

Field Studies and Sustainability in Iceland:

Exploring the Physical and Cultural Uniqueness of a Nordic Island

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Summer I 2018

June 10 – 24th 2018 (tentative)

- Earn 3 Credits in GEOG 481/581 Special Topics: Field Studies and Sustainability in Iceland
- 15 day Field Course circumnavigation the Island
- Field Studies and observations in Reykjavik, as well as the Islands numerous volcanic and glacial features.



Program Description

This Special Topics course is a two-week field course during which students visit and study a variety of cultural, economic and physical geologic characteristics found only on Iceland. The objective of this course is for students to develop an understanding of the rich cultural, unique geologic and geographic features of Iceland through hands on site visits to several national and global parks cities, towns and museums. This course is designed to offer students the opportunity to participate in an overseas experience that is directly linked to their coursework and academic concentration. Whether geosciences, geography, regional planning, anthropology or sustainability, this course is designed to a broaden understanding of social and environmental processes at they pertain to the unique features in Iceland. The course will cover a host of topics and locations that include; Iceland culture and history, summer solstice, arctic ecology and natural environment, diurnal cycles, volcanism, surficial geology, glaciers, sustainability and sustainable energy (geothermal, hydropower parks. Additionally, a main priority of the course is to establish a working connection between the IUP and the Geography, Geology and Environmental Studies Programs at University of Iceland, Reykjavik.



Tentative Itinerary

- Day 1** Arrive Reykjavik
- Day 2** Drive to Borgarnes: [Snorrastofa Cultural and Medieval Centre](#) Reykholt
- Day 3** Drive to Akureyri
- Day 4** Volcanic Geology Day: Godafoss waterfall, [Hverfjall Cinder Cone](#) , Dimmuborgir Lava Lake
- Day 5** Ferry to [Grimsey Island](#)
- Day 6** Explore Akureyri Day
- Day 7** Drive to Djupivogur
- Day 8** Djúpivogur: Sustainability in Iceland. Petra mineral museum
- Day 9** Drive to Hofn: Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon, Skaftafell Glacier. Drive to Vatnajökull
- Day 10** [Katla Geopark](#): Eldfell volcano, Saga Centre, Landmannalaugar.
- Day 11** Drive to Reykjavik: Eyjafjallajökull volcano, Þingvellir National Park, Tour of Hillisheidi power plant
- Day 12** Gullfoss, Selfoss Waterfall: Raufarholshellir Lava tubes
- Day 13** Explore Reykjavik. Museums, University and Cultural Sites.
- Day 14** Visit [Reykjanes Geopark](#) ([Raw Reykjanes Video](#))
- Day 15** Depart Iceland

Costs

- Airfare = approximately \$900 per person
 - Students can make arrangements on their own through STA Travel (<http://www.statravel.com>) to receive student discount rates, or you may book flights on your own. It is suggested that you book your tickets by January 31, 2017. We plan to depart together from PIT in the same flight.
- Program Fee = Program Fee = approximately \$4,000 per person (the exact fee to be finalized by February 2018) this includes stay at hotels and hostels, transportation costs, some food, all tours and museum fees, and IUP Education Abroad administrative fee.
- Additional fee for IUP Tuition for GEOG 481 or 581 Special Topics: Field Studies and Sustainability in Iceland (3 credit course). Must be paid by the University's deadline.
- Additional cost for Passport. Students MUST have a valid passport for the duration of their trip.
- Application Deadline: Please submit your completed application by February 9, 2017.

For more information:

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