About the Program

Oberlin’s London Program is a life-changing experience: a chance to study with a small group of motivated students and stimulating faculty, in an exciting city, in the presence of great museums, music, theater, history, and a thriving and diverse culture.

Unlike most study-away programs, the Danenberg Oberlin-in-London Program offers students the opportunity to study abroad with professors from our own campus in one of the world’s most exciting, diverse locations. It combines the thrill of living in a vibrant international metropolis with the rigor of first-rate education. The curriculum makes intensive use of all that London has to offer. Classes are designed to plunge into the city—much learning takes place outside the classroom. Courses are both disciplinary and interdisciplinary.

Moreover, the program offers an intimate intellectual environment. One course, an interdisciplinary, team-taught course, engages the two Oberlin faculty members and all the students (about 25) in what will be an exciting venture, studying the birth of modern politics and sociology in the “workshop” of 19th-century British life and thought. Like all the courses, this will use London through field trips to such sites as museums, libraries, factories and Parliament. The faculty members will each teach separate courses in their disciplines – Politics and Sociology – with about half the group in each. Students will also elect one of the two courses taught by the experienced resident faculty in London (see page 3 for details).

Students on the program are registered at Oberlin College, and their courses are Oberlin College courses, so there is no need to transfer credits, and your financial aid travels with you. Moreover, the Financial Aid Office adjusts aid packages to take account of those living costs—mainly housing—that are higher in London.

Oberlin’s London Program has profoundly changed many students’ and faculty members’ lives forever. Those of you who come along are in for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

- Veljko Vujačić, Associate Professor of Sociology, 2013 Oberlin-in-London Faculty
- Harlan Wilson, Professor of Politics, 2013 Oberlin-in-London Faculty
- Donna Vinter, Resident Director, Oberlin-in-London Program
- Ellen Sayles, Associate Dean and Director of International Studies
- Nicholas Jones, Professor of English and Chair, Danenberg Oberlin-in-London Committee
About the faculty:

Veljko Vujačić, Sociology

This will be my first time in the London Program and I am very excited to have the opportunity to teach with Harlan Wilson, whose knowledge of the history of political ideas is simply astounding. What better place is there to study the origins of modern political thought in historical-sociological context than the birthplace of liberalism, conservatism, and (together with France) socialism? Is there a better place in the world to understand the relationship between state, nation, and empire? Throughout my research and teaching career as a political and historical sociologist I have explored these issues in a variety of historical and political contexts, and have drawn on the English/British examples to illustrate broader themes. Now I will finally have the opportunity to explore them in detail with your help in one of the most exciting cities in the world. Join Professor Wilson and me in London for a transformative intellectual experience!

Harlan Wilson, Politics

This will be the third time I have taught in the London Program. The first time, in 1985, I went to London with a physicist, David Anderson. The second time, in 2000, I taught with a theatre historian and critic, Roger Copeland. Each stint was unbelievably rewarding, the best teaching experiences I have ever had. I feel very privileged to be able to teach in London on a third occasion, and especially with Veljko Vujačić, a remarkable teacher and scholar with encyclopedic knowledge of European historical and political sociology. My own teaching and research interests lie in the area of political theory (political philosophy). Whereas my research explores the intersection between political theory and environmental politics, my teaching interests include practically the whole range of historically oriented courses and texts from Plato to the contemporary. In Oberlin I have greatly enjoyed teaching about various aspects of British political thought from the sixteenth century through the twentieth. The 2013 London Program is a fantastic opportunity to explore, together with students, the fascinating connections between British political ideas and past and present British political experience. I hope you will join us!
About the Curriculum

These are not transfer courses, but regular Oberlin College courses for which students register (by consent) as usual, and for which titles and grades will appear on the Oberlin transcript.

Each student will enroll in the interdisciplinary team-taught course:

POLT/SOCI 977. **The Birth of Modern Politics: The Case of 19th Century Britain.** 6 credits. 6SS. This course examines the development of modern society and politics through the lens of 19th century Britain. It weaves the history of political thought with historical and political sociology, including party politics and reform, elite rule, working class conditions, and so forth. Museum and Parliament visits as well as field trips illustrating the development of industrial capitalism are included. This course carries 3 credits towards majors in both Sociology and Politics. Profs. Vujačić and Wilson.

Each student will elect ONE of the following two courses taught by the Oberlin faculty:

SOCI 978. **State, Nation, Empire: The English/British Case.** 6 credits. 6 SS. This course examines the political evolution of England/Britain from the period of absolutism through the twentieth century with a special emphasis on state, nation, and empire-building. We will trace the emergence of English national identity, the making of “Britons,” nation-building and citizenship, the rise of imperialism, peripheral nationalism, and the crisis of contemporary British identity. Visits to sites in London and beyond. 6 credits towards the sociology major (Roughly equivalent to Political Sociology: SOCI 254). Prof. Vujačić.

POLT 979. **Twentieth-Century British Politics: Ideas and Practice.** 6 credits. 6SS. This course examines 20th and early 21st century British politics, from early 20th century liberalism and Fabian socialism through Thatcherite conservatism to the contemporary scene. Connections between ideas and practice are emphasized. The course makes use of guest speakers and visits to various sites, including Parliament. Students will have the opportunity to do research on contested political issues. This course carries 6 hours’ credit towards the Politics major. Prof. Wilson.

Each student will also elect ONE of the following two courses taught by the resident faculty in London:

ENGL 918. **The London Stage.** 3 credits. 3 HU. This course aims to expose students to contemporary British theatre in all its variety. At its heart will be discussion of productions in the current London repertory, with plays ranging from classical to contemporary, and venues including subsidized, commercial, and fringe theatres. Donna Vinter.

