

IDH 4007 / IDH 4008
Spring 2023 / Summer C 2023
Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. / TBA
MMC / Miami – London and the UK, Ireland – Miami

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“The United Kingdom and Ireland: Uneasy Neighbors”

Course Introduction

The much-debated and highly publicized June 2016 “Brexit” referendum, in which a narrow majority of British citizens voted to leave the European Union, made newly apparent what has, in fact, been a centuries-old dynamic between the British Isles (England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales) and the European continent. This messy divorce, now in its fifth year and counting, has also revealed tensions within the UK itself, such as the uneasy question of Scottish independence from England, and anxiety over Northern Ireland’s position in the UK. Other divisions abound too, typified by “Megxit” and the near breakup of the beloved English Premier League. Add into the mix racial, class and religious tensions; a weakened Labour Party; and concern about the vaunted, beloved National Health Service (NHS) in its response to the Covid-19 pandemic: everywhere you look, divisive challenge abounds. Can the United Kingdom hold itself together?

Honors College students enrolling in the UK program will have the opportunity to answer this question first-hand. In the spring semester, in IDH 4007, we will emphasize coherence and unity, as we study British history, culture, religion, literature and art, and advances in science, technology, medicine and engineering from the pre-Roman and Roman eras, through the Middle Ages, Renaissance, Restoration and Enlightenment, Industrial Revolution, Victorian and Edwardian ages, the World Wars of the last century, and right up to the present. This learning about the United Kingdom will then be tested and extended *in situ*, as participants travel in the summer, under the IDH 4008 rubric, observing first-hand, in London and the southwestern part of the UK, and Ireland too, if despair and dismay over Brexit and Megxit is real, or not. “United we stand. Divided we fall”: does Churchill’s famous formulation, spoken in June 1941, still apply in speaking of the UK?

In this, the third year of this program (year 1 was 2019, and year 2 was in 2022), we will begin our travels in London and the southeast, for our first two weeks. Then, over fifteen more days, we will journey west and southwest from the English capital. First, we will spend a week in Ireland, England’s other, visiting the southwest (Dingle), the west (Galway) and then Dublin. After eight days discovering Ireland, we will fly to the southwest of England, where in succession we will travel through Cornwall, Devon and finally Dorset and the so-called Jurassic Coast. There is too much in London and the whole of the UK and Ireland to ever encompass it “all” in the space of just one month; that said, your travels in London and the southwest, and throughout Ireland should provide you an excellent introduction to the British Isles, vastly deepening your understanding of these two fabled nation-states and their dueling positions in the world.

Both in our spring term studies here in Miami, and while we travel in the UK in late May and throughout June, a few threads of history and culture will be front and center. These include, but are not limited to: London’s centrality to the nation-state’s identity, even if challenged by other urban centers such as

Dublin/Belfast, Glasgow/Edinburgh, and Manchester/Birmingham; the relationship of the urban and the rural in English life, as manifested by the institution of the country house; the relationship between the British people and the royal family, teased out at several royal palaces; the relationship between England and “her” colonies, including the U.S., Canada, Australia, India, Kenya, Zimbabwe, and most significantly for our Miami context, Caribbean nations such as Jamaica and the Bahamas; highlights and trends in the British arts, architecture, painting, and of course theatre—both classical drama (Shakespeare!) and the musical; politics and governance in the U.K. both at “home” and abroad; the “special relationship” as it stands today between the U.S. and Britain; the importance of family and lineage in a country that is increasingly multicultural, especially in and around London and other major urban centers; and the remnants and shards of an empire that, famously and not so long ago, spanned the globe.

Throughout both spring and summer, you will each be expected to tailor your studies in the course to your own interests, strengths, and majors. For example, pre-med students might examine the National Health Service, nursing, community medicine, or other aspects of British medicine, including the country’s response to the Covid-19 pandemic; engineers might study major feats of civil and industrial engineering, or construction and infrastructure, such as Hadrian’s Wall, Henry VIII’s fortifications, or the modern-day Thames Barrier; or advances made by Britons in technology and engineering, such as Turing’s decoding machine; science and philosophy students can study Stephen Hawking and Dawkins, among others; business students can examine all sorts of questions related to British, European and world financial relationships, or the life-story and business model of Virgin Atlantic entrepreneur Richard Branson, etc... I’m confident that no matter what your major might be, in consultation with me we can quickly find several topics of unique interest to you, and worth studying in detail, that will conjoin your own expertise and career interests to the course’s focus on the U.K.

In IDH 4007, you will complete several power point presentations, and other related presentations, including a major hour-long talk on a selected period of history—these will account for 60% of your final grade; you will be assessed on attendance and participation (10% each); and take quizzes and do a few other small assignments (20% of the grade).

