



KIIS Paris-Munich Program, May 2022

ENG 349, Topics: A Moveable Feast: Food, Culture, and Travel Writing

Instructor: Dr. Charlotte Rich

Email: Charlotte.rich@eku.edu

Instructor's office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description:

Students will learn how to look at their exciting experiences in these legendary cities through a writer's eye and transform them into memorable content. We'll learn about the craft of travel writing and blogging, and we'll engage in many hands-on activities and excursions that concern the food culture of these cities (markets, bakeries, restaurants) as well as other sites of historical and cultural interest. Students will write journal entries or blog posts, research and visit a chosen site and report to their classmates about it, and write a concluding reflection about their immersive European experiences.

2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS provides high-quality education abroad programs for students from all diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help students understand the wider world and develop personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizations and cultural stereotypes to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating on KIIS study abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Understand contemporary issues of their host country/countries (i.e. KIIS program location).
- 2) Develop skills to interact comfortably in a global setting.
- 3) Understand other cultures.

Prior to your KIIS study abroad program, and again at the conclusion of your program, KIIS will ask each student to a) answer a few multiple-choice questions, and b) write a short reflective essay (two paragraphs in length) related to the elements detailed above. There is no right or wrong answer, and your responses will not affect your grade in any way. The purpose of the exercise is to help KIIS measure the effectiveness of its study abroad programs.

3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes:

Students will develop cross-cultural competency and grow as cultural ambassadors by:

1. Comparing German, French, and American cultures and values
2. Gaining understanding of the food cultures and traditions of Germany and France
3. Gaining understanding of the cultural, political, and historical significance of Munich and Paris.

Specific Learning Outcomes Related to Writing:

Students will:

1. Comprehend and analyze college-level texts
2. Write effectively for a variety of audiences using conventions associated with standard English
3. Employ current technologies to locate, analyze, evaluate, and use information in multiple contexts and for a variety of purposes, including writing and class presentations
4. Produce written texts congruent with the discipline of travel writing and blogging

4. Major Topics covered in the Course:

Sample Daily Schedule (*subject to change*):

Munich:

May 8:

-Arrive! Discuss expectations for course assignments including “Place as Text” site reports
-discuss Dial, “On Location”; German food culture: “Meals and Manners, Eating Habits in Germany”;
blog post: “17 Hilariously True Must-Knows Before You Travel to Germany,” happytowander.com
-excursions: neighborhood walking tour; historic open-air food market, the *Viktualienmarkt* (take notes and photos); welcome dinner at a traditional Bavarian restaurant, the *Hofbrauhaus*

May 9:

-discuss reading: O’Neil, “Getting Started”; discuss travel blog examples: Rick Steves:
<http://blog.ricksteves.com/>; The Wanderlust Effect:
<https://www.thewanderlusteffect.com/category/experiences/city-escapes/>
-excursions: Munich walking tour (9am-noon), ending at *Marienplatz*; Organic markets and/or specialty food shops
-museum visit for site reports (e.g., Bavarian National Museum, Deutsches Museum, Residenz München, Alte and Neue Pinakothek; these are all within walking distance) (take notes and photos)

May 10:

-DUE: Blog or Journal entry 1 on activities from 5/8 or 5/9

-discuss Jessica Battilana, “How I Broke into Food Writing” on the train; report to classmates about Place as Text museum visits
-Day-Trip excursion: *Füssen, Neuschwanstein Castle* (take notes and photos); traditional Bavarian cuisine

May 11:

-Place as Text site reports DUE

discuss reading: O’Neil, “Structure and Pace”; Stephanie Be, “How to Blog Like an Expert”; discuss shared Blog or Journal Entry 1
-excursions: *Nazi Documentation Center*; café culture (take notes and photos); *Dachau* concentration camp (take notes and photos)

May 12:**-DUE: Blog or Journal entry 2 on activities from 5/10 or 5/11**

-Discuss tentative reading: “Find out the Differences in Fast Food in Germany vs. the U.S.”

(<https://worldthruoureyes.com/2015/02/26/fast-food-in-germany/>)

-excursions: fast food in Germany; ethnic food destination(s) (take notes and photos); visit the *English Garden*

May 13: travel from Munich to Paris:

-Discuss reading: McCommon, “A High-Speed Zip Across Europe by Train”; discuss shared Blog or Journal Entry 2

-take notes/photos; reflect on similarities to/distinctions from travel in the United States

-Arrival in Paris/neighborhood walking tour: take notes/photos

May 14:**-DUE: Blog or Journal entry 3 on activities from 5/12 or 5/13**

-discuss readings from *Paris in Mind*: Maxine Rose Schur, “Passionate and Penniless in Paris”; Irwin Shaw, “Paris in Winter”; Ernest Hemingway, “Hunger Was Good Discipline”

-excursions: Central Paris walking tour (10 am to 1 pm); Parisian grocery shopping; *Jardin Luxembourg* (take notes/photos)

May 15:

-discuss shared Blog or Journal Entry 3

-discuss readings from *Paris in Mind*: Naomi Barry, “Paris’s Haute Chocolaterie”; Grant Rosenberg, “A Day in the Life of a Parisian Café”; David Sedaris, “The City of Light in the Dark”; Paris blog examples: messynessychic.com; secretsofparis.com; invisibleparis.net

-Free afternoon: visit museums (possibilities: Louvre, Orsay, Pompidou; check out the list of **FREE** Paris museums here: <https://www.sortiraparis.com/arts-culture/exposure/guides/183105-free-museums-and-monuments-in-paris-and-ile-de-france/lang/en>)

May 16:**-DUE: synthesis/reflection essay draft; peer review**

-Literary *Left Bank* walking tour (learn about the life of writers like Ernest Hemingway and F. Scott Fitzgerald in 1920s Paris! To whet your appetite, watch the film *Midnight in Paris* beforehand)

-visit *Montmartre* neighborhood (take notes/photos)

May 17:**-DUE: Blog or journal entry 4 on activities from 5/14 or 5/15****-DUE: final draft of synthesis/reflection essay**

-buy lunch at *Place Monge marché/Rue Mouffetard*, picnic in a roman amphitheatre, *Les Arènes de Lutèce*; afternoon excursion such as *Cimetière Père Lachaise*, the beautiful cemetery and resting place of notables from Frederic Chopin to Jim Morrison (take notes/photos)

-Farewell dinner at a traditional French restaurant, *Bouillon Chartier*

5. Required Readings and Materials:

-selections from Jennifer Lee, ed., *Paris in Mind: Three Centuries of Americans Writing about Paris*, 2003. (provided as pdfs)

-selections from Cynthia Dial, *Travel Writing* (2001), and L. Peat O’Neil, *Travel Writing: See the World, Sell the Story* (2000) (provided as pdfs)

-Handouts provided by instructor; blogs as directed by instructor

6. Graded Assignments:

-Blog or journal entries (2 pages/500 words each; 4 required at 50 points each)	200 points	40%
-“Place as Text” site report (2-3 pages/500-700 words)	100 points	20%
-Final synthesis and reflection essay (3 pages/700-900 words)	100 points	20%
-Active participation in discussion, excursions, and workshops (engagement, commenting, asking questions, and note-taking)	<u>100 points</u>	20%
	500 points total	

More detailed instructions and evaluation criteria for these assignments will be provided via handouts.

7. Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

8. Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, maria.canning@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS

Office will notify your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.

In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

9. Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning (+1-859-200-1000) or KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson (270-745-5398 / andrea.anderson@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / joshua.hayes@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eo/titleixbrochure2020.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.