

Sustainable Cities: Learning from Europe

Academic Session: Summer, 2023

Travel Dates: May 7 – June 12

*Please note: Program Dates, Itinerary and Costs are subject to change
these are the travel dates only; additional on-campus meetings occur

Pre-departure activities

Date	Activity	Comments
TBD	Pre-Departure Orientation from Study Abroad	
1 May	Module 01: Course introduction Module 02: Purpose of fieldwork Module 03: Elements of a field notebook Module 04: Making meaningful field notebook entries	
2 May	Module 05: Assignment #1: Virtual field trip Module 06: Using the software required for data collection Module 07: Mini assignments & software, apps and hardware for data collection	
3 May	Module 08: Assignment #2: Data collection Module 09: Assignment #2: Mini Assignment and project data compilation	
4 May	Module 10: Field preparation – personal considerations Module 11: Field preparation – traveling as a group Module 12: Sustainability – video and discussion	
5 May	Module 14: Assignment #3: Introduction and preparation Predeparture tests	

In field activities (tentative)

Day	Date	Location	Activities
Day 0	May 07	Calgary	Depart for Copenhagen
Day 1	May 08	Copenhagen	Arrive at Copenhagen airport. Transfer to Malmö. Opening of program
Day 2	May 09	Copenhagen	A focus on Copenhagen's bicycle system. Explorations of Christiania, an old army base property and site of a squatter settlement since the 1970's. Lectures on the tensions between the local community and government. Study of gentrification taking place near Christiania as a result of the new cycling bridge built in 2016.
Day 3	May 10	Copenhagen	Daytrip to Malmö. Tour the Norra Sorgenfri development with a professor from Lund University. Visit to Malmö Harbour and urban redevelopment projects such the "Western Harbour", examples of sustainable urban development. View the famous Twisting Torso building.

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Day 4	May 11	Copenhagen	Tour of social housing and co-housing. Lecture on the history of Copenhagen during WWII and why the old city remains intact and preserved. Visit Nordhavn sustainable (re)development. Visit Bjarke Ingels' Eight House. Walking tour with a professor from Lund University through the gentrifying neighbourhood of Vesterbro located west of the main train station.
Day 5	May 12	Groningen	Transfer to Groningen. Orientation to the city.
Day 6	May 13	Groningen	Morning orientation walking tour by a professor from the University of Groningen. A focus on the current and historical architecture of the city. Possible assignment on cycling in Groningen and Amsterdam.
Day 7	May 14	Groningen	Bike tour to surrounding countryside. Observe numerous canals, waterways, locks, dikes and other water management methods that were engineered and shaped the landscaped for hundreds of years. Chance to visit small villages on the way.
Day 8	May 15	Groningen	Guest lectures at the University of Groningen. Explore and observe the historical centre and its modern redevelopment.
Day 9	May 16	Amsterdam	Arrive in Amsterdam mid-morning. Orientation to the City.
Day 10	May 17	Amsterdam	Further exploration of Amsterdam neighbourhoods. Time for students to visit Van Gogh Museum, the Rijks museum or other museums of their choice. Alternatively, further explorations of the city.
Day 11	May 18	Amsterdam	Further exploration of Amsterdam. Possible tour of historical housing in Amsterdam including squatter residences in the center of the city. Possible presentation by a professor of urban planning at the University of Amsterdam.
Day 12	May 19	Amsterdam	Day trip to Rotterdam. Discussion of how this auto-centric city was remade to be cycling and pedestrian friendly.
Day 13	May 20	Amsterdam	Meet with the Dutch Cycling Union. Presentation on cycling planning and culture in the Netherlands
Day 14	May 21	Trier	Transfer to Trier. Introduction to Trier.
Day 15	May 22	Trier	Explore ancient Roman city of Trier. Possible talk by a Geography professor from the University of Trier.
Day 16	May 23	Trier	Day trip to Luxembourg. Meet with sustainability scholars at the University of Luxembourg. Walking tour of the city.

