, if you do not have or choose not to bring a laptop computer, this will not be a serious problem: there are reasonably priced internet cafes practically everywhere.

How to Pay for Things

The best way to pay for the parts of the trip that you will need to cover yourself is with an ATM card. An ATM card will enable you to withdraw small amounts of cash, in local currency (British Pounds or European Euros) as we go along, although there may be modest transaction fees associated with these withdrawals. Most places we visit will also take the more commonly used credit cards such as Visa or MasterCard but a warning here: credit card theft is as common in Europe as it is here in the U.S. and if it happens in Europe you may not find out it's happened until after you return. Traveler's checks are now an out-dated way to pay for overseas expenses. Carrying cash for your expenses would be the least preferred way to travel.

What about Cell Phones?

Unfortunately, there's no single answer to this question. First, each individual may have a different level of need for an international cell phone while traveling with us. Second, each of the major providers such as Verizon or A. T. & T. has different plans with different costs. Your best bet is to contact your own cell phone provider to find out how much it might cost to add an international capability to your present phone. Some students have simply purchased cell phones in Europe, sometimes on a shared basis. If you uncover helpful information, and feel like sharing it, we can post it on the class web site.

What clothing should I bring?

It is best to anticipate a wide range of weather conditions during our trip. The weather may vary from cold and rainy to hot and sticky. The best approach is to bring light weight clothing but with the ability to adapt to cooler and rainier conditions as these arise; hence, a sweater or light jacket with light rain gear. We like to dress up a little bit when we go to certain places, such as a French chateau called Vaux le Vicomte. Some students like to arrange a bike tour along the canals around Amsterdam and that would definitely require lighter clothing.

Course Syllabus for Political Science 153A.

West European Government and Politics

Mr. Lofchie



Houses of Parliament

I. The British Political System (June 18th to June 26th.)

After our orientation on Tuesday evening, June 18th, we begin to discuss the British political system. Among the topics we will consider are the following: British parliamentary institutions and how they contribute to a powerful executive and a high degree of party discipline; British political culture and how it contributes to Britain's stability, and the British party system including elections.

Core Reading.

Patrick O'Neil, "United Kingdom." [2013].

Wikipedia, The British General Election of 2010.

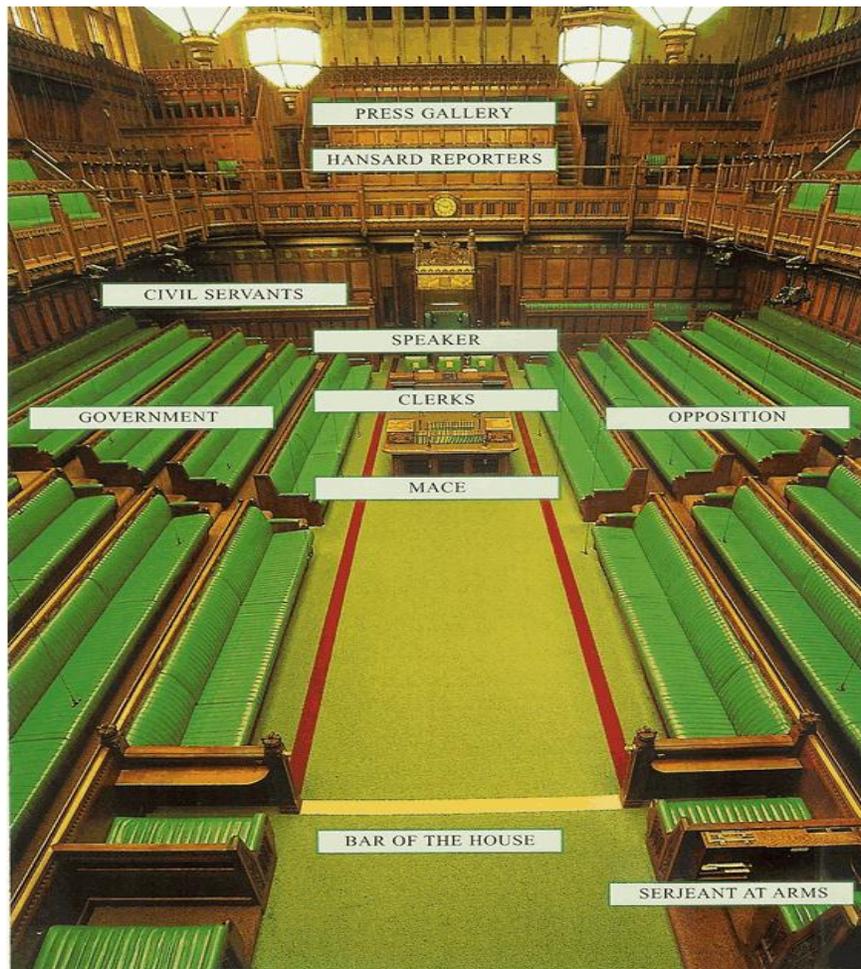
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Kingdom_general_election,_2010

David Cameron, British Prime Minister



Houses of Parliament





House of Commons

2. Belgium: June 27th through June 30th.

We depart for Brussels on Wednesday, June 26th and will remain in Belgium through Sunday, June 30th when we depart for Amsterdam. During our stay in Brussels, we plan to have a visit to the European Union. Students may wish to take the opportunity to visit the historic town of Bruges.



