

Arcadia's Scottish Parliamentary Internship Offers an Insider's View to the 2007 General Elections

Created after the devolution and rebirth of the Scottish Parliament in 1999, the Scottish Parliamentary Internship program provides a unique opportunity for students to earn credit while gaining academic and practical experience as students, workers, and participants in the wider Scottish community. The program is administered and taught by faculty and staff in the Institute of Governance at the University of Edinburgh. Students on the program earn a total of 15 credits and the internship consists of:

- Five weeks of intensive classes: *Government and Politics in the United Kingdom, Scottish Politics, and Scottish Culture and Society*
- Ten weeks of work alongside a Member of the Scottish Parliament (MSP)
- A final research project/essay.



INSIDE THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

Students work closely with their assigned MSP and staff doing research, office duties, as well as working on their final projects. Duties may include trips down to Westminster in London, visits to the MSP's constituency, and on occasion, trips to Europe. Drawing from their experiences, former interns have completed final projects on topics as varied as physical education, NHS (National Health Service) prescription charges, rights of the disabled, and the Parliament's website and image. The pool of topics and experiences promises to be even more dynamic this spring due to the general election scheduled to take place in May 2007. Interns will have the opportunity to explore a broad range of research topics while accompanying their MSP as they prepare and campaign for the elections. Given that the elections are scheduled to take place on May 3rd and our program officially ends on April 28th, we are pleased to be able to extend the program dates in order to accommodate those students who wish to continue in Scotland through the elections. We encourage all participants to take advantage of this unique opportunity. Please contact Traci Chupik at chupikt@arcadia.edu for more information or visit our website at www.arcadia.edu/cea/scotland.

London Parliamentary Internship: A Student's Perspective

Luke Shulman is a Political Science major from Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts. Luke participated in Arcadia's London Parliamentary Internship last summer and interned with Roberta Blackman-Woods, a Labour MP for Durham. His final project was entitled "The Westminster System". Rather than having us tell you the story of his experience, we thought we'd leave that to Luke.

"As a Political Science major most of my summers would be spent in the office of a congressman or senator, but while I was on the Arcadia Internship program, I worked literally in the same room as my MP (Member of Parliament). This proved invaluable because my project concerned the role of individual MPs in the workings of the state. When she needed to head into the House of Commons chamber I was there to make sure she had the necessary research for her remarks. When she was needed for a television interview, I was the one making sure she didn't look down at her feet!

Perhaps the most amazing aspect of the Parliamentary Internship was the setting. We found ourselves commuting every day to Westminster Palace one of the world's signature buildings. On my first day, I found myself standing at the Dispatch Box (where Prime Ministers take their weekly questions).

Now back at my home university, I think my experience in London is helping in almost all of my classes. Even in classes that focus exclusively on American politics, the ability to accurately compare concepts from the UK and US political systems is invaluable."

Luke Shulman, Tufts University, September 2006



Please feel free to contact Brandyn Muller Campbell at mullerb@arcadia.edu for more information on the London internship programs. In addition to our parliamentary internships in Edinburgh and London, Arcadia also offers parliamentary internships in Canberra, Dublin, and soon: Cape Town. To find out more information regarding our parliamentary and other internship programs (in London, Toledo, and Sydney) please visit our website at www.arcadia.edu/cea/internships.

Greek Key Course Challenges Students to Unlock the Door to Cross-Cultural Understanding

The Greek Key: Language in a Cultural Landscape is the cornerstone course of our program in Athens challenging students to reflect upon an abundance of new information and experiences. This seminar, taken in conjunction with Modern Greek language, is worth a total of 6 semester hours of credit (4 credits for Modern Greek language and 2 for the Cultural Landscape course) and will involve students in one of several semester projects led by the Arcadia Center's faculty and staff. Each project will focus on a different aspect of life in Greece and will give students the opportunity to use newly-learned field research techniques to examine some of the complexities of contemporary Greek reality. Topics include: Immigration, The Greek University, Employment and Labor Relations, Modern Athenians and the Remains of their Past, The Greek Family, and The Athenian Art Scene.

The primary goal of the Greek Key is to help students interact with Greece and its citizens in a meaningful way. With this, students will develop an ability to recognize, understand, and appreciate the values according to which Greeks live their lives. Students are asked to set personal goals, reflect regularly on their experiences, and to analyze and document what they are learning. The interplay between the classroom and the environment is

drawn out on a daily basis through field excursions, guest lectures, and reflection. Please contact Tim Barton at bartont@arcadia.edu for further details.

Arcadia in Australia: Additional Opportunities to Engage with Australian Culture and Landscape

Students on Arcadia programs throughout Australia will be able to participate not only in the fully-subsidized weekend trips and cultural events planned within the Australian State in which they have chosen to study, but they may also join excursions in other states at a greatly-reduced cost. Beginning with January 2007, this initiative offers students greatly expanded opportunities to learn about the vast Australian landscape and culture. The program includes excursions to the Great Ocean Road (Victoria), North Stradbroke Island (Queensland), and Jervis Bay (New South Wales).

Our Australian staff have put together an exciting program for 2007. Students are offered a weekend wilderness trip to Tasmania, a weekend botanical/Aboriginal culture experience to Magnetic Island (Tropical Queensland) and a 10 -day expedition to the deserts of Central Australia. It is important to note that in all Arcadia excursions, great importance is attached to safety, experiential learning and cultural understanding. The trips are unique in that they are specifically organized to take students to “off-the-beaten-track” areas and enhanced by the expertise of our fully qualified staff. For full details, please refer to www.arcadia.edu/cea.

Our team of Regional Assistant Directors made a site visit to Australia at the end of July. Please feel free to contact your corresponding regional assistant director with any questions regarding the Arcadia programs in Australia.

Dean of Studies, Dennis Dutschke Coordinates “TransAtlantic Dialogue” in Basel, Switzerland

Dr. Dennis Dutschke, Dean of Studies for Arcadia’s Center for Education Abroad, just returned from Basel, Switzerland, where he co-coordinated the “TransAtlantic Dialogue”, a retreat seminar for approximately 20 chief academic officers from the European Association of International Educators (EAIE) and the Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA). The two-day retreat covered topics including: Higher Education Systems in Europe and USA; Course Equivalences and Grading for Students Studying Abroad; Research and Collaboration between European and American Universities; the new three-year degree in Europe; Joint, Dual, Double, Shared Degrees, and Collaboration between European and American universities; and Health, Safety and Liability in Study Abroad and Exchanges.



Shift in Phone System at Arcadia’s Center for Education Abroad

After experimenting with an automated phone system for a period of time, we’ve come to the conclusion that nothing beats having real, live, helpful staff answering our phones. So, the next time you call, you will likely be greeted by the friendly voices of Valerie Ashton, Danielle Lebens and/or Karen Heil. This shift better reflects the personal attention we aim to provide to our students and partners. We encourage you to call and talk with us!