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Frontiers and Fortresses: Study Abroad Program July 6 —August 3, 2014

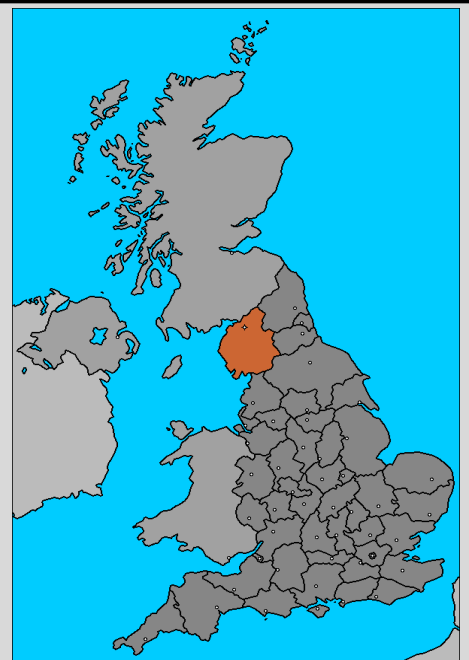
Frontiers and Fortresses is a four week, three course, nine credit Michigan Tech Study Abroad program hosted by the University of Cumbria. The students and staff will explore Cumbria and Northern England and Southern Scotland through a mix of courses, including archaeology, history, and anthropology. A combination of classroom work, field trips and site visits will make up the program.



Carlisle Castle (top)

Locator map for Cumbria (below)

If you have questions about any aspect of Frontiers and Fortresses please contact
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What's New for 2014?

After four very successful years—the program began in 2010—all major issues have been worked out so for 2014 there will just be tweaks. Mostly in our field trips, there will be a little more time allowed for our visit to Lancaster, a longer walk on Hadrian's Wall, and a visit to another museum in Edinburgh. In Carlisle we will do some more group cooking, as the group cooking nights always end up being one of the most popular activities, so why not do more? We will continue to do the same number of meals out.



Edinburgh Castle

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Cumbria and Carlisle

Cumbria: Was formed—or rather reformed— during the re-organization of English counties in 1974, its roots go back to early Medieval England when the region, which was once again known as Cumbria, was part of the British Kingdom of Strathclyde. A predominately rural county now with an emphasis on tourism and agriculture Cumbria was in the past one of the most significant political and economic hubs of England. Hadrian’s Wall runs across the north of the county, during the later Medieval periods when Scotland and England were in a state of near-permanent conflict the royal castle of Carlisle anchored the northwest frontier. During the American Revolution John Paul Jones even briefly attacked the Port of Whitehaven! Many of the early developments of the industrial revolution took place in West Cumbria and of course the region was one of the most important parts of the Romantic period with the flourishing of the Lake District Poets. The Lake District National Park helps to preserve the nature and character of the region now. The county is, as a whole, undergoing something of an economic and cultural revival perhaps best characterized by the formation of the new University of Cumbria in 2007.



Lake Windermere above
Carlisle Market Square below



Carlisle: The County seat of Cumbria and the largest—and only—city in the county. Carlisle has a population of about 100,000. The most interesting area of the city is the city center which is the home of the Castle, begun in 1122, and the Cathedral that dates from 1123. Perhaps the most significant post-Medieval period for the city was during the 1745 Jacobean rebellion when Carlisle was the scene of much of the fiercest fighting. The modern city has, along with its history, a wide array of cultural centers, extensive shopping opportunities and is the home of the University of Cumbria. Carlisle is also located on the main north-south road and rail routes making it a convenient base for exploring northern England and southern Scotland.

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Courses Offered

Each Student enrolled in the program will take three courses. SS 3960—International Experience (the core anthropology course of the program , SS3560 History of England I, and also, SS 3920—Archaeology of the North (Please note the number for this course is expected to be changed in late 2013)

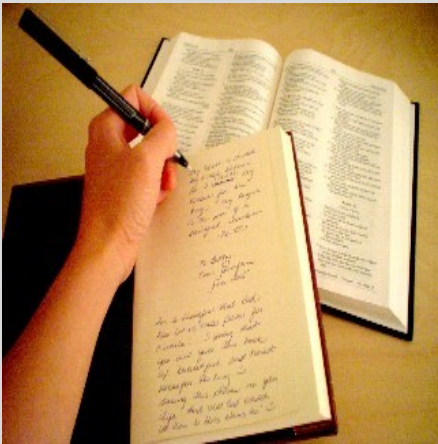
All courses are HASS listed and may be used to full-fill that requirement or for any major or minor needs that you may have.

