ENGLISH 360: Travel Writing: Reading Others  
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Description
An advanced course on writing about travel abroad as well as reading in the genre of non-fiction travel writing. Each offering of this course will be connected to a specific travel abroad experience led by a department faculty member. Students will keep a reading journal, record their experiences in a travel diary, and write at least two travel pieces for publication. Selected readings will include examples of historical and contemporary travel writing, plus those related to the travel destination. Students will also learn to recognize how their cultural perspectives shape their interpretations of foreign peoples and cultures. Prerequisites: 45 hours or instructor’s consent. This course fulfills 300-level elective requirements for both a genre course and for a writing and language course. Additional costs related to travel abroad will apply.

Learning Outcomes
Upon completing the course, students will be able to
- Understand and apply the rhetorical demands of travel writing,
- Identify and analyze the literary dimensions of travel writing,
- Identify their own individual cultural perspective and its influence upon reading and interpreting other cultures,
- Analyze and describe a global community outside the United States,
- Compare and contrast two or more global communities in regard to their diversity, histories, politics, intellectual heritage, economies, religions, natural resources, or other significant factor,
- Explain how a specific global community outside the United States has changed in response to internal and external pressures.

Course Materials
*The Best Women's Travel Writing 2005: True Stories from Around the World* by Lucy McCauley  
a recent collection of travel writing by various authors for analysis and imitation

*Neither Here nor There: Travels in Europe* by Bill Bryson  
a recent collection of travel writing by one author for analysis and imitation

*Literary Theory: A Very Short Introduction* by Jonathan Culler  
a brief review of the nature of interpretation for application to travel writing genre and to students’ writing

Other travel writing selections, as well as those on reading foreign cultures and on the travel destination, would also be included.

Assignments
Students will keep a reading journal, record their experiences in a travel diary, and write at least two travel pieces for publication.