



KIIS Paris-Munich Program, Winter 2024-2025

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:

Daily Schedule (*subject to change*):

Dec. 27 (Friday):

-Arrive in Munich! After hotel check-in, meet in lobby to discuss course assignments including Place as Text assignment (form 3 groups); discuss reading by Dial, "On Location" (7 pgs, pdf); blog post: "Meals and Manners, Eating Habits in Germany": <https://germanfoods.org/german-food-facts/german-meals-and-manners/>

-excursions: Munich walking tour; historic food market, the *Viktualienmarkt* (where you'll buy yourself lunch! take notes and photos)

-6 pm meet in hotel lobby to walk to our welcome dinner at traditional Bavarian restaurant, the *Hofbrauhaus* (6:30 pm)

Dec. 28 (Saturday):

-DUE at 9 am via email: Journal entry or Blog 1

- 9 am: meet to discuss readings: O'Neil, "Getting Started" (12pgs, pdf); travel blog advice and examples: "How to Start a Blog in 2022": https://www.wix.com/blog/2021/02/how-to-start-a-blog/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=9766148092^115762030021&experiment_id=^504114447768^^_DSA&gclid=Cj0KCCQiAyracBhDoARIsACGFcS6dCT8OguC9gYH0299Sxp9yJdK4df-ZUzwdQoQhtVPw5id7zQWPcPgaAsVgEALw_wcB

Rick Steves: <http://blog.ricksteves.com/>

The Wanderlust Effect: <https://www.thewanderlusteffect.com/category/experiences/city-escapes/>

-excursions: morning: visit a German grocery store of your choice (take notes and photos! What differences do you see from American grocery stores?)

-11 am meet at *Marienplatz* to see the famous Glockenspiel

-afternoon: groups visit museums for site reports (e.g., Bavarian National Museum, Deutsches Museum, Residenz München, Alte and Neue Pinakothek) (take notes and photos)

Dec. 29 (Sunday):

-DUE at 9 am: Journal entry or Blog 2

-9 am meet to report to classmates about Place as Text museum visits

-excursions: 9:15 am: walking tour of Nazi Munich

-Visit *Dachau*:

Board local train at 11:30, arrive in Dachau; 12:00
Lunch: Walk to Döneria for Turkish food; 12:15
Board bus for Dachau Concentration Camp; 13:00
Visit the memorial site; Return to Munich on your own, in groups [camp closes 17:00]

Dec. 30 (Monday):

-DUE at 9 am: Journal entry or Blog 3

-DUE at 9 am: Place as Text site reports

-Day-Trip excursion: *Füssen and Neuschwanstein Castle*:

Meet at 7:20: Walk to train station; Train departs (one change); 07:39; discuss Jessica Battilana, “How I Broke into Food Writing” (pdf) on train; Arrive in Füssen; take bus to Hohenschangau village; 09:39

Walk up to Neuschwanstein Castle; 10:45

Admire castle from outside (take photos and notes!); take photos at Marienbrücke; 11:45

Walk down from Neuschwanstein Castle; 12:45

Return by bus to Füssen 13:40

Late lunch: Local Gasthaus of your choosing for Bavarian specialties, 14:00 (take photos and notes)

Explore Füssen on your own 15:30

Direct train back to Munich departs (assigned groups arr.19:19) 17:05

Direct train back to Munich departs (assigned groups arr.20:45) 18:53

Dec 31 (Tuesday):

-DUE at 9 am: Journal Entry or Blog 4

-Meet at 10:15 am to discuss reading: “Find out the Differences in Fast Food in Germany vs. the U.S.”: <https://worldthruoureyes.com/2015/02/26/fast-food-in-germany/>

-10:30 am: visit *Nazi Documentation Center* museum (take notes and photos)

-Free afternoon!: suggested activities: visit a fast food restaurant (take notes and photos: how does this compare to the U.S.?); stroll through the *English Garden*

