

**WOMEN, MULTICULTURAL EUROPE, AND THE AFRICAN DIASPORA (3 credits)**  
Summer 2020 | University at Albany | Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

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Faculty-led Study Abroad in  
London and Paris  
by Dr. Janell Hobson  
(May 30-June 8, 2020)  
Combined with Online Course  
(May 17-June 19, 2020)  
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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This faculty-led study abroad tour will trace the historical footsteps of women of color across the transatlantic regions of Europe. Little is known of the impact of such women on cities like London or Paris; however, this study abroad and online course will place their histories front and center to shed light on new narratives and different locations in the African Diaspora. Course equivalent: AWSS 399/599.

### **COURSE LEARNING GOALS**

During this summer session, students will learn to:

- 1) Locate and identify women of color in historical, cultural, and geographical contexts;
- 2) Compare diverse women, histories, and locations; and
- 3) Produce multimedia narratives and analyses.

This study abroad fulfills the General Education *International Perspectives* requirement, as well as requirements for the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) major and minor.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

Readings, videos, and instructions for assignments are available on BLACKBOARD.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

*Class Participation* – To earn full participation credit, you will be expected to attend all group-based tours and events during our study abroad and to log-in frequently to our Blackboard online course during the weeks, pre- and post-study abroad, when we will focus on online learning.

There will be opportunities to venture on your own on the study abroad tour, but you must adhere to the different itineraries outlined in the course schedule, follow instructions outlined in the course's travel guide on Blackboard, and complete reading, writing, and media assignments.

*Museum Watch Blog* – In both London and Paris, you will be expected to complete a "Museum Challenge" on your days off. You have numerous options (including free museums) in both cities (some in Paris are free the first Sunday of the month). On Blackboard, complete three Blog posts that feature a photograph/image of an item from a museum that you visited, accompanied with a 200-word analysis about that item and why it resonated for you during your visit. You must complete all three Blog posts by **June 12, 2020, 11:59 PM EST**.

*Photo Essay* – In anticipation of the numerous picture-taking you will most likely pursue during our travels, you will be expected to create a photo essay of 15-20 photographs – each photo accompanied by a written caption (2-3 sentences or 2-4 lines of poetic verse). The photo essay should also include a 200-word introduction describing the overall theme of your essay. In other words, don't simply include photos at random; engage in a theme (visually, geographically, historically) to tell a story through these images so that your picture-taking is meaningful (less posing/selfies and more action shots). This assignment is due on Blackboard by **June 15, 2020, 11:59 PM EST.**

*Final Paper* – Graduate students will work on a final paper (up to 10 pages, typed and double-spaced) analyzing the transatlantic identity of one or two of the women encountered during our study abroad tour and in the required readings/videos. Further research into their histories is expected to complete a successful paper. This assignment must be completed by **June 19, 2020, 11:59 PM EST.**

#### **HOW GRADES ARE DETERMINED**

ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS	DUE DATE
Class Participation	30	Each tour and online forums
Museum Watch Blog	30	June 12, 2020 (11:59 PM EST)
Photo Essay	40 (for undergrad students) 20 (for grad students)	June 15, 2020 (11:59 PM EST)
Final Paper	20 (grad students only)	June 19, 2020 (11:59 PM EST)

#### **LETTER-GRADE EQUIVALENT**

A = 100-93    A- = 92-90    B+ = 89-87    B = 86-83    B- = 82-80    C+ = 79-76  
C = 75-73    C- = 72-70    D+ = 69-67    D = 66-65    E = below 65 points

#### **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Your attendance is required for group excursions; you will receive a 10-point grade deduction for each missed excursion. The same applies if you fail to log-in regularly on BLACKBOARD. You are expected to log-in at least 5 times per online week pre- and post-travel.

#### **COURSE EXPECTATIONS**

You are expected to be early and prompt when we have organized tours since we will always be on a tight schedule. Plan to show up at least 10 minutes before the departure time listed on the schedule. You are expected to exercise caution whenever you travel at night or by yourself (I strongly recommend you travel with at least one other person when touring on your own, especially in the evening and night) and to always be aware of your surroundings. You must have a valid passport to travel outside of the United States.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

### **Introduction – Preparation and Planning**

May 5, 2020 – *What to Expect*

7:30pm – Information Session about our study-abroad/ online course (meet on campus TBA).

