

# PILGRIMAGE: RITUAL AND PRACTICE IN FRANCE

Spring Break Study Abroad Program:  
March 11– 20, 2016

SPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

3 SEMESTER HOURS

## THE PROGRAM

Pilgrimage Sites in Europe will take place during Spring Break of the Spring 2016 semester, with 5 days in Paris and 4 days in Lourdes, France. Drawing from over a millions pilgrims a year, Lourdes is located in the south of France along the Pyrenees mountains and draws multitudes seeking both physical and spiritual healing. From here, students will study firsthand the experience of pilgrimage, as well as explore centuries-old sites in this historic town. Students will begin and end the trip in Paris with multiple pilgrimage sites and a vast array of diverse interpretation of pilgrimage and ritual.

Schedule: one class prior to the trip will be held on GSU's campus on March 4. The students will fly from Atlanta to Paris on March 11, arriving March 12. Daily classes will be held in the mornings with group outings in the afternoons. The group will take a high speed train to Lourdes (six hours away) on March 16, returning on the morning of March 20, and then flying out on March 20 back to Atlanta.

Students will learn about the central role of pilgrimage in the religious lives of the pilgrims, the cultural contexts of the pilgrimage sites, and how to study a religious practice using interdisciplinary methods. Students will keep a pilgrimage journal and write a final paper upon their return to Atlanta. While some of the days will be organized around the class and group excursions, students will also have plenty of time for individual interests.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

Housing in Paris will be in apartments located close to the city center. Housing in Lourdes will be in group hotel rooms located 4 blocks from the pilgrimage site.

## DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations during their study abroad experience should discuss these needs with the Program Director and the Office of Disability Services at the time of application.

## Tentative Itinerary

Please note: Georgia State University reserves the right to alter travel and other arrangements if required by circumstances.

**March 4** Class on GSU campus

**March 11** Flight to Paris

**March 12** Arrive in Paris

**March 16** Train to Lourdes

**March 20** Train to Paris & Flight to Atlanta



APPLICATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15, 2015

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Program Director: David Bell, Ph.D.

Office address: #1716, 25 Park Place

Telephone: 404-413-6124

E-mail: davidbell@gsu.edu



#### **Program Cost Includes**

- All ground transportation, excursions and entrance fees
- All lodging
- The majority of dinners and lunches as the budget permits
- Health/Evacuation/Repatriation insurance

#### **Program Cost Does Not Include**

- Georgia State tuition and fees
- Airfare to and from France
- Passport
- Course reading materials

#### **PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

**October 15: \$ 500.00 Deposit with application**

**November 15: \$785.00 First Payment**

**December 15: \$500.00 Remaining balance**

**All payments are non-refundable upon receipt**

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

The program is open to undergraduate and graduate students. Non-majors are welcome to apply; there are no pre-requisite courses required. Program size is limited and participation is contingent upon acceptance by the Program Director.

#### **CREDITS AND COURSES**

Participants who successfully complete the program will receive 3 semester hours of credit from Georgia State University. Undergraduate students should register for RELS 4290 Pilgrimage. Graduate students should register for RELS 6290 Pilgrimage. Students from other institutions should follow their institution's regulations concerning transfer credits.

#### **APPLICATION INFORMATION**

Students interested in applying should find this program's listing at [mystudyabroad.gsu.edu](http://mystudyabroad.gsu.edu) and begin an online application. Transient Students: please see the Transients Student section under the Explore & Apply tab.

International Students at Georgia State who hold F-1 visas must contact the Office of International Student and Scholar Services at 404-413-2070 to discuss the possible implications of study abroad for their immigration status.

#### **COST**

Program cost may vary at any time according to currency fluctuations and changing travel arrangements. The program cost is tentatively set at \$ 1785, PLUS regular Georgia State University tuition and fees. Non-resident/out-of-state students will pay in-state tuition plus a \$250 fee in addition to the program cost.

#### **FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

Georgia State University students are eligible to apply for the IEF Study Abroad Scholarship/ Georgia State University Foundation Scholarship and may be eligible to apply for the Global Experience Scholarship. Visit [mystudyabroad.gsu.edu](http://mystudyabroad.gsu.edu) and select the Scholarships & Financial Aid tab or call the Study Abroad Programs office at (404) 413-2529 for more information

**Because program size is limited, early application is strongly advised. Individual interviews may be scheduled with students upon receipt of application**

Program Deposit Payments: Participants will pay program deposits by logging into PAWS. Please contact your Program Director to confirm that a Program Deposit Account has been established for this purpose before you attempt to make a payment in PAWS.

Program Payments and Remaining Program Balance: Other than the initial program deposit, all program payments—along with the remaining program balance—will be billed directly to your student account. Please refer to the Academic/Registration calendar for the tuition and fees deadline.