Jan. 1 (Wednesday): travel from Munich to Paris

-DUE at 9 am: Journal entry or Blog 5

-Meet in hotel lobby to walk to station 06:20; Direct train departs 06:41

-read McCommon, “A High-Speed Zip Across Europe by Train” (pdf), take notes/photos, and reflect on similarities to/distinctions from travel in the United States

-arrival at *Gare de l’Est*: Purchase your *Passe Navigo*; take public transit to FIAP Jean Monnet

-At FIAP (arrival approx. 2 pm): orientation and neighborhood walking tour (2:30 pm): take notes/photos

Jan. 2 (Thursday):

-DUE at 9 am: Journal entry or Blog 6

-meet at 9:45 am to discuss Paris readings 1: Maxine Rose Schur, “Passionate and Penniless in Paris”; Irwin Shaw, “Paris in Winter”; Ernest Hemingway, “Hunger Was Good Discipline” (pdf)

-excursions: Central Paris walking tour 10:30 am (3 hours)

-Afternoon: visit a Parisian grocery store (compare and contrast it with your experience of German grocery stores); visit *Jardin Luxembourg* or if inclement weather, *Musée Carnavalet*, a free museum about the history of Paris (take notes/photos)

Jan. 3 (Friday):

-DUE at 9 am: Journal entry or Blog 7

- meet at 9:45 am to discuss Paris readings 2: Naomi Barry, “Paris’s Haute Chocolaterie”; Grant Rosenberg, “A Day in the Life of a Parisian Café” (pdf); blog examples (choose one of the following to check out): messynessychic.com; secretsofparis.com; invisibleparis.net
- Famous food markets: 10:30 am: visit *Place Monge marché* and *Rue Mouffetard*, picnic lunch in nearby Roman amphitheatre, *Les Arènes de Lutèce* (12:30)
- Afternoon: 1:30 pm: Literary *Left Bank* walking tour: learn about the life of writers like Ernest Hemingway and F. Scott Fitzgerald in 1920s Paris! (take notes/photos). Includes a stop at the famous *Shakespeare and Company* bookstore. To whet your appetite, watch the film *Midnight in Paris* if you can beforehand, and check out <https://www.parisinsidersguide.com/paris-left-bank-literary-promenade.html>

Jan. 4 (Saturday):

-DUE at 9 am: Journal entry or Blog 8

-DUE at 9 am: synthesis/reflection essay draft; peer review

- meet at 8:45 am to visit *Grande Mosquée de Paris* (take notes/photos)
- Free afternoon!**: suggested: museums [admission fees] such as the Louvre, Musée d’Orsay, or Centre Pompidou; or 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>

Jan. 5 (Sunday):

-DUE at 9 am: final draft of synthesis/reflection essay

- meet at 9 am to visit *Montmartre*, a hilly neighborhood that was the haunt of artists like Van Gogh and Toulouse-Lautrec in the 19th century, and Picasso in the early 20th century, as well as famous for 1920s jazz clubs featuring African American performers like Bricktop (Ada Smith), Josephine Baker, and Adelaide Hall (take notes/photos) Whet your appetite by watching the film *Amelie* beforehand if you can, and check out <https://en.parisinfo.com/discovering-paris/walks-in-paris/montmartre-village-in-paris> and <https://www.messynessychic.com/2021/09/30/when-montmartre-was-harlem-on-the-seine/>
- Free afternoon!** Suggested: *Cimetière Père Lachaise*, the beautiful cemetery and resting place of notables from Frederic Chopin to Jim Morrison (free); or the *Panthéon*, a historic Latin Quarter monument and burial site of French icons from Rousseau to Marie Curie (admission fee).
- 6:30 pm: evaluations in FIAP lobby
- 7 pm: meet in lobby to walk to a traditional French restaurant, *Bouillon Chartier*, for farewell dinner [no cost]

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 shared by instructor

6. Graded Assignments:

-Journal or Blog entries:

(1-2 pages/250-500 words each; 8 required at 25 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, “talking points” [looking up facts to share about sites on an excursion], asking questions, and note-taking)

100 points 20%
500 points total

More detailed instructions for the 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, Ena Demir (270-745-6867 / ena.demir@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigator, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@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/titleix/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.