### **Pre-Travel Assignments on Blackboard**

Week of May 17, 2020 – *Relating to London*

Video: *Belle* (available via Ensemble).

Readings:

--Jeremy Krikler, "The Zong and the Lord Chief Justice" (pdf);

--Janell Hobson, "The Political Romance of *Belle*": <https://msmagazine.com/2014/06/04/the-political-romance-of-belle>;

--Autograph ABP, "The Missing Chapter: Black Chronicles": <http://themissingchapter.co.uk> ("Black Chronicles II"; "Photographic Portraits, 1862-1948"; "The African Choir 1891 Re-Imagined")

--Denise Lynn, "Claudia Jones and Ending the Neglect of Black Women":

<https://www.aaihs.org/claudia-jones-and-ending-the-neglect-of-black-women/>

Quiz + Discussion: Post a question/comment based on the video and readings.

Week of May 24, 2020 – *Relating to Paris*

Video: *Paris Noir – African Americans in the City of Lights* (available via Ensemble).

Readings:

--Vivian M. May, "'It is Never a Question of the Slaves': Anna Julia Cooper's Challenge to History's Silences in Her 1925 Sorbonne Thesis" (pdf);

--Jane Nardal, "Josephine Baker, the Bal Negre, and the State of Black Musical Expression in Paris" (pdf);

--Jennifer Anne Boittin, "In Black and White: Gender, Race Relations, and the Nardal Sisters in Interwar Paris" (pdf).

Kyra Gaunt, "'We are No Longer Your Monkeys': Exploring the Critical Techno-musicology of 'APES\*\*T'," pp. 54-66 (pdf).

Additional Videos:

- Beyoncé and Jay Z's Music Video at the Louvre: available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbMqWXnpXcA>
- Toni Morrison, *The Foreigner's Home* (available via Ensemble).

Quiz + Discussion: Post a question/comment based on the video and readings.

Ungraded forums on Blackboard: Meet-and-Greet introductions and travel concerns and tips.

Local Accommodations:

<p><u>St. Giles Hotel</u></p> <p>Bedford Ave, Bloomsbury, London WC1B 3GH, UK</p> <p><a href="tel:+442073003000">+44 20 7300 3000</a></p> <p>Nearest Tube Station: <i>Tottenham Court Road</i></p>	<p><u>Paris Generator Hostel</u></p> <p>9-11 Place du Colonel Fabien, 75010 Paris, France</p> <p><a href="tel:+33170988400">+33 1 70 98 84 00</a></p> <p>Nearest Metro Station: <i>Colonel Fabien</i></p>
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## STUDY ABROAD ITINERARY

Saturday, May 30, 2020 – *Travel to London*

Departure from New York’s JFK Airport (arrive three hours before flight departure time)

Sunday, May 31, 2020 – *Arrival in London*

Coach transfer from London’s Heathrow to St. Giles Hotel

Welcome Dinner @ *Sage & Chilli’s* (7 PM)

***\*At each hotel/hostel check-in, students will turn in passports for security before receiving room key and public transit card in each city. Passports will be returned during check-out.***

