Spring 2019 Freiburg Study Group

Director: Claire Baldwin, Associate Professor, Department of German

The Freiburg Study Group provides students with first-hand experience of German Culture in its diversity, gives them an opportunity to develop and enhance their language skills through immersion in a German-speaking environment, and enables them to pursue academic study at the internationally renowned Albert-Ludwigs-Universität.

The program consists of two parts: a four-week group travel seminar through German-speaking Europe, followed by the semester enrollment at the university in Freiburg. The Freiburg Study Group is sponsored by Colgate’s German Department, and is open to students in all academic fields.

The group will travel together with the director from mid-March to mid-April. In 2019, the group trip includes stays in Zurich, Vienna, Weimar, Berlin and other places of interest in German-speaking Europe. During this travel period, students begin their first two courses: the advanced language course GERM 341 and the cultural studies course GERM 457. The semester at the University of Freiburg begins on April 23, 2019 and ends on July 27, 2019. At the University of Freiburg, students can take elective courses in any discipline and receive credit for majors in most fields.

Prerequisites
Satisfactory completion of GERM 202 or the permission of the director. Students who are unable to take GERM 202 might be able to satisfy the language prerequisite in a different way and should contact the director.
Application
Students interested in applying should attend one of the informational sessions and contact the study group director at cmbaldwin@colgate.edu.

Students must apply online at www.colgate.edu/ocs before Wednesday, November 15th, 2017. The director will interview all applicants before December 9th, 2017, and notify them of the selection results by the end of December. Written confirmation of participation is due in early January 2018.

Courses

GERM 341 Advanced Conversation and Composition (Prof. Baldwin). This course focuses on the language skills needed for excelling as a student at a German university. The first part is taught by the director while the group travels; the second part is taught in Freiburg by the director and local personal tutors in accordance with the specific needs of the individual student.

GERM 457 German Culture and Literature (Prof. Baldwin). This course conducts an on-site study of German culture beyond the university setting. Students deepen their knowledge of German culture and history and explore contemporary social and political issues in conjunction with their lived experience of German-speaking Europe. The study trip to key cities and regions of central Europe is an integral part of this course, and includes guided tours, special lectures, visits to museums, and attendance at theater performances and concerts. Upon return to Freiburg in April, the course meets regularly during the semester at Freiburg. This course satisfies Colgate’s Global Engagements requirement.

Electives, Two Courses

During the semester at Freiburg, students may enroll in courses from any field of study (subject to availability and the satisfaction of prerequisites).

Living Arrangements
Students are housed in the dormitories of the University of Freiburg together with other Freiburg students. Students may participate in all university and extracurricular activities such as sports, choruses, orchestras, theatre groups, etc.

Travel Arrangements
Students make their own travel arrangements to and from Europe, and will meet in Freiburg at the beginning of the group activities. The director makes all the arrangements for the group trip in March and April.

Orientation
Three orientation sessions in the fall prior to departure help to prepare students for their experience at a German university. Previous study group participants and native German students in residence at Colgate will serve as resource persons for the new study group.

Costs
Details of expenses can be found on the student cost estimate sheet on the Off-Campus Study Office website.