



University of the Incarnate Word
UIW-Heidelberg

GOVT / BINT 3340 EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING IN EUROPE

COURSE OUTLINE

I. Logistics

UIW-Heidelberg Study Center

Physical Address:

Heidelberg, Germany - Bergstrasse 106, 69121

II. Course Description

This course is designed to help students make the most of their study abroad experience in Germany. Numerous excursions have been built into this study abroad program and coursework consist of participating on these excursions, researching and presenting about places to be visited, and reflective writing.

III. Course Objective

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of the significance of the places visited
- demonstrate an understanding personal growth through the excursions and other cultural experiences

IV. Course Texts/Supplies/Materials

When in Germany, Do as the Germans Do: The Clued-In Guide to German Life, Language, and Culture by Hyde Flippo (2002) ISBN 978-0844225531

Additional Texts Used from: Dowell, M. M. & Mirsky, K. P. (2003). *Study Abroad: How to Get the Most out of Your Experience*. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

Suggested Additional Resources: Facts about Germany. (2013). <http://www.tatsachen-ueber-deutschland.de/en/>



V. The following matrix reflects the general guideline of topics, readings, and/or assignments for each session. **The instructor reserves the right to modify weekly activities, assignments, projects, and/or assessments required for this class. Adjustments and/or changes will be stated before and/or during class. If the student is absent, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and/or classmates about any adjustments and/or updates.**

Week/ Lecture	Topic / Reading	Class Activity
Week 1/ Lect. 1	Kurpfälzisches Museum Heidelberg	Reading Assignment “ <i>Study Abroad – How to Get the Most Out of Your Experience</i> ”
Week 1/ Lect. 2	The 16 German federal states - a survey History/Importance of the City of Speyer	2 essays due #1 – Study Abroad Goals and # 2 either Guided Walking Tour of Heidelberg OR Heidelberg Castle OR Kurpfälzisches Museum
Week 2/ Lect. 3	History of the town of Ladenburg Religious Germany a survey	#3 - reflective essay on Speyer tour
Week 2/ Lect. 4	John Deere Mannheim Industry in Germany – a survey	# 4 – reflect. essay on Ladenburg tour
Week 3/ Lect. 5	Visiting Lecturer Prof. Birte Wassenberg, Univ. of Strasbourg – preparation talk concerning the Nov 7 & 8 Strasbourg Symposium topics	
Week 3/ Lect. 6	BASF Ludwigshafen and chemical industry survey Berlin Presentations: City / Checkpoint Charlie The German Government System and Federal Parliament	#5 – John Deere Mannheim
Week 4/ Lect. 7	Assignment Pending in Observance of Possible Holiday	
Week 4/ Lect. 8	Cultural and/or Academic Based Excursions – Updates shall be discussed on first week of class.	Assignments based on Activities
Week 5/ Lect. 9	Cultural and/or Academic Based Excursions – Updates shall be discussed on first week of class.	Assignments based on Activities
Week 5/ Lect. 10	History/Importance of Stuttgart Mercedes-Benz and the German Car Industry	#6 – reflective essay on BASF #7 – reflect. essay on SRH Intl. Week # 8 – # 9 two Berlin excursion aspects (1 page each) and # 10 Midterm Reflection Essay



Week/ Lecture	Topic / Reading	Class Activity
Week 6/ Lect. 11	History/Importance of the City of Frankfurt German Stock Exchange European Central Bank and the Euro	# 11 - reflective essay on Stuttgart
Week 6/ Lect. 12	History/Importance of Strasbourg – The European Parliament The Council of Europe	# 12 – Frankfurt OR Stock Exchange OR TEXT 1 Flippo
Week 7/ Lect. 13	Strasbourg Symposium on Immigration - presentation	
Week 7/ Lect. 14	Schwetzingen Palace & Gardens Beer and Local Breweries in German	#13 Strasbourg-focus either on the European Parliament OR City
Week 8/ Lect. 15	How to grow / produce wine The German wine industry	#14 Schwetzingen Palace visit OR Brewery Visit
Week 8/ Lect. 16	Audi Car Brand and the Volkswagen group Business Etiquette in Germany	# 15 winery visit reflection <i>Purchase materials for final portfolio</i>
Week 9/ Lect. 17	SAP and the German IT industry	#16 – Audi car factory
Week 9/ Lect. 18	Assignment Pending in Observance of Possible Holiday	
Week 10/ Lect. 19	Cultural and/or Academic Based Excursions – Updates shall be discussed on first week of class.	
Week 10/ Lect. 20	Cultural and/or Academic Based Excursions – Updates shall be discussed on first week of class.	
Week 11/ Lect. 21	Last session	
Week 11/ Lect. 22	Reflection and discussion. Final assignments due.	#17 – SAP visit reflection #18- Final Study Abroad Reflection Essay due with final portfolio

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to adjust and/or change the above schedule at any time during the semester. Adjustments and/or changes will be stated before and/or during class. If the student is absent, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and/or classmates about any adjustments and/or updates.



VI. Grading Activities, Criteria and Guidelines

This class will include a variety of instructional methods and learning activities intended to engage the student in the learning process. This may include, but not be limited to: lecture, written assignments, group discussion and problem solving exercises, media presentation, article and case analysis, student-led discussion, student presentation, reflection on what was learned and documentation of planned application. Some assignments will be individual while some may be group or team assignments. Class will be participative, and each student must be prepared for each class.