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Day 17	May 24	Paris	Transfer to Paris. Orientation to the city. Walk along former industrial area of Canal St-Martin. Time to travel in small groups to visit landmarks of the city such as the Eiffel Tower, Musee d'Orsay, Centre Pompidou, and Louvre.
Day 18	May 25	Paris	Visit Pavillon de l'Arsenal urbanism exhibition. A focus on green spaces of Paris including Jardin du Luxembourg, Square du Temple, Promenade plantée, and Parc de la Villette. Discussion of social and environmental importance of public green spaces.
Day 19	May 26	Paris	Travel in small groups to view key landmarks of Paris such as La Defense, the Marais (marsh) district, and Sacre Coeur-Montmartre district. Discuss social and environmental history of Paris.
Day 20	May 27	Paris	Further explorations the urban environment such as Place des Vosges (residential/commercial square and park) and the Arcades (precursor to shopping malls). A discussion focusing on housing. Tour of various communities in Paris including immigrant communities, gentrifying areas, and the Clichy-Batignolles ecodistrict. Visit and discuss Parisian social housing.
Day 21	May 28	Paris	Further explorations the urban environment of Paris. A focus on Paris's Velib bicycle initiative. Possible meeting with city planners and officials in charge of the bicycle planning in Paris. Possible visit to the sewers of Paris. Possibility to visit in small groups the Conciergerie, Ste Chappell and Notre Dame on the Ile de la Cité.
Day 22	May 29	Paris to Freiburg	Early train to Freiburg. Freiburg, one of the most sustainable cities in the world. Overview of the city's history and planning initiatives. World renowned for innovations in energy efficiency, active and public transportation, renewable energy specifically solar technology, and sustainable urban planning.
Day 23	May 30	Freiburg	Guest lecture and walking tour with faculty and graduate students from the University of Freiburg. Assignment on water management and environment within Freiburg, and on the various sustainable initiatives and communities within Freiburg.
Day 24	May 31	Freiburg	Tour of innovative sustainable urban developments focusing on energy efficiency, sustainable transportation, and green technologies. Visit the Vauban and Rieselfeld developments, as well as many other established and gentrified communities in Freiburg.
Day 25	June 01	Freiburg	Hiking tour of the Black Forest, accessible by foot from the city. Visit and discuss Schraebergaerten (allotment gardens). A focus on the integration of the natural environment and the city.
Day 26	June 02	Freiburg	Daytrip to the Kaiserstuhl, beautiful wine region near Freiburg. Study of the massive loess soil deposits and anthropogenically formed ravines from pathways

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			eroded from centuries of human foot traffic and fluvial erosion. Afternoon visit to the Kaiserstuhl Ihringen wine cooperative.
Day 27	June 03	Colmar	Transfer to Colmar, historical capital of the Alsace region. Chance to see medieval timber frame construction. Area of conflict, and conflict resolution, between France and Germany.
Day 28	June 04	Colmar	Further explorations of Colmar to complete field assignments and field notes.
Day 29	June 05	Avignon	Morning transfer to Avignon. Late afternoon arrival in Avignon. Walking tour of the 'City of Popes' including the Palace of the Popes, Notre Dame des Doms Cathedral, and the Hotel deVille (city hall).
Day 30	June 06	Avignon	Morning lectures on marine estuary environments. Half-day study trip to Arles with its Roman arena, Roman and medieval architecture, and to the Carmargue Environmental Reserve in the Rhone delta (afternoon): salt marshes.
Day 31	June 07	Avignon	Lectures. Field studies of Avignon and its surrounding physical setting overlooking the Rhone River. Student presentations. A focus on viticulture and impacts of climate change.
Day 32	June 08	Montpellier	Transfer to Montpellier, and ancient coastal port town known as one of Europe's first Universities. A focus on the history of education in Europe and the western society in general.
Day 33	June 09	Montpellier	Visit the historic city centre, the Ecusson. A focus on medieval architecture and the 1000 year history of the city. Discussion and exploration of sustainability initiatives in Montpellier.
Day 34	June 10	Montpellier	Walking tour of to explore Montpellier's contemporary architecture. Visit Saint Roch Train Station, the Pierresvives multimedia library, Antigone swimming pool, L'Arbre Blanc ("The White Tree"), and the City Hall, all known for their elaborate post-modern design. Possible collaboration with Dr. Tim Freitag from The University of Freiburg regarding his research on urban development in Montpellier
Day 35	June 11	Montpellier	Finish Course work, farewell
	June 12	Departure	Departure from Marseille or Lyon airport for those returning to Calgary.

Post-return Activities

Date	Activity	Comments
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TBD	Final assignments/exams	
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Contact Information

For information on courses and logistics of this program, please contact: Aaron Williams at awill@ucalgary.ca. For information on the application/registration/pre-departure process, please contact: Group Study Programs at group.study@ucalgary.ca.