In IDH 4008, you will again be assessed on your attendance, punctuality, and participation, especially in terms of the manner in which you conduct yourself while we travel (20% of final grade); a travel journal or diary, a scrap-book compilation of notes, sketches, tickets, photos and more, capturing individually and personally your experiences while traveling in the UK (40% of the final grade); and another final project, which may or may not be related to the spring term final project. Also, worth 40% of the final grade, this project should reflect personal study and research conducted while in England and Ireland. However, it will not be seriously worked on until you have returned to Miami in early July, giving you time to reflect and gather your ideas and thoughts, and research notes. In other words, your time in the British Isles will be, precisely, your “field-study,” and your return to Miami represents your time to write up your findings. Along with the travel journal/diary, this final project will be due at the end of July, 2023.

During the spring term, I’ll also aim to: enrich your learning by visits from the UK consul here in Miami, and other Britons of interest resident in Miami; leverage some of the events of Brit-Weekend Miami; and stay on the look-out for British artists, musicians, films, etc... playing or showing in Miami that you might attend. I welcome your help in such efforts! We are all in this adventure together: the success (and brilliance) of this third year of Honors-UK IDH 4007/4008 depends as much upon you as me.

Preliminary Syllabus for IDH 4007, Spring 2023

Thursday January 12: Introductions to Course

Thursday January 19: Ancient and Roman Britain; Stonehenge and other mysteries

Thursday January 26: Medieval Britain

Thursday February 2: Tudor Britain

Thursday February 9: Stuarts: Civil War, Revolution, Interregnum, Restoration

Thursday February 16: Visit to the British Consulate, Brickell Blvd,

Thursday February 23: From the Glorious Revolution to the American Revolution

Thursday March 2: No Class-Spring Break

Thursday March 9: Romantic Era, Regency

Thursday March 16: Victorian Era and Age of Dickens

Thursday March 23: 21: Age of Empire, or 19th century redux

Thursday March 30: World War I and post-War

Thursday April 6: Something Completely Different

Thursday April 13: World War II and post-war up to 1978

Thursday April 20: 1978 to the present day

Thursday April 27: Contemporary Britain and its customs—in-class presentations

Final Grades for IDH 4007 will be computed and reported by Wednesday May 3.

Resting Period, and Preparation for travels: From May 5 – May 26 or 27

Basic Syllabus for IDH 4008, Summer C 2023

All students must arrange for their own flight from Miami to London; you must be in London by 2:00 p.m. GMT on Sunday May 28, and report to the Florida State University Study Center, 99 Great Russell Street, for check-in into rooms, and orientation to the FSU facilities.

Sunday May 28 – Sunday June 11: In London; Students will reside in FSU Study Center or nearby; four daytrips from London will be planned, and activities in and around London on other days. Weekends will be left free for students to travel away from London or remain in the city and explore the metropolis on their own.

Sunday June 11 – Sunday June 18: Ireland (Dingle, Galway and Dublin)

Monday June 19 – Wednesday June 21: Cornwall

Wednesday June 21 – Friday June 23: Devon, Exeter

Friday June 23 – Monday June 26: Dorset, Weymouth, and the Jurassic Coast

Monday June 26: Train from Weymouth to London; formal trip concludes.

From Monday June 26 – as long as students wish, they can remain in the UK, or travel around the EU, or return to Miami

Tuesday June 27 – Friday July 28: wherever they might be, students will work on their final essay or project relating to the UK. This will be due Friday July 28.

Wednesday August 2: Final Grades for IDH 4008 computed and reported

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

HONORS COLLEGE

2022 STUDY ABROAD RULES

By [registering to study abroad](#) students commit to making their payments on time, to complying with the requirements on time, and to remaining with the program. Refunds are not awarded, and switching programs is not allowed.

Note: - IDH 4007 is the pre-travel class on campus; IDH 4008 is the class abroad.
- Deadline dates that fall on weekends and/or holidays are **NOT** moved to the next business date.

Documentation:

Before securing their spot, students must (1) complete, initialize, and sign the [Honors Study Abroad Contract](#), (2) apply online at [abroad.fiu.edu](#), and (3) apply online at <https://honors.fiu.edu/studyabroad/applications>. Their documentation will be subject to approval at registration.

Students must upload ALL Office of Education Abroad (OEA) required documentation to [abroad.fiu.edu](#) by **NOVEMBER 19, 2021, 11:59PM**. Students who fail to comply by then will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4007 and/or IDH 4008, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed

The documentation required by OEA includes the Medical Form, copy of valid passport, [Course Registration Form](#), and four questionnaires: 1) personal information form, 2) emergency contact form, 3) special needs form, and 4) financial information form.

The Medical Form is valid for only one year as of the date it is signed by a physician licensed in the United States and cannot expire before the end of the program.

Students are strongly encouraged to review vaccination requirements for countries they plan to visit, including against COVID-19. Failure to abide by vaccination requirements may prevent a student from entering a country and continuing participation in the Study Abroad program, in which case, refunds will NOT be awarded. FIU provides many vaccinations, including against COVID-19, for students on campus.

Passport must remain valid for at least 6 months after the last day of the program.

