

# BYU LONDON CENTRE

## EUROPEAN SOUNDSCAPES: MUSIC, LITERATURE, AND CULTURE IN LONDON, PARIS, AND CROATIA STUDY ABROAD WINTER 2027



This study abroad program will focus on the relationship between culture, music, and literature through the lens of sound studies. We'll start with the idea that sound is both an acoustic phenomenon and a means by which we understand and experience the world—the people we meet, the art we experience (whether visual, musical, literary, etc.), and the spaces and places we move through. London will serve as a focal point for this study, a focus supported by its historic place within both British musical and literary history, and its related role in global cultural interaction.

As students fulfill a variety of GE requirements, they will explore questions such as these: How does sound relate to cultural and artistic expression? Can the sounds of a city or natural space denote its musical and cultural history? Can an awareness of different sound environments expand one's appreciation of different types of music? How do the spaces and geographical locations in which music is performed influence its reception and adaptation? Can a work of literature be noisy or quiet, melodious or cacophonous? How does reading and adapting literature with an awareness of sound and silence relate to aural memory, cultural identity, audience reception, authorial composition, narrative structure, or interpretation?

Students will read a wide variety of literature, study visual art on location in museums in London and elsewhere, and attend musical performances from a range of global cultures and in a variety of performance settings and venues. Aligning with coursework, students will take excursions to sites in both the UK and Europe, including Paris, Croatia, Cornwall, and Canterbury. As they study, students will explore the sonic environments and histories of London and other cities and places and consider their own engagement with the sonic in their daily experiences.

### **DATES**

5 January –12 April 2027 (approx.)

### **HOUSING AND MEALS AT THE LONDON CENTRE**

Students will live at the BYU London Centre, within walking distance of Kensington Palace and Hyde Park. Note that students are required to help with food preparation and clean-up. Because of the communal nature of the meals, the BYU London Centre cannot

meet all special dietary needs, nor can it ensure a safe environment for those with food allergies. Program costs include breakfast and dinner all days except Saturday.

## **COURSES**

Accepted students will be required to register for 12 credit hours for winter semester:

UNIV 214R—Organized Sound (3 credit hours; fulfills GE Arts) with Dr. Steven Ricks

UNIV 215R—The Adapting Arthurian Legend (3 credit hours; fulfills GE Letters) with Dr. Juliana Chapman

UNIV 210R—European Soundscapes (3 credit hours; fulfills GE Global/Cultural Awareness) with Dr. Ricks & Dr. Chapman

CLCIV 202—World Cultures in Art (3 credit hours; fulfills Civilization 2 GE credit) with Dr. Cecilia Peek

Participants may not take any other courses on this program, including BYU Online courses, without approval by the program director and ISP.

## **COST**

\$12,900–13,400

Includes Latter-day Saint undergraduate full tuition (increased cost for graduate and non-Latter-day Saint students); housing at the London Centre; breakfast and dinner all days except Saturday; admission to program-related plays, museums, and historical sites; transportation within London; travel, lodging, and meals on program excursions; and international health insurance coverage. Does not include airfare to and from London, preparation course tuition, lunches and Saturday meals, passport fees, or personal expenses. Though extra-program spending varies widely, most students spend about \$2,000–3,000 over the course of the semester on food and incidentals.

## **TRAVEL**

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

## **PREPARATION**

Accepted students are required to participate in an international, cross-cultural preparation course (IAS 201R, 1 credit hour) during the second block of the Fall 2026 semester. International study programs are physically, emotionally, and mentally taxing, and you must be in good health to participate. These programs often take place in international locations that do not have the same level of safety and services in terms of transportation, living conditions, residential accommodations, food, public behavior, and policing that you may be used to on campus. If you have further questions or concerns on this, please see <https://kennedy.byu.edu/isp-travel-policy>. Students must meet all country- and program-specific health requirements for travel. The UK now requires that ALL travelers get pre-approval to enter the country. For more details, please refer to the information under “Do I Need a Visa?”

<https://kennedy.byu.edu/isp-travel-policy>

## **FUNDING SOURCES**

BYU tuition scholarships, Pell Grants, and Federal Insured Student Loans may be applied to study abroad programs. BYU students are strongly encouraged to request experiential or inspired learning funding through their major/minor department and/or college and the ORCA program. Those who complete the financial aid section of the ISP application and file a current FAFSA form at BYU’s Financial Aid Office (A-41 ASB) will be considered for a need-based study abroad scholarship. Students may also pursue private grants and scholarships, including those listed online at [kennedy.byu.edu/scholarships](https://kennedy.byu.edu/scholarships).

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Students must be 18 years of age or older to participate. Applications are available online at [kennedy.byu.edu/isp-apply](https://kennedy.byu.edu/isp-apply). The first payment is due upon acceptance. While London Centre programs primarily serve undergraduates from BYU-Provo, students from other universities who are committed to a rigorous academic experience and adhering to BYU’s Honor Code are also invited to apply.

**Priority Deadline: 1 September 2026**

**Final Deadline: 1 October 2026**

## **FACULTY**

**Dr. Steven Ricks** is a professor of music composition and theory, with a focus on contemporary art music, electronic music, sound art, and contemporary British music. (801) 422-6155 | [steve.ricks@byu.edu](mailto:steve.ricks@byu.edu)

**Dr. Juliana Chapman** is a professor of English literature with a focus on sound studies, medieval literature, and modern adaptation. 4137 JFSB | [juliana\\_chapman@byu.edu](mailto:juliana_chapman@byu.edu)

## **INTERESTED STUDENTS SHOULD CONTACT**

International Study Programs | 101 HRCB | (801) 422-3686 | [isp@byu.edu](mailto:isp@byu.edu) | [kennedy.byu.edu/isp](https://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.