Monday, June 1, 2020 – *Tour of Windsor and London*



6:30-9:00am – Breakfast @Hotel

**9:00am**– Hotel Pickup

**10:00-12:00noon** – Tour of Windsor + Visit to Windsor Castle & St. George’s Chapel

**12:00-1:00pm** – Lunch at Browns Windsor

**1:00-3:00pm** – Tour of London

**3:00-4:30pm** – Visit to London Eye

**5:00PM** – Return to Hotel via Tube (Stop: *Waterloo*)

\$\$Dinner on one’s own

Tuesday, June 2, 2020 – *Black Women’s Histories*

6:30-9:30am – Breakfast @Hotel

**9:30am** – Leave for Tube Station to Museum of the Docklands (Stop: *Canary Wharf/West India Quay*)

**10:00-12:00noon** – “London, Sugar, and Slavery” Exhibit

**12noon-1:00pm** – Lunch at Rum and Sugar

**1:00pm** – Leave for Kenwood House

**2:00-4:00pm** – Tour of Kenwood House



**4:15pm** – Claudia Jones's gravesite by Karl Marx's Tomb in East Highgate Cemetery

**5:00pm** – Return to Hotel

\$\$Dinner on one's own

Wednesday, June 3, 2019 – *Black London*

6:30-9:30am – Breakfast @Hotel

**9:30am** – Walk to Tube Station from hotel

**10:00-11:30am** – Rivington Place (Stop: *Old Street*) or Tate Modern (Stop: *Blackfriars*)

**11:30am** – Head to *Brixton* Station

**12noon-2:00pm** – Lunch at Healthy Eaters, explore Brixton Market

**2:00-5:00pm** – Black History London Bus Tour from Black Cultural Archives

**5:00pm** – Return to Hotel

\$\$Dinner on one's own



Thursday, June 4, 2020 – *Individual Exploration*



Individual exploration of London, with a Museum Challenge (visit at least one museum or historical site – lunch and dinner on one's own)

\*\*Possible Farewell Show

@Shakespeare Globe Theatre (7:30pm).

Friday, June 5, 2020 – *From London to Paris*

**9:30am** – London Hotel Checkout and Departure for Paris

**11:31am** - Eurostar train departs *St. Pancras* International Station to Paris (*Gare du Nord* – Brunch or Lunch\$\$ for purchase at train station or on train)

**2:47pm** - Arrival in Paris and settle in lodgings (Paris Generator Hostel)  
Individual exploration of city (or rest)



**5:15pm** – Depart for Louvre via Metro (Stop: *Palais-Royal Musée du Louvre*)  
**6:00-8:00pm** – “Black Images” Tour  
**8:45pm** – Seine River Dinner Cruise – La Marina  
**11:00pm** – Return to Hostel via Private Transfer

Saturday, June 6, 2020 – *Paris Noire*



8:30AM – Breakfast @Hostel  
**9:30AM** – *Walk the Spirit* Bus Tour Begins  
**12 Noon** – Lunch at *La Coupole* included  
2:00PM – Walking Tour of Latin District  
**4:30pm** – Return to Hostel  
\$\$Dinner on one’s own

Sunday, June 7, 2020 – *Final Day Overseas*

8:30am – Breakfast @Hostel  
Individual exploration of the city (and/or Versailles and/or Chartres) + Museum  
Challenge (\$\$Lunch on one’s own)  
**8:00pm**– Farewell Dinner @Le Bistro Parisien (near Eiffel Tower)

Monday, June 8, 2020 – *Return to U.S.*

**8:00AM** Coach Transfer from Generator Hostel to CDG Airport in Paris

### **Post-Travel Assignments on Blackboard**

Week of June 8, 2020 – *Begin Online Assignments*

Museum Watch Blog Assignment is due: **June 12, 11:59 PM EST.**

Week of June 15, 2020 – *Conclude Online Assignments*

Photo Essay Assignment is due: **June 15, 11:59 PM EST.**

Final Paper is due: **June 19, 11:59 PM EST.**

### **Conclusion – Reflections and Evaluation**

Ungraded forum: Study-Abroad Reflection and Course Evaluation.

## RECOMMENDED PLACES TO VISIT

### **London**

#### *General Interest:*

British Museum  
National Portrait Gallery  
Tate Museum  
Tate Modern  
Victoria and Albert Museum  
Westminster Abbey & Big Ben  
Buckingham Palace  
Tower of London  
Natural History Museum  
Shakespeare's Globe Theatre  
Piccadilly Circus

### **Beyond London**

#### *Course-Related:*

International Slavery Museum in Liverpool  
Manchester Cathedral (site of Sarah Baartman's Baptism)

#### *General Interest:*

Stratford-upon-Avon  
Stonehenge

### **Paris**

#### *Course-Related:*

Musée D'Orsay  
Musée Quai du Branley  
Musée de l'Homme (site where plaster cast of Sarah Baartman is housed)

#### *General Interest:*

Museum de l'Orangerie

### **Beyond Paris**

#### *Course-Related:*

Chartres Cathedral (site of the Black Madonna)

#### *General Interest:*

Versailles Palace and Gardens