



Northern Europe Geography Field School 2027

People, Planet, Politics in the Nordic-Baltic Region

May 5-June 3 2027

General Information

The Northern Europe Field School gives UVic students a unique opportunity to learn through an exciting travel study program in Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Estonia. It uses the Nordic and Baltic region to examine how societies respond to social, environmental, and political change. Across six distinctive locations, students explore

Students meet with scholars, urban planners, government officials, and community leaders working on these questions, and consider how Northern European experiences compare with Canada. Travel between sites is mainly by train, ferry, and local transit. Hostel or equivalent affordable accommodation is arranged. Most days include guided field visits, workshops and discussions, with time for individual exploration.



Students on the 2025 Europe Field School

Eligibility

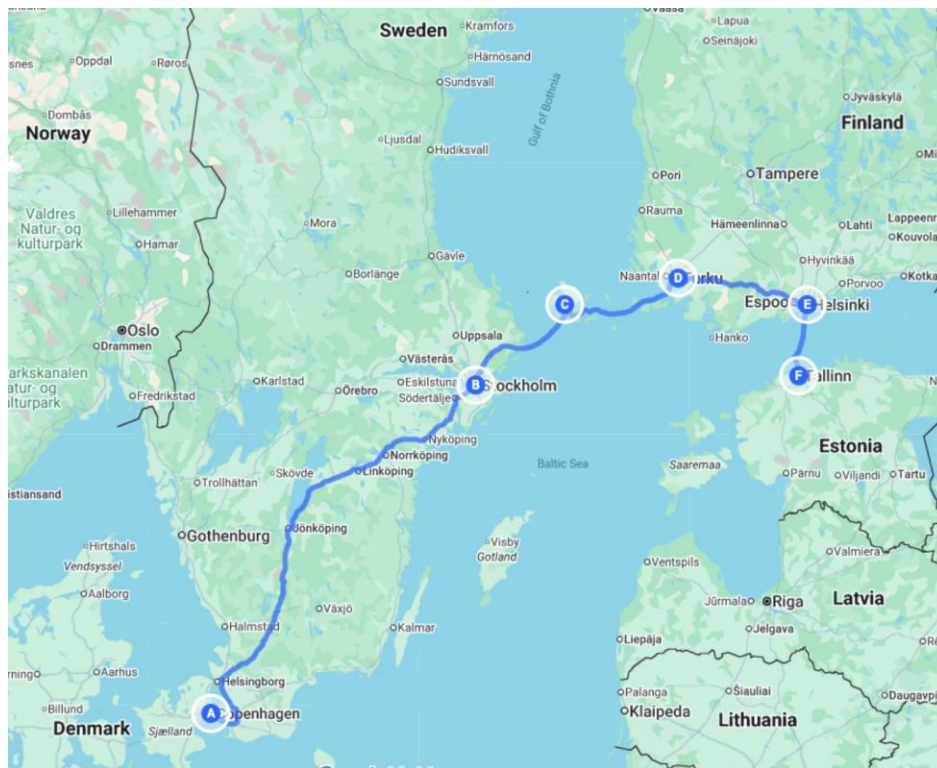
The program is open to UVic students who have completed their first year and can register in 300-level Geography courses, or have special permission from the instructor, Cam Owens. Students from outside Geography are encouraged to apply. Priority will be given to students interested in the field school themes.

Application

Applications and a \$1,000 deposit are due Thursday, November 26, 2026. Early applications are looked upon favourably. The 2027 application form is posted on the [UVic Geography field schools page](#). For application questions, email geoginfo@uvic.ca; for questions about the program, contact [Cam Owens](#).

Proposed Itinerary

Dates	Location and activity
May 5-11	Mandatory pre-departure program at UVic
May 12-13	Independent travel to Copenhagen, DK
May 14-18	Copenhagen, DK – Denmark’s lively capital famous for sustainable urbanism, cycling culture, design, and Nordic approaches to city life
May 19-22	Stockholm, SE – Sweden’s monumental capital built on a series of islands and around the ritual of fika – coffee, pastries and slowing down; itinerary includes connecting with the famous Stockholm Resilience Institute
May 23	Autonomous Republic of Åland - an autonomous Swedish-speaking archipelago of forests, rocky shores, and small island communities, offering a refreshing immersion in Baltic nature and a fascinating case of identity and governance
May 24-25	Turku, FI - Finland’s oldest city and former capital, where a medieval castle, lively riverfront, student culture, and centuries of Swedish-Finnish history meet the Baltic Sea
May 26-30	Helsinki, FI - Finland’s modern capital of bold design, sauna culture, striking architecture, and innovation in addressing affordable housing and homelessness; itinerary includes attending the World Village Festival, a major public celebration of global justice, sustainability, culture, and civic engagement
May 31-Jun 3	Tallinn, EE - a city of dramatic contrasts, blending medieval walls and cobbled streets with digital innovation, Baltic identity, and Estonia’s rapid post-Soviet transformation.
Jun 4	Travel home or onwards Note: Tallinn has an international airport with connections to major European hubs, making it easy to return home or continue on to other popular destinations. More adventurous travelers may continue overland through the Baltic region and Central Europe.



Proposed route across Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Estonia

Courses

Students take both courses below, each worth 1.5 credits for a total of 3.0 credits. The Department will register successful applicants through special registration; students do not register themselves.

GEOG 388 Regional Studies Europe

Instructor: Cameron Owens | April 28–May 29, 2027

Overview: This course, delivered as part of an off-campus travel study program, focuses on the regional geography of Europe, attending in an engaging, experiential way to physical, historical, cultural and political elements of the region with a focus on human/environment relationships. The course complements and must be taken in association with GEOG 317.

GEOG 317 Field Studies in Sustainable Communities

Instructor: Cameron Owens | April 28–May 29, 2027

Overview: This course, delivered as part of an off-campus travel study program, focuses on sustainable community development. Students will learn in an engaging, experiential format about efforts to address social, economic and ecological concerns facing contemporary communities. The course complements and must be taken in association with GEOG 388.

Fees and Financial Support

Students pay regular UVic tuition separately from the field school program fee.

Program fee: CAD \$3,400, payable in two instalments:

\$1,000 application deposit due Thursday, November 26, 2026.

\$2,400 remaining balance due Thursday, February 11, 2027.

What the program fee covers

- Accommodation during the travel study program (breakfast where included).
- Activity costs, including admissions, guided visits, workshops and presenters.
- Ground transportation, including trains, local transit and ferries.
- An emergency contingency fund.

Other costs

- Regular UVic tuition, paid separately to the university.
- Flights to and from Europe, arranged by students. Meals beyond those included with accommodation, personal expenses and any additional travel insurance needed (beyond UVSS coverage).

Refund Policy

After February 11, 2027, a refund cannot be guaranteed if a student withdraws. If a replacement cannot be found, the \$1,000 deposit and potentially additional amounts may be retained because some advance payments for accommodation and transportation may not be refundable.

Financial Support

Students are encouraged to explore funding opportunities through [UVic undergraduate scholarships and funding](#) and [UVic International](#).