PARIS AND THE TROPICS
EXPLORING THE CULTURAL DYNAMICS BETWEEN THE MARGINS AND THE CENTER
STUDY ABROAD SUMMER 2024

What works of art and literature have shaped European culture? How have the particular cultures of Paris and Amsterdam influenced European art and literature? What happens when European powers colonize other regions of the world? How do those regions in turn influence European culture? This program will explore the literary, visual, and intellectual history of Europe through two distinct lenses. First, we'll examine the literary, visual, and intellectual history of Europe. Who were the artists, writers, philosophers, and composers who shaped and formed European culture? How did Paris in particular become a cultural center? How did Amsterdam? Why are the names of van Gogh, Rembrandt, Monet, and Voltaire known throughout the Western world? Why is contemporary and modern art so difficult to understand?

Second, we'll explore the influence of Dutch and French culture on the global south and the ways in which the cultures of former European colonies have shaped Europe. What are the cultural legacies of empire, racism, multilingualism, and the struggle for nationhood? Who were Oswald de Andrade and Franz Fanon? What do parrots or cannibalism have to do with European culture? In other words, we will consider postcolonial approaches to understanding problems of aesthetic expression, political representation, human rights, and the construction of cultural and national identities in both Europe and the formerly colonized regions of the Caribbean, South America, and Africa. Most of our time will be spent in Paris itself, though we plan to take an extended trip to the Netherlands.

DATES
23 June–10 August 2024

HOUSING
The program will coordinate all accommodations. Students will live in a dorm environment with other BYU students with communal kitchens, laundry facilities, a library, and free wireless internet.

COURSES
Students will enroll in the following courses while on this program:
IHUM 202—Exploring Institutions: Power and Cultural Production (3 credit hours; counts for GE)
UNIV210R—Paris and the Tropics (3 credit hours; counts for GE)
COST
$5,300–5,800

Includes Latter-day Saint undergraduate full tuition (increased cost for graduate and non-Latter-day Saint students); housing, museum passes, group transportation on field trips, and international health insurance.

Does not include airfare, metro passes, prep course tuition, meals, or personal expenses.

TRAVEL
Students are responsible for purchasing their own airfare to and from the program sites. Airfare reservations must be made through BYU Travel. Students should contact a BYU Travel agent: BYU Travel | 280 HRCB | (801) 422-6293 | travel@byu.edu

PREPARATION
French language ability is not required. Accepted students are required to participate in an international, cross-cultural preparation course (IAS 201R, 1 credit hour). This course will be held Tuesdays from 4:00 to 5:40 pm during the second block of winter semester. Accompanying spouses need to be credit-bearing participants on the program. Spouses will also need to apply online and take the preparation course. Students must meet all country- and program-specific COVID and health requirements for travel.

FUNDING SOURCES
Regular BYU tuition scholarships, Pell Grants, and Federal Insured Student Loans may be applied to study abroad programs. Students who submit the financial aid section of the ISP application and who have a current FAFSA form on file at the Financial Aid Office (A-41 ASB) will be considered for a study abroad scholarship and may be considered for other scholarships. Academic departments and colleges may assist with scholarships and grants. Private grants and scholarships outside of BYU may also assist (see kennedy.byu.edu/scholarships).

College of Humanities majors may qualify for a program discount of $500-$3,000 based on financial need.

APPLICATION PROCESS
BYU welcomes students from any university to apply to participate on our study abroad programs. However, internships and direct enrollment programs are limited to BYU Provo students. Students must be 18 years of age or older to participate. Complete the online application at kennedy.byu.edu/isp-apply. A nonrefundable $35 application fee is required; applicants will be interviewed once the application is complete. Students will be notified via e-mail of their acceptance into the program. The first payment is due upon acceptance.

Application Deadline: 8 December 2023

FACULTY
The program will be co-directed by Rex Nielson, director of the BYU Humanities Center and professor of Spanish and Portuguese (rex_nielson@byu.edu), and Natalie Nielson, adjunct professor of Interdisciplinary Humanities (natalie_nielson@byu.edu). They have previously directed multiple study abroad programs and have traveled widely throughout Europe. They will be accompanied by three of their children.

SCHEDULE AND TIME COMMITMENT
Students may choose to travel on their own or with parents once the program is over, however, there will not be any opportunities for personal travel during the program.

INTERESTED STUDENTS SHOULD CONTACT
International Study Programs
101 HRCB | (801) 422-3686 | isp@byu.edu | kennedy.byu.edu/isp

PROGRAM ADJUSTMENTS
International Study Programs (ISP) reserves the right to cancel this program, revise its offerings, or make any adjustments to the preliminary cost. If it becomes necessary for ISP to cancel a program, all program payments made to BYU ISP will be refunded to the student’s BYU financial account. ISP is the only office authorized to cancel any of its programs.