**FAQs about January Term in the European Union**

* How should I dress for Europe?
	+ You should have clothes that are nice looking, but comfortable (no sweats). European dress is slightly more formal than that of the US; you will not see people in public wearing sweatpants and Uggs. Layers are recommended as it will be chilly in January; sweaters are always a good idea. Europe is very rainy in the winter so a water-repellant coat, and/or umbrella are musts. You will also be doing a lot of walking so sensible shoes are a good idea. While permissible, tennis shoes (trainers) are not everyday wear in Europe, comfortable boots or loafers are preferred. A typical day’s dress might include: comfortable jeans or slacks, a camisole or undershirt, a sweater or nice shirt, a coat (and umbrella if not water-repellant), and nice (but comfortable), waterproof shoes.
	+ You should not bring: tight and/or revealing clothing, short skirts or shorts, t-shirts printed with anything crude or vulgar.
* Where will we be staying in the European Union?
	+ You will be staying in various hotels in twin and triple rooms as you travel throughout the European Union. Breakfast will be provided by your accommodations.
* What vaccinations are needed for the trip to the EU?
	+ No vaccinations are required, but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offers recommendations for vaccinations you may consider for each of the countries you will visit. <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel>
* How much extra spending money should I bring?
	+ Most expenses will be covered, but you will need money for meals not provided, and for spending money. We encourage students to have $200 to $400 accessible to them. One U.S. dollar is equivalent to 0.82 euros. There are ATMs available in every country, but it is important to remember that many small stores (i.e. gift shops) may not accept credit cards, especially those that are not Chip and Pin cards.
* What about our safety in the EU?
	+ The safety, health, and well-being of our students is our first priority. We regularly review information from the U.S. State Department and our insurance company and use this information in making our travel plans. The countries we are visiting are quite safe; the biggest issue(s) you will need to be aware of are pick-pockets. The best ways to prevent being pick-pocketed include using common sense, traveling in groups, being conscious of your belongings at all times, and being aware of your surroundings.
* How can I apply to the program?
	+ Use the online application link. You will be required to fill out the following 11 forms: advisor review, disciplinary clearance, essay questions, faculty admittance, optional travel insurance, health, insurance, passport, liability release, emergency contact, and program payment. You will be required to pay a $250 non-refundable deposit initially, and then pay the remaining cost of the trip in fall semester. You will also need to register for the course for January-term: GS 260.
* What is the typical weather in Europe during the month of January?
	+ Europe is very rainy in the winter. Average temperatures range from the mid-30’s to mid-50’s. The closer proximity to the coastline will increase the chill in the air, please keep this in mind when packing.
* Will I…
	+ Get homesick?
		- Your exciting schedule may stave off homesickness partially or completely if you allow yourself to get caught up in the experience. However, homesickness *is not uncommon and is nothing to be ashamed of. If you do experience* homesickness, the best thing you can do is talk to someone who is traveling with you. They may be experiencing the same feelings and/or have worked through similar feelings. It is important to remember that you will only be away for two weeks, and in that time you will be seeing and experiencing many amazing things, allow yourself to enjoy the experience.
	+ Make friends?
		- You will be traveling with a large group of people and rooming with at least one roommate at each hotel. You will have many opportunities to make friends with your companions, and also meet new people as you travel around. If you open yourself up to talking with new people, friendships are inevitable.