HIST 950. **The History of London.** 2 credits. 2SS. This course explores the history of London from its Roman origins to the present day and examines how royalty, trade, religion, and transport have shaped the city’s pattern of growth over 2000 years. Katy Layton-Jones.
Oberlin-in-London Program Site

The Danenberg Oberlin-in-London Program is located in the Bloomsbury neighborhood of London, on a street whose most famous and prestigious building is no less than the British Museum. Thus, we are just down the street from the Rosetta Stone, the Parthenon Marbles, the Benin bronzes, treasures of ancient Egypt, and much more. Bloomsbury is also a central location for the University of London, so the neighborhood has a student feel.

The London Program leases space from the Florida State University London Study Centre, at 99-103 Great Russell Street. We have a program office and use of a classroom. Students also have the use of the small Study Centre library, two computer labs (open 24 hours a day), a small student lounge, and a quiet study area.

The FSU London Study Centre also leases space to the study abroad programs of several other American colleges and universities, including at present Grinnell College, Drew University, Colgate University, the University of Iowa Law Program, and SUNY Binghamton.

The building is open to students and monitored by security staff 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Students will receive a swipe card, with a photo ID, which will provide access to the building. The website for the Florida State University London Study Centre is http://www.fsu.edu/~london.

Housing

Students live in groups of between 3 and 8 in self-contained apartments (“flats”), usually centrally located, within easy reach of our headquarters.

The flats are managed by Euracom, a provider of pre-arranged flats for American students in London, with whom Oberlin has a long-standing relationship. The flats are central, safe, secure, and reasonably well equipped. Utilities are included, so there are no extra costs apart from an end-of-tenancy cleaning charge. There is a property manager to deal with maintenance and emergencies. You will be billed for this housing through your spring term bill.

Costs

Students on the Oberlin-in-London Program are billed for Oberlin tuition and fees just as they would be if enrolled on campus. They are not billed for room and board. A $500 non-refundable deposit is required upon admission to the program to be allowed to register in the program; it will be applied to tuition for the semester.

Tuition and fees cover costs in the following categories:

• Admission costs, theater ticket costs, etc. for curricular activities, when students are enrolled in the relevant course; transportation costs when such trips involve out-of-London travel; and accommodation costs if overnight stays are included. Note: meals are not paid for by the program.

• Similar subsidies for certain co-curricular activities that may be planned.

• Membership in the International Students House.
• Supplementary health insurance through HTH Worldwide.

Students are responsible for the following additional costs (estimates only):
• Transportation to and from London (upwards of $800)
• Housing in London (in 2012, £182/week – currently about US$280)
• Meals
• Transportation in London
• Other expenses as course books, personal travel, and personal items

Financial Aid

Once students confirm their participation in the London Program, the financial aid office will adjust the financial aid award package to take account of the higher housing costs in London and the fact that work-study is not available there. Students receiving financial aid from the College should ensure that they have signed all forms and made arrangements for disbursement prior to leaving the country. N.B: There is no early disbursement of financial aid available.

What students say about the program

“I would emphasize what a life-changing experience it has been to combine a small class with in and out of class learning in one of the best cities in the world. . . . Many of my friends say they remember travelling, or drinking in pubs, when recounting their experiences studying abroad in other programs. But I feel the Oberlin-in-London program has allowed me a great educational experience and provided me with two mentors.”

“This is a wonderful opportunity to experience the excitement of travel and city life while maintaining a close relationship with the familiarity of Oberlin. Not only do you become closer with your fellow Obies, but you also develop a sense of responsibility and maturity that only comes by taking care of yourself in a big city.

“The program really is serious about using London as a way to teach the courses here. We went on many trips and attended lectures and went on some great history walks. London offers something for everyone.”

“You can literally find anything here – there is theater, history, multicultural activities, activism, intellectualism. . . . I have had the freedom to explore yet classes to give me grounding and depth. I would highly recommend London as a city for any student to spend a semester.”

“Even though we were miles away from home, we were with friends and other familiar faces, we already spoke the language, our classes were intellectually engaging and fun, our financial aid checks did not get lost in the mail, and we only occasionally ran out of toilet paper. . . . Even though there were days when I missed my family and friends so much that it hurt, days when I thought that another rainy day would drive me up the wall, I would not trade my experience for the world.”
**Calendar for 2013**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 29 January - to Wednesday, 30 January</td>
<td>Fly to London (overnight). Housing opens 30 January.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 1 February - Sunday, 3 February</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
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<td>Monday, 4 February</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, 16 March - Sunday, 24 March</td>
<td>Spring Break (note: a week earlier than OC spring break)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 2 May</td>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 6 May</td>
<td>Program ends -- departure date. Note: in booking return flights, you should bear in mind that you will need to allow time after the completion of the semester to clean your flat thoroughly. It is recommended that you plan to leave London on this day (when housing contracts will end).</td>
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**Student Regulations**

Students on the Oberlin-in-London Program are expected to follow all academic and student conduct policies as outlined in the Oberlin College Course Catalog and the Student Regulations, Policies and Procedures, available at [www.oberlin.edu/students/links-life/rules-regs.html](http://www.oberlin.edu/students/links-life/rules-regs.html).

Life in London will demand responsibility and maturity and the London Program Committee has accordingly adopted the following statement:

“Behavior which, in the judgment of the London Program Director and faculty, substantially impedes the educational experiences of that student or other program participants may result in the removal of the student from the program. In such instances and where appropriate, reasonable efforts will be made to enable the student to complete the semester on the Oberlin campus.”