Iceland: Renewable Energies & Sustainability - EVS 431/531

Program Overview

This course provides students with a unique cultural immersion into the land of fire and ice. Students will explore southern Iceland’s glaciers, volcanoes and the seemingly infinite waterfalls running from the highlands to the coastline to gain a first-hand understanding of hydroelectric and geothermal energy systems. Students will explore sustainable farms and industries working in biofuels and other renewable energies including wind and participate in restoration plantings to restore Iceland’s lost conifer forests. Team building and investigative skills will be developed working on capstone projects addressing the technical, economic, environmental and political barriers to sustainable industry.

Academics

Students will complete online education modules prior to the trip to gain a fundamental understanding of the history of Iceland; to understand its natural resources and the social and political structures that have transformed the country from an imported fossil fuel dependent nation to a 99% renewable and sustainable energy powered ‘green’ leader.

Students will attend lectures at Reykjavik University’s Iceland School of Energy Science and Engineering program which will give them automatic advancement in their Master’s Program application process.

Students will actively participate in daily field trips, excursions and discussions, and will be required to keep a daily reflective journal. A final reflective paper will be submitted at the end of the program in addition to the group capstone project proposal to faculty and industry leaders at Reykjavik University.

Application

Application Deadline: February 1, 2017

- To apply, log in at: https://itsappserv02.uncw.edu/intprogapp/ and select your program of choice
- A $500 non-refundable deposit is due at time of application

Eligibility

Students are eligible to apply for this program if they meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Degree or non-degree seeking student
- Good judicial standing
- 2.50+ GPA at time of application
- At least Sophomore standing at time of participation

Program Facts

Locations: Reykjavík, Iceland (home base) and tours throughout southern Iceland – shores and glaciers to southern highlands

Tentative Program Dates: June 4-17, 2017

Program Leaders:
Amy Long - longa@uncw.edu
Reykjavik University is the home-base institution, but travel throughout southern Iceland will take students on a tour of the Golden Circle and to the Viking Valhalla located at the divergent plate boundary of North America and Eurasia, super-jeeping on glaciers and hiking on the glacier from Chasing Ice, overnight camping excursion in the highlands areas noted for natural hot spring ‘hot tubs’, and many more awe inspiring sites.

## Program Activities & Features

The trip will allow students to explore Viking history and culture, discover the natural beauty of the land of fire and ice and witness first-hand the ‘greenest’ country in the world. This Iceland course offers a truly unique cultural experience for students filled with bucket-list adventure excursions while immersing them in the field of sustainability and renewable energies.

### Estimated Program Fee: $5,777*

**Program Fee Includes:**

- All lodging from June 4th through June 17th
- All transportation between June 4th through June 17th, from airport to site visits, to field excursions and lodging
- All excursions: Reykjanes Peninsula tour, Hydroelectric power plant tours, hot spring river hike, geothermal power plant tours, Reykjavik University green buildings tour, Blue Lagoon excursion, Thingvellir National Park tour, Golden Circle tour, caving and lava tube expedition, snorkeling between tectonic plates, 2 night highlands camping trip and exploration, glacial superjeep expedition and hiking excursions, canyon hiking, waterfall tours, biofuels site visit, Reykjavik city tour, whale watching day trip, reforestation volunteer planting, canyon hike at divergent plate boundaries of North America and Eurasia, sustainably business and energy industry think-tank tour.
- All meals starting with dinner June 4 through breakfast June 17th with one exception – lunch on June 14th is on own
- Health insurance
- Professional tour guides

Federal and state financial aid may be applied toward this program. Even if you are normally ineligible for financial aid, you should submit a financial aid application (FAFSA). You may find that you are eligible for additional funding.

UNCW students may also apply for a UNCW Education Abroad Grant and additional study abroad scholarships. Grant applications and additional information are available at: [www.uncw.edu/international/abroad/aid.html](http://www.uncw.edu/international/abroad/aid.html)

### Additional Costs:

*(not included in program fee)*

- Transportation or parking to and from home airport
- Airfare to Keflavik, Iceland
- Passport
- Luggage fees
- Meals during travel
- Optional local expenses and shopping

*50% program fee due 1/18/17, remainder due 3/22/17