

OFF-CAMPUS STUDY - SPRING 2023

COLGATE IN WALES

**Director:**

Damnait McHugh,
Department of Biology

Tentative Program Dates:

January 16 to June 18, 2023

Learn about the 2022-23 Colgate Study Groups and talk with the Faculty Directors at the Study Group Fair at the Hall of Presidents on Wednesday, October 6th, 2021, 4:00–5:00: www.colgate.edu/academics/off-campus-study/campus-opportunities/virtual-study-group-fair

For more information about the program:

Please contact Prof. McHugh at dmchugh@colgate.edu

Information Sessions will be held on:

Wednesday, October 13 at 12:30pm in 328 Olin Hall and
Tuesday, October 19 at 4:30pm in 328 Olin Hall

Colgate University's

Wales Study Group, established in 1984, gives priority to majors in the Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics who wish to live and study abroad. Although the program is designed primarily for juniors, sophomores in spring 2023 may also be considered.

The program is hosted at Cardiff University during the spring semester. The Colgate study group's orientation is tentatively scheduled to begin in January 2023. The last final exam day is May 2023 with the official program end date May 2023.

The study group will be based at Cardiff University, which, with its student body of thirty thousand students, is the pre-eminent research university of Wales. Colgate students will register as non-matriculated students of Cardiff University and have access to all of the University's academic and athletic facilities, including libraries, gymnasiums, and student union.

Courses taken on this study group satisfy the Core Global Engagements requirement.



Wales is part of the United Kingdom and only in 1998 formed its own National Assembly. Its people consider Wales to be a separate and distinct nation; they are passionately conscious of their cultural heritage. While the dominant language of southern Wales is English, Wales is a bilingual nation. The Welsh language, a Celtic tongue, is alive and well as a second language and is strongly promoted in the Welsh educational system. Cardiff is an ideal locale for exploring this fascinating culture, serving as a center for the renaissance of Welsh language, literature, and national pride.

The city of Cardiff, the capital of Wales, has a population of approximately 350,000. The Welsh are justifiably proud of their artistic and cultural accomplishments, as exemplified by city theaters for opera, drama and ballet — the Welsh National Opera and the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra are located in Cardiff — and by the Welsh National Museum. In addition, Cardiff University, which is located near the center of Cardiff in Cathays Park, maintains a number of musical and drama theaters. The principal sport of Wales is rugby, and Millennium Park, an internationally known rugby ground, is within walking distance of the University's campus. Cardiff is an excellent gateway to Great Britain and Europe for students wishing to travel on weekends and semester breaks.

Courses

All students will enroll in four courses: two elective courses (at least one normally must be in the student's concentration) and in two required courses, which are designed specifically to reflect the study group's unique location.

AHUM 360 - Welsh Culture (required Cardiff course taught by the Welsh Dept.)

This course examines Welsh literature, language, and culture, and in so doing, augments the cross-cultural experience that is an integral part of any study abroad program. The specific course content varies with the instructors, all of who are Cardiff University faculty. Before the semester begins, a member of the Welsh Department provides an introduction to the Welsh language. This course has a number of required field trips, including excursions to the Welsh Folk Museum, the Dylan Thomas home site, and the National Assembly of Wales. This course has been approved for GE credit.

Director's Course (required course) BIOL 340 - Marine Biology

This course introduces students to the complexities of marine biodiversity, from the ecosystem to the genetic level. By examining the factors affecting the structure and function of marine communities students learn about the diversity of organisms in these systems. Students gain an appreciation for the roles of evolutionary and ecological history, as well as modern ecological interactions, in shaping the marine biodiversity across the globe, in general and across the British Isles, in particular. This course also exposes students to the many ways that human activities affect biodiversity. The course will focus on marine biology in the British Isles, the historical development of ecological concepts by British marine scientists, and differences between the U.K. and the U.S. in marine ecosystems and their conservation. The course will include an extended trip to the Isle of Cumbrae, Scotland, where eminent ecologist Joseph Connell developed foundational concepts in competition and predation through his study of intertidal habitats.

Prerequisites

Permission of instructor. This course can serve as a Biology elective course

Two Elective Courses at Cardiff University

Students enroll in 2-3 Cardiff University subjects of their choice, from various academic departments. Full year subjects in the Biological Sciences faculty are no longer available to Colgate students for Spring only. Students must have satisfied the pre-requisites for the elective courses before departure for Wales. Students will consult with their academic departments and the Registrar's Office to ensure that elective courses taken in Cardiff will be approved as Colgate credit.

Excursions

Students are required to participate in all of the study group trips. Tentatively planned are several day trips for the Welsh Culture course and additional short trips to Caerphilly Castle, the Gower Peninsula, and an overnight trip to the Pembrokeshire Coast. The group will also take a week-long trip to Morecombe Bay in England, and Loch Lomond and the Isle of Cumbrae in Scotland.

Costs

For details of student expenses on this study group, please see Student Cost Estimate Sheets.

Passports and Visas:

You must confirm that your passport is valid through December 2023. All students participating on the Spring 2023 Wales Study Group will be required to obtain a U.K. student visa. With participation on this study group comes the responsibility of understanding and complying with U.K. visa requirements. If you will not be traveling on a U.S. passport it is imperative that you contact an adviser in Off-Campus Study and International Student Services, 101 McGregory, to learn as much as you can about the visa requirements. For some students there are significant requirements to be met that take time, advance planning, and incur costs.

Calendar and Deadline:

The study group application will open on Wednesday, October 6, 2021, and will close on Wednesday, November 3, 2021. All applications are on the Colgate University Off-Campus Study website and are submitted online at offcampusstudy.colgate.edu. Only finalists in the selection process will be interviewed. Interviews will be arranged by e-mail in November/December, and admissions decisions will take place December/January.