If there is interest we may offer SS 3561 History of England II, talk with Dr. Blair

SS 3560: This course will be taught in much the same way that it is when offered at MTU, the main text book will be used, similar quizzes and other evaluations too. A primary difference will be that we will not only discuss developments and events—such as Neolithic stone circles—but we will go and visit them! In the course of four weeks we will visit 10 castles, 4 cathedrals, 5 monasteries, about 8 Roman sites and various Medieval locations.

SS 3920: Archaeology of the North is perhaps the most “unusual” of the courses, I am aware of no other study abroad program that offers a course such as this. We can because of the rich archaeological resources of the region that allow us to look at some of the earliest antiquarian work done anywhere, and work our way up to the world renowned, cutting edge research and presentations of the York Archaeological Trust.

SS 3960: Much of the learning with International Experience will be experiential, your observations about life in the U.K. Daily, students will be expected to read newspapers—both broadsheets and tabloids—regular discussion sessions and journaling will also be a part of this course.



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Field Trips: Schedule and Visits

A total of six trips are planned, five will be day trips and one a longer, three night, excursion to York. Along with the sites mentioned below, readings and discussions relating to the places to be visited will be a part of each experience.

Day Trip #1: Neolithic Circles and Baronial Castles

The day will start with a visit to Castlerigg Stone Circle – arguably the most spectacular Neolithic site in England, based upon location, next a drive through the lovely Central Lake District with a late morning visit to Windermere a tourism hub of the area it is best seen as an English equivalent to the Wisconsin Dells, here we will also take advantage of one of the famed Lake tours on Lake Windermere. After a pub lunch the afternoon will be spent in the Eden valley visiting Brougham Castle, a significant and well preserved baronial castle, with Roman components, that was built to help control that vital communication route. The day will end with a brief visit to Brough Castle another of the Eden Valley Castles.

Day Trip #2: The Wall

The day will start with a visit to Carrawburgh Mithrium, then we will proceed to Housesteads perhaps the most dramatic of the Forts along the Wall. Next a pub lunch, and a stop at Wallstown Crag with its dramatic view north of the Wall, followed by a stop at a Mile Castle (Poltross Burn—a good spot for Pooh Sticks!) then a longer visit to Birdoswald Fort, finally a brief stop at a turret (Banks).

Day Trip #3: The Scottish Borders:

The first visit of the day will be to Bewcastle Cross, perhaps the best Anglo Saxon Cross in the U.K. We will cross into Scotland and then visit Hermitage Castle one of the best preserved mixed earth/wood and stone fortification castles in the country. Lunch and Jedburgh Abbey and its fine reconstructed monastic gardens will be next, followed by a visit to Aydon Castle an amazingly well preserved fortified manor/castle and finally to the well preserved abbey of Lanercost with its superb Tudor Village Hall and its wall paintings.

Day Trip #4: Lancaster

Here we head south to the county town of Lancaster, a key site of Medieval England and a center of the Industrial Revolution. We will visit the Castle, still being reopened to the public after 100s of years as HM Prison Lancaster! We will also visit the Priory church, and walk through the Georgian City Center.

Day Trip #5: Edinburgh

On this trip we will take the train to Edinburgh and in the morning view the castle, with the crown jewels, royal apartments, etc. The afternoon will be a tour of underground Edinburgh and a brief visit to the National Museum, then a few hours for the student's choice, there are many other museums that could be viewed, such as the National Portrait Gallery with its many works of art, or.... Perhaps a visit to a kilt maker to outfit yourself!



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Trip to York

York Trip:

Day 1: Travel and Countryside

Leave Carlisle in the morning, travel to York, We will stop at Barnard Castle with its many gates! and Richmond Castle with is superb Norman Keep (the tallest in the UK) and reconstructed gardens. After lunch—a traditional English Sunday Roast—we will visit Ripon Cathedral. Arrive at York in the late afternoon, city tour to familiarize students with town.

Day 2: Minster and Vikings

The entire morning will be spent at York Minster, one of the great cathedrals of the world, the undercroft with Medieval and Roman remains will be toured along with a visit to the tower. The afternoon will be spent with the archaeological resources of the Jorvik centre and its ancillary sites. An evening cultural event will be planned too.

Day 3: Museums and Walls

No trip to York is complete without a walk on the city walls, this will start the day the rest of the day will be an orgy of museums, the excellent York County Museum, Castle Museum, Clifford’s Tower, and the National RR Museum – student choice - each must go to three of the four, time will be allowed to wander the Shambles and a free evening.

