

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The WCWC operates the WIS program under authority granted by the UW Board of Regents. This consortial agreement enables students to enjoy the benefits of studying in Scotland while earning full UW resident credit for completed course work.

Selection of Courses

WIS offers a select curriculum that reflects the teaching specialties of the participating WCWC faculty. UW faculty members will teach the majority of program course work.

All students participating in the WIS program will be required to take Scotland: Society and Globalization. British History will be offered as an optional course along with the UW course offerings.

You must take your WIS Course Registration Form to your academic advisor for approval. Return the signed form to the Office of International Education/Programs as soon as possible.

It is your responsibility to make sure that you have satisfied all the course prerequisites for all courses you take in Scotland. If you lack prerequisites for a course you wish to take, you must obtain permission from the instructor of the course or get written permission from the appropriate department chair, academic advisor, or dean before you enroll for the course.

A drop-and-add period will be held during the first week of classes at Dalkeith House, at which time schedule changes may be made.

Scotland: Society and Globalization

Scotland: Society and Globalization is a wide-ranging course that explores different aspects of contemporary Scottish society. Locating Scotland in its historical and global contexts, the course focuses on many of the key social, economic, cultural and political issues that face Scotland today. In particular, it considers many of the ways that globalization can be said to be impacting on Scottish economy and society.

The course takes a multi- and inter-disciplinary approach, drawing on a range of discipline areas. In the main, the course draws on sociology, social policy, social history and human geography. The course emphasizes the importance and usefulness of comparative and transnational comparisons for the understanding of developments in a particular national context. In this respect, comparisons between different aspects of Scottish and US societies will occupy centre stage and students will be required to reflect on points of similarity and convergence between US and Scottish/UK society.

WIS Internship

The WIS program will assist you in obtaining an internship during your semester in Scotland. Although several sites have been developed, we cannot guarantee the placement of your request. Therefore, you must be prepared to select a WIS course offering or conduct an independent study (maximum of 3 credits) as an alternative if you are not placed with an employer. Internships offered through the WIS program are restricted to a maximum of three credits. If a WIS internship seems right for you, contact the Office of International Education/Programs to initiate this process.

Independent Study

Independent study should be arranged through the appropriate department on your WCWC campus before your departure for Scotland. Verification should be attached to your course selection form. Limited to a maximum of 3 credits of independent study.

Textbooks

Students are required to obtain (purchase, rent, borrow, etc.) the necessary textbooks for the UW course offerings they will be taking. It will be the student's responsibility to bring the textbooks with them and/or obtain them prior to the first day of classes. Required textbook information can be found on the WIS website under course descriptions. Textbooks for British course offerings will be available for use at Dalkeith House. (There may also be additional expenses for special courses such as art, photography, field trips, etc.)

Academic Progress

All students are required to maintain full-time student status (12 credits for fall and spring and 6 credits for summer) and to make reasonable and conscientious effort toward their academic objectives and requirements. Failure to do so may result in immediate dismissal from the program.

Transcripts and Credit

Your course work in Scotland carries UW resident credit. All students are subject to UW grading procedures and policies, and course grades will be included in your grade point averages. All grades and credits earned on the WIS program will be posted to your UW transcript by the Registrar's Office.

Pass/Fail Option

The restrictions vary from campus to campus and are rather firm. Students need to realize that pass/fail graded courses might not be accepted in transfer to other institutions of higher learning, and a "fail" may have an adverse effect on the student's academic standing. It is the student's responsibility to comply with the pass/fail policy of their WCWC campus.

Class Attendance Policy for Fall and Spring Semesters

The WIS program has had a compulsory attendance policy since its inception in 1986. The compulsory attendance policy was built into the program to emphasize that the classroom experience is the central component of this academic study program, just as it would be on the home campus. There has been an ongoing concern that some students and/or faculty might see the program primarily as an opportunity to travel in Europe rather than as an integral part of the overall academic degree program. While travel is an important component of the experience in Scotland, there are a number of opportunities for travel such as day field trips, long weekends, and a one-week break which are built into the semester's schedule.

The attendance policy below is designed to help maintain the academic integrity of the program. The participating campuses contribute considerable sums of money each year to subsidize the WIS program so students can study abroad at a reasonable cost. If the home campus faculty and administrators lose confidence in the academic integrity of the program, this support could be withdrawn in future years. We hope that all students and faculty will respect this policy and understand why it is necessary to insure the continuation of this learning experience.

Absences: Class attendance and participation is expected. Excessive absence from class will result in the following grade reductions:

3rd absence (2nd for British courses that meet once per week): final grade lowered one full letter grade.

4th absence (3rd for British courses that meet once per week): final grade lowered two full letter grades.

5th absence (4th for British courses that meet once per week): final grade lowered three full letter grades.

More absences than above: final grade is F.

Students who arrive ten or more minutes late will be counted as absent. Students who leave class early or after a break will be counted as absent.

Individual faculty members are not permitted to make exceptions to this policy, so please do not ask them.

Enforcement: Each faculty member is required to keep an accurate attendance record on each student. Students who miss more than the allowable number of classes will automatically have their final grade reduced according to the previous schedule unless they provide the Resident Director with the required documentation to show they were ill or injured.

Final Exams: All students are required to take their final exams when scheduled. Students who miss a scheduled exam without written documentation from a health professional of a medical illness or injury will not be permitted to make up the exam and will receive a grade of F on the exam.

Exceptions and Appeals Process: No exception to the policy on attendance will be made by any individual faculty member. Students who believe an exception is warranted, due to unusual circumstances beyond their control, may file a written request with the Resident Director clearly explaining the reasons for the exception. Exceptions may be approved only by unanimous consent of the Resident Director and the entire teaching faculty.

Academics

1. Grading, testing, and textbooks are determined by each class instructor. The final grade must take into consideration the class attendance policy.
2. Field trips. The following is a list of field trips that have been arranged for WIS students in the past:

Program Related

Buccleuch stately homes
Edinburgh city tour
Scottish borders
Abbotsford House
(Sir Walter Scott's)
Melrose Abbey
Galashiels
Stirling
Glasgow

Not Program Related

Bath/Oxford
York/Chester/Lake District
Highlands/West Coast
Glencoe
Oban
Inverness
Loch Ness
Loch Lomand
Battlefield of Colluden

Involvement

The very nature of the Dalkeith community requires active involvement and participation by everyone living in the House. You will benefit more and others will relate to you better if you work together harmoniously and cooperate willingly in the effective operation of the program. Students and faculty from past years have most frequently mentioned this spirit of community as the most positive aspect of their stay in Dalkeith.

Host Families

Because all students enrolled for the semester are required to live at and attend classes in Dalkeith House, a very significant and rewarding component of Wisconsin in Scotland is the host family program. Past students have found that an opportunity to get to know a local family enhances their understanding of the Scottish host culture. Each host family is unique and does different things with their students. Participants do not live with their host family but are often invited for meals, occasional outings to local points of interest or other family activities that allows interaction with individuals outside the program. Lifelong friendships between students and host families often develop. The host family program is only offered during the fall and spring semesters. If a student has indicated on their "Admitted Student Information Form" that they want to participate in the host family program, every attempt will be made to assign one to them.