Study Abroad Application Now Open:

Sustainable Bicycle Transportation in Europe

Short version

Applications for the course are now open! Please let us know if you have any questions.

Longer Version:

We wanted to give you a heads-up that the study abroad course, "Sustainable Bicycle Transportation in Europe" is now open to accept applications here! This is an amazing opportunity to experience first-hand how some of the world's best biking cities transformed from car-centric places to places where people of all ages, abilities, and economic backgrounds can navigate their cities on bike safely, comfortably, and efficiently. We work hard to create a community of our student cohort as we spend a lot of time together trying to enjoy and figure out how and why things work the way they do. The four cities we will stay in are our classrooms and local experts will join us as being your instructors. There is also a possibility that four local Eugene/Springfield/UO transportation professionals will join us for part of the time, adding to the learning opportunities for all.

A few things of note:

Application Process

- We are admitting only 14-17 students and admission is on a rolling basis, so earlier applications receive priority review.
- The course is open to undergraduate and graduate students from any discipline and from any university; 55 people from across the country (and Canada) have already expressed interest in the program so there may be some competition for slots.
- We are reaching out to PPPM and UO students first to give you a bit of timing priority, but will be sharing that the application is open to others in a week or so, but this isn't much of a head start.
- Priority application deadline is January 15 ($100 off) and the final deadline is February 15. It is likely that a full student cohort will be selected before then, so best to not delay too much if you can avoid it.
- We are sure there is some type of deposit that needs to be made, but check the GEO web site for information on that. We do know there is a $50 non-refundable application fee.
- If you apply and haven't previously let us know of your interest, can you please just drop us a quick note as we are keeping a separate list that we will use as our main source of future mass announcements.
Other Stuff

- Dates are July 5-30 (with a slight possibility the end date may be reduced one or two days as we are still finalizing all the details).
- The final cost is still being worked on, but the estimate we've been given is around $7,500 for the 8-credit course.
- All students accepted will receive scholarships between $750-1,500 if you want, depending on us receiving final word about a scholarship grant we wrote and should hear about shortly (unfortunately, scholarships are open to U.S. citizens only per the requirements of the funding sources).
- The GEO (study abroad) office also will be offering scholarships that are a combination of merit and need based.
- More information about what is included and what is not in the cost and on the trip in general is here. Please know that some changes are likely, but nothing major.

Our Other Major Filters

If you are interested, please know we have two primary filters in addition to the usual requirements from the study abroad office:

- That you are actually interested in the topic. You don't have to know much about it nor believe that your future professional work will be in the topic, but we only want people who want to seriously engage. (Many former students have found the course to be a transformational pivot point for their future professional life, surprising many of them.)
- That you will not be someone we need to bail out of jail or pick up from a hospital in the morning after a hard night of partying. We will make sure you are safe and then send you home if this is the case. Thankfully, it has never been the case in the four times this course has been offered. In other words, this class is not an excuse to go party in Europe.
  o Apologies if this sounds overly patronizing – we have experience leading and talking to leaders of other study abroad programs where this was the case. We absolutely will treat you as the responsible adults you are or can be and norms & behaviors around things like drinking in the countries we will be are different than in the U.S. Part of the joy of the class is to be able to experience local life as much as possible and do so responsibly and in a way that reflects well on you and where we are coming from.

-- Marc & Rebecca

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