Day 4: Fountains Abbey and Return to Carlisle

Upon leaving York the group will proceed to Fountains Abbey and spend the morning and afternoon there, a World Heritage Site the abbey and grounds provide an opportunity to consider the history of the location and also how the site is presented to the public today. The recently renovated early Georgian gardens of the estate will also be visited. Return to Carlisle will be late, c. 8 PM.



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Registration and Costs

Registration for Frontiers and Fortresses is quite simple, there are two tracks depending upon whether you are a MTU student or a non-MTU (guest) student)

MTU Students: Once you have talked with Dr Blair sufficiently to decide that you want to apply to the program go to the IPS web site (www.mtu.edu/international/study-abroad/apply/) and follow the instructions, once accepted pay your deposit—\$500, ask questions throughout, apply for your passport, come to the orientation (Date TBA), buy your text books, start to read them and meet us at the airport in Manchester on July 7 at 10:00 am

Non-MTU students, exactly the same except you need to fill-out the guest student application (same web site, click on “Guest Student”), and we will have a conference call orientation.

Note: You will register for the program through IPS—any problems please let Dr. Blair know, a group enrollment in the courses will be done during spring semester, you do not have to take care of this, we will as the courses are, of course, only open to those going.

Costs:

Program Fee: Currently the program fee is \$4,350, however, it is possible if exchange rates remain favorable and new contracts are signed the fee *may* drop. All students, regardless of when they register for the program will pay the same fee, however if sufficient students are not registered by Feb 15. 2014, the program will be cancelled, so do not delay hoping the fee will drop, if it does, all will pay the same. Whether you are the first or the last student to register.

Included:

Housing (residence halls Carlisle, Park Inn by Raddison York)
 Ground transfers from Manchester to Carlisle and return
 All field trips, admissions, speaker fees, and cultural events
 Groups Meals (3 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 8 restaurant dinners and 4 group cooking dinners)

Not included:

Airfare, est. \$1300 RT from O’Hare
 Meals, est. \$533 (based upon the following assumptions, your choices—of what you eat—will impact the total; breakfasts, 24—@\$5, lunches, 21—@\$8, dinners, 16—@\$15)
 Spending money: est. \$800 (assume \$200/week)
 Text books: est. \$60
 Insurance: variable (we strongly urge both medical and trip)
 MTU tuition: 9 credits (charged at regular rates see official MTU web site for current charges)

Payment Schedule:

Deposit (\$500) due January 31, 2014 pick-up payment coupon at IPS or from Dr. Blair so that it will be credited properly—this will hold your place in the program.

Tuition and fees (less the \$500 deposit) due: May 4, 2014 (regular MTU summer due date, if this changes then so too will this due date)

Financial Aid:

MTU student’s only, non MTU students should consult with your own financial aid office. The 9 credits Frontiers and Fortresses is considered full-time enrollment for Track B, however in order to obtain financial aid during the summer one needs to be enrolled for at least 12 credits. If you are enrolled in 3 or more in track A, great, no worries. If you are not taking courses in Track A please talk with Dr. Blair about an extra 3 credit option for track B that will allow you to get financial aid.



Hadrian’s Wall will be visited as part of Field Trip 2 (FT2)



Jedburgh Abbey from FT 3

Events and schedules are subject to change based upon local conditions, student interests, etc.

Calendar Of Program: July 6– August 3, 2014

Proposed Schedule Beginning, Sunday July 6, 2013 (day 1)

	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
AM	travel	arrive	class	FT1	class	class	Free
Lunch				group			
PM	travel	tour	class	FT1	class	class	
Dinner		group	group		group		
Evening		talk	talk				

	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Day	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
AM	Free	FT 2	class	class	FT 3	class	Free
Lunch		group			group		
PM		FT2	class	class	FT 3		
Dinner				group		group	
Evening				talk			

	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Day	15	16	17	18	19	29	21
AM	York	York	York	York	class	FT 4	Free
Lunch	group	group		group			
PM	York	York	York	York	class	FT 4	
Dinner	group	group	group		group		
Evening		talk					

	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Day	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
AM	Free	class	FT 5	class	class	dept	class
Lunch			group				
PM		class	FT 5	class	class		class
Dinner			group		group		group
Evening							

	S
Day	29
AM	Depart

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Practical Information 1

Below are some answers to practical questions about the program, I am sure not all are answered, if you have others, please ask me, Dr. Blair—cblair@mtu.edu—directly and I'll try and answer them I will also add them to the list for others too.