VII. Grades

The course consists of the following assessments. The instructor reserves the right to adjust and/or change the course assessments before and/or during the class.

Description	Percentage
Essays	20%
Midterm Reflection Essay	30%
Final Study Abroad Reflection	20%
Final portfolio	20%
Class Participation	10%
Total	100%

VIII. Attendance and Participation

Attendance and active classroom participation are required of each student. Tests will cover for all course material provided through lectures and presentations, readings, discussions, cases, and videos during class. **Absences and/or a lack of participation in discussions will impact negatively on the final grade.** Each student is responsible for all material covered and/or assigned and any announcements made in any class session, whether student is present or not. Group activities require all students to participate and contribute to group discussions and projects.

Students are expected to come to class on time and to have read assigned material before class. There may be an occasional pop quiz to verify whether students have read the assignments before class. **All work must be turned in on time.** Late work may be accepted but points will be taken off if work is not turned in to instructor when it is due. At all times, in class and group discussions, students are expected to respect contributions, questions, and opinions of other people. Demeaning others in any way is not acceptable.



IX. Academic Integrity Policy

Examples of scholastic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating on assignments or tests, taking, unauthorized reuse of work, etc. If it is determined that a student has engaged in scholastic dishonesty, the faculty shall adhere to the [Academic Integrity Policy stated in the UIW Catalog](#).

X. Grading Scale

The University of the Incarnate Word operates on a semester basis using a 4-point grading scale as follows. Registrar Online Resource: <https://my.uiw.edu/registrar/academics/grading-scale.html>.

Grade	Descriptive Grade	Numeric Grade	Grade Points
A	Excellent Scholarship	93-100	4.00
A-	Excellent Scholarship	90-92	3.70
B+	Good Scholarship	87-89	3.30
B	Good Scholarship	83-86	3.00
B-	Good Scholarship	80-82	2.70
C+	Satisfactory Scholarship	77-79	2.30
C	Satisfactory Scholarship	70-76	2.00
D+	Poor Scholarship	67-69	1.30
D	Poor Scholarship	63-66	1.00
D-	Poor Scholarship	60-62	0.70
F	Failure	Less than 60	0.00
IP	Incomplete work		None assigned; converts to an F after expiration date or deadline of six months
N	Grade not reported by faculty		None assigned
NG	No grade required		None assigned; used for thesis and dissertation courses
P	Satisfactory Scholarship	70-100	None assigned
S	Satisfactory Scholarship	70-100	None assigned
W	Withdrawn from the University		None assigned



XI. Course Add/Drop Procedure

Students are responsible for communicating and updating any potential changes, including dropping a course, to the UIW Heidelberg Academic Director **and** their Academic advisor at UIW before implementing any changes.

Dropping or changing a course may delay a student's intended graduation date due to classes not adhering to their degree plan.

The Study Abroad Advisor, UIW European Liaison and/or any other administrative personnel are **not** responsible for the student's academic planning.



SUPPLEMENTAL COURSE INFORMATION

Assignments: Students are to complete assigned coursework including presentations and reflective writing (500 – 700 words each time, approx. 1 page). Essays should include the following in the heading at the LEFT side of the page (please see sample essays at the end of syllabus): First AND last name, Experiential Learning, Essay # , Word Count: (insert the number of words for essay ONLY – do not include the heading), Date.

Most assignments for this course are 1-1.5 page (500-700 words) writing assignments which ask you to reflect on your experiences and your goals.

Your goals are to:

demonstrate an understanding of the significance of the places visited

demonstrate an understanding personal growth through the excursions and other cultural experiences

Questions each writing assignment should answer:

Why was this important to me personally/academically/professionally?

What did you learn?

How does this experience relate to other things I've learned?

Format: Please clearly label each writing assignment with your name, date, week number of the writing assignment, topic of the writing assignment and final word count. If the writing assignment is about a topic from Flippo, please include which topic you read and the page numbers for that topic.

Rather than a final exam for this course, students will turn in a **portfolio** of their reflective writing for this course, journals of other significant learning experiences and information about places visited. The portfolio is also to include things like pictures, information sheets, etc.

Blog Post

Students may get asked to submit their weekly reflection essay for posting on the ESC blogger page ([www.http://www.studyabroadheidelberg.blogspot.de/](http://www.studyabroadheidelberg.blogspot.de/)) to help future students prepare for their time here at the European Study center. Students may choose to submit more than one entry for blog publication.



SUPPLEMENTAL COURSE INFORMATION, CONT.

Presentations: Throughout the semester, each student will give at least 1 presentation about the excursions. Presentations should be academically sound (more than one source, not just information from Wikipedia, etc.) and should last 15-20 minutes. Your presentations are among the assignments leading up to the final portfolio. Should you not pass, you may choose to either repeat the presentation and have 1% docked from your final grade or have 5% automatically docked from your final grade. In order to help you improve the quality of your academic presentations, all class members will provide written feedback for each presentation.

Missed excursions: If you for some reason missed an excursion and a writing assignment about that excursion is due, please write an academic informational paper the same length as the writing assignment about the excursion destination, or a reflective essay about what you did instead, if the excursion was missed because of other travel plans.

The Portfolio is due in the last classroom session.