Europe Urban Sustainability Field School 2019

The Europe Urban Sustainability Field School, running from May 6 to June 13, 2019, provides a unique experiential education opportunity for UVic students. The travel-study program focuses on innovation in urban sustainability and, more generally, cultural geography following an exciting itinerary through Western Europe.

Upon successful completion of the program, you will receive credit for three courses:

1. Geog 388: Regional Studies: Europe
2. Geog 391: Sustainable Communities
3. Geog 391: Cultural Geography

Apply by Friday, Dec. 13th with $500 deposit to claim a spot. Applications are available online through the UVic Geography website.

For course information contact program coordinator / instructor:
Cameron Owens camo@uvic.ca 250-721-7330

For administrative details contact: geoginfo@uvic.ca 250 721-7326

“Out of the classroom and into the world”

Geography field schools provide unique transformative learning opportunities. The benefits of getting out of the classroom to learn in the field cannot be overestimated and include: personal growth, expanded worldview, and enhanced career opportunities.

This summer the 8th Annual Sustainability Field School will travel through Europe on an exciting itinerary traveling south to north, through Portugal, Spain, France, Belgium, and the Netherlands. En route we will meet with activists, urban planners, scholars, and other engaged individuals, learning about Europe’s cultural geography and particularly the challenges and opportunities for building economically, socially, and ecologically sustainable and resilient cities.

We travel by train, bus, ferry, bike and local transit to various sites of interest. Hostel or equivalent affordable accommodation will be arranged. Most days will involve structured activities (e.g. guided field trips, hands-on workshops, discussions) with time available for individual exploration and group reflection.
Tentative Itinerary (2019)

The field school commences on May 6th with classes and field trips planned for the Victoria region. Students will then fly to Lisbon, Portugal, where the travel component begins in earnest on Tuesday, May 13th and wraps up in Amsterdam, Netherlands, on June 13th.

Victoria, BC (May 6-10)

A. Lisbon, Portugal (May 13-16)
B. Faro, Portugal (May 17-18)
C. Seville, Spain (May 19-21)
D. Madrid, Spain (May 22-24)
E. Barcelona, Spain (May 25-29)
F. Paris, France (May 30-June 2)
G. Bruges, Belgium (June 3-5)
H. Rotterdam, Neth (June 6-8)
I. Amsterdam, Neth (June 9-13)
Field School Topics

A variety of topics pertinent to understanding Western Europe’s regional geography and urban sustainability will be explored including:

Urban Planning * Local Food * Public Places * Green Building * Resilience * Social Justice

Art & Architecture * Urban Culture North & South* Climate Adaptation

Nature in the City * Building Community The Green Economy * Sustainist Design

Bike-Friendly Cities * Radical Politics * History

Program Fee

A program fee (beyond tuition) of $3300 (CAD) will be levied which covers: accommodation, ground transportation (train / transit), activity costs (e.g. entry admissions, guide and workshop fees, presenters’ fees, some meals) and an emergency contingency fee.

The fee does not cover: tuition for the three courses, flights (which you will arrange yourself), most meals / entertainment, and travel insurance (if you are not covered by UVSS).

Note: Some funding support is available including the Social Sciences Field Course Student Support Fund https://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/future-students/undergraduate/field-schools/index.php