

Tentative Itinerary: *English Literature and Literary History— Winchester and London*

Faculty-Led Study Abroad to England

May 5-17, 2024

Join Dr. Jennifer Lodine-Chaffey and Professor Tami Haaland on a study abroad trip to England, May 6-17, 2024, with stays at University of Winchester dormitories and a hostel in London. The focus of this trip will be literary England, with specific discussion of major authors such as William Shakespeare, Mary Shelly, Jane Austen, and John Keats, with other authors figuring into the experience of the place.

The study abroad experience will be linked with LIT 432 (Major Writers), taught by Dr. Lodine Chaffey in Spring semester 2024. Students will be given the option of completing coursework and receiving a grade at the end of spring semester or extending the work and completing it at the end of the study abroad experience.

The Course and Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes for LIT 432 are as follows:

- Analyze a variety of the chosen author's texts in the context of critical scholarship.
- Contextualize the chosen author's writing within his/her cultural and historical milieu.
- Critically interpret the chosen author's work.
- Develop, define, and defend an independent scholarly project.

Literature 432 (Major Writers) will provide students with background knowledge of the history and literature of England and allow students to engage with the sites we visit on a deeper level. Course materials will include Shakespeare's plays (based on the plays showing at the Globe next summer), Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, early histories of England by Geoffrey of Monmouth that cover the life of Alfred the Great, Sherlock Holmes stories, a Jane Austen novel, selected poetry of Keats, and selected short works by Virginia Woolf, H. G. Wells, and others.

The study abroad experience will specifically address the second outcome, in this case by giving students an immersion experience related to the author's work. For example, students will be walking the path John Keats walked in Winchester when he wrote his well-known ode, "To Autumn." We will also explore an alternate theory about the origin of the poem and visit a bookshop where Keats shopped, a pub where he is said to have dined, and a library that would not welcome him in.

We will visit Shakespeare's birthplace, residence in Stratford, and the house of his wife, Anne Hathaway. These tours will provide students will knowledge of Shakespeare's life, the society in which he lived, and help students understand his culture and upbringing in relation to his works.

This will also address the second learning outcome for Literature 432. Students will participate in weekly lectures and discussions, write a major research paper, and create a project that engages with one of the works they read for class. Those students traveling to England will develop a literary/historical guide to a specific site that we will be visiting as their project. This project will meet all of the learning objectives of the course as students will demonstrate knowledge of a literary work and its cultural importance, analyze a specific work in relation to a geographic location and critical history of an author and their texts, and develop their work in relation to their own interests (writing, critical analysis, etc.).

We will visit Jane Austen's house as well as the house where she lived with her brother (Chawton House). Touring these sites will allow students to understand not only the life of Austen and the society in which she wrote, but also the constraints on women of the era, again addressing the second outcome (contextualizing an author's writing).

Proposed Schedule

May 6 (Monday)

Students will land in London early and take a bus to Winchester. We will tour the Winchester City Museum and hike the Winchester MizMaze on St. Catherine's Hill.

May 7 (Tuesday)

Students will tour Winchester Cathedral and take Keats' Walk (a 2 mile walk in Winchester). We will also visit Winchester College, where Keats was denied access due to his lower-class status.

May 8 (Wednesday)

The group will Travel by Train to Stratford upon Avon by Southwestern Railway—about 2.5-3 hours there and 2.5-3 hours back). In Stratford, we will tour Shakespeare's Schoolroom and Guildhall, New Place, Shakespeare's Birthplace and Anne Hathaway's Cottage.

May 9 (Thursday)

The group will tour two important sites related to the famed novelist Jane Austen: her house and Chawton House. This will require transportation outside of Winchester.

May 10 (Friday)

Free day in Winchester (students will also work on writing about their experiences)

May 11 (Saturday)

The group will take a bus to view Runnymede, where the signing of the Magna Carta took place. We will also visit Stonehenge and Old Sarum (William the Conqueror's Castle).

May 12 (Sunday)

The group will travel via train to Bath Spa. We will ride the Southwestern Railway, which will take about 1.5 to 2 hours each way. In Bath, we will tour the Roman Baths, Mary Shelley's House of Frankenstein, the Victoria Art Gallery, and the Jane Austen Centre.

May 13 (Monday)

The group will leave Winchester and travel by train to London, using the Southwestern Railway, which takes about 1 hour and fifteen minutes. We will participate in a Bankside Guided Tour (of the early modern theater district and important historical theaters) and take in an evening performance at the Globe.

May 14 (Tuesday)

The group will tour Westminster Abbey and the Tower of London in the morning. In the afternoon, students can select from a variety of famous author homes, including:

Charles Dickens' House, Holborn

Virginia Woolf's House, Fitzrovia

H.G. Wells' House, Regent's Park

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, Belgravia

Mary Shelley, Belgravia

Keats House, Hampstead

Sherlock Holmes House

May 15 (Wednesday)

The group will visit the British Library and the British Museum. The group will also take in an evening theatrical performance.

May 16 (Thursday)

Free day in London.

May 17 (Friday)

Fly home