

English 703/803 Travel Writing London, England J-Term 2020

Dates: Dec. 27, 2019 - Jan. 18, 2020
One week online and two weeks in London
4 credits

Pre-requisite: ENGL 501 or 621 or 623 or permission of instructor
Counts towards an English Writing Minor, the English/Journalism Major, and as
a Writing Intensive Course

What is the London Travel Writing J-Term Course?

English 703/803 Travel Writing is an upper level writing course that asks students to explore the world around them - in this case, London - and write thoughtful essays blending their experience with research and observations of place. Students are expected to have a working knowledge of and experience writing creative nonfiction and/or journalism. The course starts with a week of online readings and writing at home and then moves the show to London for two weeks.

This is a course for the independent and the adventurous. Aside from group excursions and the two hours that we meet in class most weekdays, students are on their own to roam London to find topics for their travel essays. At first, students will have writing prompts to help them acclimate to their new surroundings. The second week, they have the freedom to delve deeper into a subject they explored the first week or launch a fresh idea. London is one of the most vibrant, exciting cities in the world; there is no shortage of material to investigate. A typical day for a London J-term travel writer is a combination of exploring (a visit to the Tate Modern, a noontime concert at St. Martin's in the Field, a tour of Wembley Stadium), reading (classmate's work and published essays), and writing.

We meet as a class most weekdays for two hours in a classroom in our hostel. The first part of every class is a salon in which we will write about what we've experienced and learned. The rest is a combination of discussing craft and the assigned reading and workshopping student essays. Classes are occasionally held off-site.

In addition, we have group excursions, including a bus tour of the city, two dinners, a trip to Cambridge, an evening at the theatre, and a weekend day trip.

Students stay at the Meininger Hyde Park Hotel <https://www.meininger-hotels.com/en/hotels/london/hotel-london-hyde-park/> in South Kensington, one of the safest and poshest neighborhoods in London -- just steps away from Harrod's and the Victoria and Albert Museum, as well as tons of funky restaurants, book shops, Stella McCartney clothing, and a Lamborghini dealer. Kensington Palace is just up the street and if you time it right, you'll catch the royal entourage delivering royal children to school. Breakfast is included.

Course Schedule and Itinerary:

Dec. 27, 2019 - Jan. 3, 2020: Students will read, write, and workshop electronically with the instructor and each other through email and Canvas. In addition, they will research London and prepare their wish list for places and events to research when they arrive.

Friday, Jan. 3, 2020: Students fly to London

Saturday, Jan. 4, 2020: Students check in to the Meininger Hyde Park Hotel in the South Kensington neighborhood of London. Introductory meeting at 4 p.m. in the lounge.

Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020: Big Bus Tour. Welcome dinner that night.

Monday, Jan. 6, - Tues, Jan. 7, 2020

9:30 -11:30 a.m. class. Rest of the day: Students will explore the city, write, and read.

Wed., Jan. 8, 2020

Class will be held at the Victoria & Albert Museum. Attend a theatre production that night

Thursday, Jan. 9

9:30 -11:30 a.m. class. Rest of the day: Students will explore the city, write, and read.

Friday, Jan. 10

Day trip to Cambridge

Saturday, Jan. 11

Open day. Portobello Market? Camden Market? Bike around Hyde Park? Day trip to the Harry Potter studio?

Sunday, Jan. 12	Day-long group excursion to Stonehenge and Bath
Mon., Jan. 13 – Tues., Jan. 14	9:30-11:30 a.m. class. The rest of the day is devoted to exploring the city, writing about those explorations, and reading great travel pieces on which to model the essay/s due on Friday.
Wed., Jan. 15	Excursion to Windsor Castle
Thurs., Jan. 16	9:30-11:30 a.m. Students will continue exploring and working on their essay/s.
Friday, Jan. 17	Final essay/s due. Group farewell dinner
Saturday, Jan. 18	Fly home

What's it going to cost me? *Estimated costs for 2020*

	NH Res. Undergrad.	Non-NH Res. Undergrad.	NH Res. Grad.	Non-NH Res. Grad.
UNH J-Term Tuition (4 credits)	\$1,884	\$2,072	\$2,200	\$2,420
Program Fee*	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900
UNH Technology & Registration Fees	\$46	\$46	\$46	\$46
UNH Study Abroad Administrative Fee	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
UNH Mandatory International Insurance Fee	\$35	\$35	\$35	\$35
Total	\$2,965	\$3,153	\$3,281	\$3,501

*The program fee covers 14-nights lodging and breakfast, Big Bus tour of London, two dinners, one theatre ticket, and day-long excursion

Not included: Airfare; public transportation in London; meals other than the ones mentioned above; other travel, international cell phone (can be purchased for as little as \$20)

Dates of Travel: January 3 – January 18, 2020. Students will arrange their own transportation.

What about scholarships and financial aid?

- Use of financial aid is limited for January Term, but students are encouraged to contact the Financial Aid Office for guidance
- There are some scholarship opportunities for January Term study abroad programs. Students are encouraged to apply to two UNH funds in particular (*applications available in August for J-Term*):
 - COLA Study Abroad Awards. Students must be COLA majors, multiple funds available. Find application information online at <https://cola.unh.edu/center-study-abroad/resources/financial-aid-scholarships>. Questions? Contact the COLA Center for Study Abroad at: james.parsons@unh.edu.
 - UNH GEC Study Abroad Scholarships. Multiple scholarship funds which emphasize academic merit, financial need, and diversity. Find application information online at: <https://www.unh.edu/global/unh-global-undergraduate-education-abroad-awards>. Questions? Contact the Global Education Center at: study.abroad@unh.edu

How do I apply?

- The online application and instructions can found on the “Apply” section of the program website (<https://cola.unh.edu/center-study-abroad/programs/england-london-travel-writing>)
- Deadline: **May 1, 2019** for early applicants (\$20 application fee waived). Final applications will be accepted through **September 30, 2019** (with \$20 application fee due).

If I’m accepted, what happens next?

- You will need to put down a **non-refundable \$200 deposit** after final notifications of acceptance. (Due Sept 1 for early applicants)
- You will be billed full tuition and program fees in November and full payment will be due to UNH Business Services in early December.
- You’ll have some paperwork to do; COLA Study Abroad Coordinator Jim Parsons will be in contact with you during our pre-departure planning meetings to provide instructions

If I’m accepted, how do I get to London?

- The craft of travel writing requires the writer to navigate the unfamiliar, to learn how to reach destinations and how to seek information. Thus, students are expected to arrange their own travel to and from London, which includes making their way to the Astor Hyde Park Hostel. To aid this first challenge, Prof. Hertz will provide students with a list of transportation options from Heathrow Airport to the hostel.

What else will I have to do?

- Apply for your passport if you do not have one