THE PROGRAM

Berlin and Prague: Jewish History and Culture is designed to offer students an opportunity to explore the fundamentals of Judaism through European Jewish history, ideas, beliefs and customs. The program will travel to Berlin, Germany and to Prague, Czech Republic, meeting with local residents and scholars who will offer students the opportunity to experience the culture and history of two distinct countries.

THE COURSE

Three undergraduate (3) credits will be offered for the course. Students will enroll in the following course:

REST204L-150 ST: Principles of Judaism

Academic details will be provided by the program director, Prof Steve Sansola. Students interested in the program will need to meet with Prof Sansola to discuss program details and to receive permission to enroll in the program.

Note: The course above may fulfill the elective for the Global Studies minor or serve as a Foreign Culture credit or for the Cultural Diversity requirement. Speak with your academic advisor for more information.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Professor Steve Sansola will lead the program. He has previously led this trip in Spring 2006. A second full time Marist instructor/chaperone will also accompany the group to assist with logistics and safety.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

This short-term study abroad program will consist of a combination of pre-departure lectures and readings with on-site lectures, seminars and activities in Berlin, Germany and Prague, Czech Republic. Included are visits to museums, historical, religious and cultural sites as well as other important landmarks.

Your obligations before leaving for Germany and the Czech Republic include meeting as a class 14 times and writing a short paper. While traveling, you will keep an on-going journal of your academic and personal experiences and complete a research paper when you return to Marist.

Students are required to attend orientation/class sessions during Spring Semester 2010. Dates to be announced.

PROGRAM ITINERARY*

Berlin, Germany

Berlin, with over 3.4 million people is Germany’s liveliest city and one of the most fascinating capitals of the world. You’ll find no other place where art and culture, museums and theatres, entertainment and nightlife are more diverse and exciting than on the banks of the Spree River. Once reunited, Berlin quickly developed into a cosmopolitan city, and today there is an air of energy and vibrancy about it. The city is relatively green, with parks, forests, lakes and rivers taking up about one-third of its space. While in Berlin we will visit five significant institutions that depict Jewish life in Germany from its origins to the periods of cultural efflorescence, from persecution and destruction through to a new beginning in the contemporary era. The sites include the Wansee House, Jewish Museum, the New Synagogue-Centrum Judaicum, the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, and the Topography of Terror Museum. Participants will also visit the Berlin Wall, Brandenburg Gate, Reichstag (German Parliamentary Building) and Checkpoint Charlie.

Prague, Czech Republic

At the geographical heart of Europe, Prague’s beautiful cityscape has been carved and sustained by a variety of emperors, artists and religious communities, from the Gothic exuberance, or its castle and cathedral, to the dignity of the medieval Jewish cemetery, and the 19th century opulence of the “new” town. Prague is home to central Europe’s oldest Jewish community and ironically, Hitler’s decision to create a “museum of an extinct race” led to the preservation of the city’s Jewish cemetery and synagogues. While in Prague, we will visit a number of historic sites in Josefov, Prague’s historic Jewish neighborhood. Specifically, these include the Jewish Museum (consisting of six historic sites including the Old Jewish Cemetery) and the Old-New Synagogue. Participants will also visit Charles Bridge, Prague Castle, Old Town Square, St. Vitus’s Cathedral and Wenceslas Square. There will also be a day trip to Terezin Memorial, commemorating the victims of the Nazi political and racial persecution during the occupation of the Czech lands during World War II.

HOUSING

Students will stay in budget hotels (double or triple occupancy).

MEALS

One meal per day (breakfast) is included in the program. Students are encouraged to sample local cuisines.

*The MAP reserves the right to make changes to the scheduled itinerary. Any changes will be discussed during orientation.
PROGRAM COST OF $2,650.00 INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip Airfare (NYC-Berlin/Prague-NYC)
- Airport Transfer in Germany and Czech Republic
- Program Transportation in Czech Republic
- Accommodations (double or triple occupancy)
- 1 meal per day (breakfast)
- Site visits (entrance fees to designated venues)
- Health Insurance

COSTS NOT INCLUDED:

- 3-credits Marist tuition
- 2 meals per day
- Personal expenses, transportation and excursions
- Passport and visa (if required)
- Taxes and surcharges (airline, airport and departure)
- US Airport Transfer
- Gratuities

SPACE IS LIMITED!!

PROGRAM NOTES

- Fluctuating exchange rates, airline and other fees may lead to cost changes.
- Program fees are based on a minimum number of participants in the program. Refund Policy: Please speak with the Coordinator for specific information on Marist International Programs short-term program refund policy prior to making any payments for the program. Your $300 non-refundable deposit indicates your acceptance of the Refund Policy.
- Applicants should demonstrate flexibility and a sincere desire to increase their understanding of German and Czech culture and society, and should possess the emotional strength to adjust to a foreign environment.
- Marist International Programs reserves the right to modify or cancel the program as dictated by current economic and/or political situations. This may include changes to the scheduled itinerary or program dates.
- All fees will be refunded if a program is cancelled.
- Information in this brochure is subject to change.

PROGRAM TUITION

This Spring Break course can be taken as part of your 2010 Spring Semester course load. If you decide to take this course in addition to your regular full-time course load (16 credits maximum), you will be responsible for any additional per-credit charge ($610.00 per undergraduate credit). Tuition is not included in the program cost.

All payments, including the $300 non-refundable deposit, should be made in Student Financial Services, Donnelly 200. Student Financial Services can accept payments by cash or check. If you wish to pay by credit card (Discover, MasterCard or American Express only), you must do so online at http://www.marist.edu/financialaid/payment.html. A 2% convenience fee is assessed for all credit card transactions.

PROGRAM REGISTRATION PAYMENTS AND DEADLINES

November 20, 2009  $300.00 Deposit (non-refundable)

SPRING ADD/DROP

January 25, 2010  LATE SPRING ADD/DROP

Students are required to pay all fees and costs for the program if course is added during Late Spring 2008 Add/Drop.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Program cost is included with the Spring Tuition bill and is payable by the Spring Bill due date which is early January.

TuitionPay offers a Spring only monthly payment plan option. Contact 1.800.635.0120 or visit their website at www.tuitionpay.com for additional information. Spring plans can be spread over four (4) months, and can be set up in November with first payment due in December.

Alternative loans: visit our website at http://www.marist.edu/financialaid for information on alternative loans.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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