

PILGRIMAGE: RITUAL AND PRACTICE IN FRANCE

SPONSORED BY THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES



Spring Break Study Abroad Program March 10 - 18, 2018

Program Director

Dr. David Bell: davidbell@gsu.edu



Program Description

Pilgrimage Sites in Europe will take place during Spring Break of the Spring 2018 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 Pyrenean 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 a date to be announced. The students will fly from Atlanta to Paris on March 10, arriving Saturday, March 11. Daily classes will be held in the mornings with group outings and free time in the afternoons. The group will take a high speed train to Lourdes (six hours away) on March 14 returning on the morning of March 18, and then flying out on March 18 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.

Application Information

The program is open to undergraduate and graduate students. Non-majors are welcome to apply; there are no pre-requisite courses required. Students interested in applying should find this program's listing at mystudyabroad.gsu.edu and begin an online application.

Transient Students: please see the Transient Student tab on the How to Apply page on our website.

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

Application Deadline: October 31, 2017

TENTATIVE PROGRAM ITINERARY

Atlanta, GA



TBA: Class on GSU campus

Paris, France



March 10 Flight to Paris

March 11 Arrive in Paris

Lourdes, France



March 14 Travel by train, Arrive in Lourdes

March 14-18 Lourdes-

Atlanta, GA



March 18 Return to Paris

March 18 Return flight to Atlanta



Courses and Credits

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.

Program Cost

Program cost may vary at any time according to currency fluctuations and changing travel arrangements. **The program cost is tentatively set at \$1875, 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. For more information on what the program cost does and does not include, please visit: <http://www.studyabroad.gsu.edu/?go=RELScotland>

Funding & Scholarship Info

Georgia State University students may eligible for the IEF Scholarship or the Global Experience Scholarship. Visit <http://mystudyabroad.gsu.edu/prospective/funding-study-abroad> or call the Study Abroad Programs office at (404) 413-2529 to learn more about scholarships & financial aid for study abroad.

Program Director Contact Information

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Visit <http://www.studyabroad.gsu.edu/?go=RELScotland> for more information