Travel: Air: As I know there will be students departing from multiple airports in the USA we will not have a group flight. We are trying to arrange airline discounts, once registered we'll keep you posted.

Arrival: All students need to be at Manchester Airport, terminal #2, arrivals lounge by 10:00 am on July 7, 2014 where we will all travel north to Carlisle on a coach (bus) that will take you directly to the Fusehill Campus and the Carrock Halls of Residence at the University of Cumbria.

Field Trips: For all program field trips and also the longer trip to York transportation will be provided by professional coach firms based in Carlisle—except the Edinburgh trip here we will use British Rail

Departure: We will leave for Manchester Airport at 6:30 am on August 3, arriving c. 9:00, so plan departure flights accordingly.

Housing: All students will live in the residence halls of the University of Cumbria, single rooms with private baths and group kitchens. When in York the group will stay at the Park Inn by Radisson hotel, twin rooms.

Food: Some meals are included in your fee, 7 lunches, 8 dinners at restaurants and 4 jointly cooked meals in the dorm, and 3 breakfasts (at York), others are up to you, Carlisle has a wide array of eating options from cheap and quick to quite expensive. The residence halls also have kitchens and are within 10 minutes walk from a major market, and 2 minutes to a convenience store (SPAR).

Health and Safety: Both Carlisle and York, are, as a whole, very safe cities. However, reasonable precautions should be taken as in any city. If you become sick or are injured there are excellent medical facilities in both cities and world famous hospitals are near by in Edinburgh.

Free Time: Most evenings, two full weekends and one partial weekend are yours to do what you will with, obviously homework will come first! Carlisle is centrally located on the main rail lines so travel is easy, we ask that you alert program staff as to where you are going and expected time of return. All free time travel is at your expense.

Prescriptions and Glasses: While, of course, excellent medical facilities are easily found in the UK it is recommended that you bring all needed medications—in clearly labeled and original bottles. It is also recommended that you bring copies of all prescriptions both medical and visual.

Computers: Will you need one? No. Will you want one? It is up to you, virtually all computers have internal power converters so that is no longer an issue but you will need a plug-convertor, available at virtually any major store in the USA—e.g. Wal-Mart.

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Practical Information 2

Clothing/Packing: Practical field clothing suitable for walking over semi-rough terrain is recommended for the field trips. Otherwise normal clothing is suggested, laundry facilities are at the dorm and dry cleaning is available in Carlisle. Please note that as a whole England is more formal than the USA so 1—2 “nicer” outfits would be a good idea, especially for evenings out. Rain gear is essential. Baseball caps are strongly discouraged as these mark you as an American—and you will be treated differently. Pack lightly as you will need to carry all of your own luggage, and may want room for souvenirs!

Weather: That it rains all the time in England is a myth, however it can, sometimes it rains for days at a time. As a whole temps in Cumbria in the summer are compatible to a cool Midwest summer, with a lot of variation. Over the years I’ve experienced July day-time highs ranging from mid 90s to, low 50s and frankly on an average year less rain than in the summer at Houghton, in 2013 we went 20 days in a row with no rain at all!

Spending Money: How Much and How to Get It? The amounts are very variable, if you decide to buy 4 cashmere sweaters you will need more. We recommend \$200/week. The best way to get GBP when in the UK is at an ATM, you will be charged the lowest fees and get the best rates. I would not bother getting pounds prior to landing—it is expensive —and unnecessary, an ATM is available at Manchester Airport in the arrivals hall, along of course with dozens in Carlisle

Text Books: Specific titles are not yet available, they will be by January.

Passport and Visa: All participants will need a valid US passport, and an UK visa—which may be obtained on arrival in England, an automatic process, if you are not a US citizen please contact Dr. Blair and IPS for further information.

Behavior and Expectations: Although overseas, all students will still be under the MTU student conduct code and will be expected to behave accordingly. The legal drinking age in the UK is 18 so you are welcome to have a pint or two whenever, however, excess consumption will be strongly discouraged, obviously there will be zero tolerance for any drug use. Violations will result in immediate expulsion from the program and no refund. Please note, while the above sounds stern—and it is—Dr. Blair who has led or been a senior graduate student leader of international programs since 1987 has never had a student who has run into trouble with any of the above issues, and I do not expect this summer to be any different.

University Policies

Michigan Tech has standard policies on academic misconduct and complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. For more information about reasonable accommodation for or equal access to education or services at Michigan Tech, please call the Dean of Students Office, at [\(906\) 487- 2212](tel:9064872212) or go to <http://www.mtu.edu/provost/faculty-resources/syllabus-policies/>