Should the student not have a valid passport by the deadline mentioned above, they must instead submit proof that the passport application/renewal process has been initiated and must replace it with a copy of their actual passport no later than **APRIL 15, 2022**. Students who fail to comply by then will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4008, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed

ONLY FOR STUDENTS WHO SECURE THEIR SPOT ON OR AFTER NOVEMBER 15, 2021:

The deadline to upload the required documentation will be extended until **JANUARY 7, 2022, 11:59pm** (before final DROP date). Students who fail to comply by then will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4008 or travel with the program Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

Students must clear any existing holds by **DECEMBER 1, 2021, 11:59PM** and again by **APRIL 1, 2022**, and are responsible for ensuring that they have no new holds before being enrolled in both IDH 4007* and/or IDH 4008*. Students who fail to comply by the deadlines will not be allowed to participate in the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

*Students with holds on their account cannot be enrolled for classes.

While taking the IDH 4007 class, students will have to complete the online *mandatory* pre-departure orientation on the study abroad application portal. Students must complete the session and associated quizzes, sign the paperwork, and upload it to their application at the [abroad.fiu.edu](#) portal by **APRIL 1, 2022, 11:59pm**.

Physicality:

The faculty leader and/or support staff do not administer medical care or provide medication.

Academics:

In order to participate in an Honors study abroad program, students must *maintain* a minimum cumulative FIU GPA of 3.2. Students who fail to comply will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4007 and/or IDH 4008, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

A minimum grade of C in IDH 4007 is required to be enrolled in IDH 4008, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded if the student cannot be enrolled, and posted charges will not be removed.

Behavior:

Students who have been sanctioned under the FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code (<https://studentaffairs.fiu.edu/get-support/student-conduct-and-academic-integrity/student-conduct-and-honor-code/index.php>), which results in loss of privileges, and/or other sanctions that result in the student not being considered to be in good standing with the University (e.g., conduct probation), are not be eligible to participate in IDH 4008, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

Students found responsible for an Academic Misconduct Violation will be dismissed from the Honors College upon notification of findings and will not be allowed to participate in, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

Students studying abroad are expected to represent the Honors College and FIU honorably and maturely. The faculty director and/or staff are authorized to end the program early for students whose behavior becomes disruptive (and/or violates the FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code.)

Payments:

Once students apply online, they must secure their spot with the Honors College with a **blank, non-refundable \$500 cashier's check or money order (ONLY,) and all the required documentation.**

Study abroad payments are *non-refundable* and are made in 3 installments. The OEA will post the charges on the students' accounts approximately 3 weeks before each payment deadline. Once the charges are posted, they cannot be removed.

Students who secure their spot *after* charges for an installment(s) have been posted will have the overdue payments added to the next deadline's charges.

Students are responsible to ensure with Student Financials that any payment made towards their study abroad program is indeed applied to that program.

Students who pay their program through a scholarship are still responsible for having the payments made on time and in their entirety. Therefore, it is the student's responsibility to contact Financial Aid to ensure compliance. If any delays are foreseen, it is the student's responsibility to notify the Honors College of the situation. If the scholarship will not cover the full amount due, it is the student's responsibility to pay the remaining balance. Students who fail to comply will not be allowed to participate in, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

Payments must be made no later than the deadline (December 1, 2021, January 3, 2022, and February 1, 2022) published at <https://honors.fiu.edu/studyabroad/payments>. If students fail to make them on time, the university will apply a \$100.00 late fee to their account. Late fees cannot be removed.

After each payment deadline there is a one-week grace period, an *extended* deadline, when payments are still accepted. However, the **late fee will still be applied, and students may get a hold on their accounts***. If students fail to complete their payment within exactly that *one-week* grace period, and had not notified the Honors College in advance, they will be withdrawn from the program and will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4007 and/or IDH 4008, or travel with the program, depending on the time the payment was missed. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges and late fees will not be removed.

*Students with holds on their accounts cannot be enrolled for classes.

FIU and the Honors College strongly discourage making big purchases, such as airline tickets, before the programs are confirmed by OEA. If canceled, FIU cannot refund these or any other expenses related to the programs not paid directly to FIU.

Switching, Withdrawals, and Cancellations:

Once students are registered, they are not allowed to switch programs. Students who still want to change programs will have to withdraw from the initial one, first, with no refunds. Then secure their spot in the new program, pay the \$500 deposit again, and complete all the new program's missing payments. Permission to apply for the second program is at the full discretion of the Honors College.

Withdrawal from a program will only be permitted for medical reasons. In order to request a medical withdrawal, students must provide appropriate medical documentation from a physician licensed in the United States. Otherwise, they will remain responsible for all charges.

Students that are dropped from a program for lack of payment, lack of documentation, or due to FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code sanctions, will still be responsible for the charges already posted to their account. That balance will still be due.

FIU and/or the Honors College reserve the right to cancel study abroad programs—the *only* case in which a refund *will* be made. The refund will cover the program's cost and the \$500 deposit. Late fees will not be refunded or removed. Students will be responsible for fees or losses incurred in cancelling or changing their airfare ticket and any other expenses not covered by the program fee. Consideration to purchase Trip Cancellation insurance coverage is recommended. Refunds for the \$195 OEA fee will be at OEA's discretion.

By signing up to participate in a study abroad program, students are assuming all the above-mentioned responsibilities and are committing to comply with them without further notices.