The Canals of Bruges

Politics in Belgium

Ian Buruma, “Le Divorce: Why Belgium, home of the European Union, Has never been more disunited,” in *New Yorker*, January 10, 2011, pp. 36ff.

3. **The Netherlands Political System** (June 30th to July 4th)

After completing our visit to Belgium, we will consider the Netherlands political system. Our topics will include the Netherlands electoral system, which features proportional representation, the Netherlands party system, policy issues in Netherlands politics including immigration, and the consensual basis of Netherlands democracy. A major topic will be the sustainability of the Netherlands welfare state.

Queen Beatrix





Netherlands: Houses of Parliament

Core Reading.

1. The Dutch General Election of 2010, in Wikipedia;

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dutch_general_election,_2010

2. The Daily Beast, “Geert Wilders Says There’s No Such Thing as Moderate Islam,” from *Newsweek*, January 16, 2012.

4. France: Thursday, July 4th through Saturday, July 13th.

We depart the Netherlands on Thursday, July 4th for Paris, where we will remain until the end of the travel-study program.

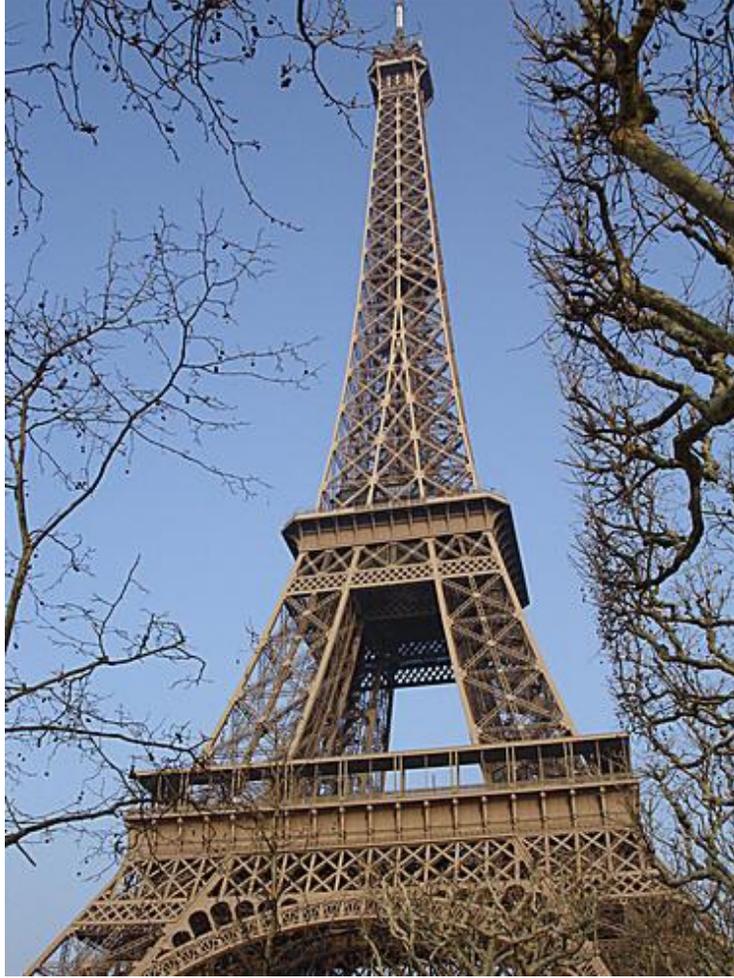
The French Political System.

After completing our visit to the Netherlands, we will travel to Paris, France on Thursday, July 4th. The first class will be devoted largely to an orientation to Paris and France.

While in Paris, we will consider the French political system including the history of political instability in France from 1789 to the present, the cultural factors that help explain France's political process, and the institutions the Fifth French Republic as well as aspects of French politics today.

The Elysee (The French "White House.")





Eiffel Tower



French President Francois Hollande

Core Reading

Mike Lofchie, **“The History of French Regimes.”**

Patrick O’Neil, “France.” [2013]

Russell Shorto, **“Marine Le Pen: France’s (Kinder, Gentler) Extremist,”** (New York Times Magazine, April 29, 2011).

Francois Hollande, “**Velodrome Round-up Apology Speech**”, (July 22, 2012).



Alfred Dreyfus

In 2013, Bastille Day, France's major national holiday, falls on Sunday, July 14th. Because of this, our end-of-class schedule is as follows.

Class on Thursday, July 11th will be devoted to a review session.

The final examination will be held on Friday, July 12th.

Check-out from our hotel will be on Saturday, July 13th.

Students who wish to remain in Paris to observe the Bastille Day celebrations on Sunday, July 14th will need to make special arrangements to do so.

Seine River at Midnight

