# Castles, Crags and Coastlines: Traveling in Wales (GEOG 410) – Summer 2016

#### CONTACTS

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#### **COURSE DETAILS**

GEOG 410: Educ. Tour

Credits: 6

Dates: May 16-June 2, 2016



#### **AGENDA**

Castles, Crags and Coastlines: Traveling in Wales, led by SCSU geography professor and native Welshman Dr. Gareth John, is a 6-credit study abroad experience in which students learn how to conduct themselves through and grow from their international travel experiences while interacting with the diverse and outstanding landscapes of Wales and Welsh culture and society. Designed for students of any major and with any level of travel experience, but who possess a curiosity for landscapes, and enjoy walking/hiking, and taking an active interest in history and culture, this study tour offers valuable insider

perspectives on a country with not only breathtaking coastal and mountain scenery and cosmopolitan European cities but an intriguing past and vibrant contemporary culture. Starting and ending in Cardiff, Wales's premier and capital city, this tour also takes in Swansea and the Gower Peninsular; Pembrokeshire Coast National Park; Cardigan Bay; and Snowdonia and Brecon Beacons National Parks. Along the way we'll hike along spectacular coastal cliff paths, climb Wales' (and England's) highest mountain (narrow-gauge railway optional), and examine the varied physical geographies of Wales. We'll explore Wales's industrial past through a series of engaging walking tours and visits to innovative and award-winning interactive museums, including taking a tour of a working coal mine, 300 feet underground. We'll tour modern urban developments, including Cardiff Bay, the magnificent Millennium Stadium (venue for the 2015 Rugby World Cup), and various sites of cultural and touristic importance in Wales, including numerous castles and the Blaenavon and Caernarfon UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Together with your professor and guide for the two-and-a-half week study tour, you'll interact with and learn from the people who live and work in Wales, including hostel staff, drivers and ticket agents, museum interpreters, restaurant owners and managers, tour guides, national park employees, and fellow walkers and hostel guests from Wales and the rest of the World. 6 cr. SU.

## COURSE MATERIALS Required Books:

- 1. The Rough Guide to Wales, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, London: Rough Guides (2012)
- 2. Collins GEM Pocket Welsh Dictionary, London: Collins
- 3. Travel Journal (A notebook or journal of your choice to submit as your journal assignment)

#### **Other Required Materials:**

A small collection of readings will be made available prior to the Orientation Classes in a convenient booklet for purchase from Copies Plus as well as electronically on D2L. 5 copies of the Davies book will be circulated among you.

AGENDA (subject to minor modification)					
Day Date	Academic Program – Location (Accommodation) [academic contact hours: 75 min. req./79 sched.]  Tour Itinerary {FT=Field Talk}	Reading to be completed by/Assignments (Due) Orientation/Breakfast Club Quizzes			
	2 Introduction to Wales and the Welsh plus Expectations/Necessities – SH 305 [8] Pre-tour campus class sessions Mon-Thu 10:00 am-Noon	Rough Guide to Wales (RGW): Basics and Contexts sections; Syllabus; CIS Hand-outs; Readings as set			
Fri May 13		Orientation Quiz (D2L – Fri May 13)			
Mon May 16	Travel: MSP for LHR (London Heathrow Airport) on Delta Flight DL 40 (overnight) [1] Assemble at Delta Group Check-in in Terminal 1, MSP at arranged time				
Tues May 17	Arrival Orientation (Nos Da Hostel) [1]  Arrive LHR Terminal 4; catch bus to Cardiff; Arrive and check in to NosDa Hostel 5:30pm Orientation to Cardiff and Announcements for Next Day – Sleep! [1]	RGW: Chap. 1: Southeast Wales			
Wed May 18	3,000 Years of Welsh History – St. Fagans, Cardiff (Nos Da) [5]  Meet in Lobby at 8:30 for orientation; take bus to St. Fagans {FT: St. Fagans National Museum}  10-4pm, (arranged tours of Maestir Victorian School; Rhyd-y-car; St. Teilo's Church) [4];  Assemble in Lobby of Nos Da at 5:30 {FT: Stereotypes of Wales and the Welsh}  6:00 pm Tour of Cardiff Castle, followed by Banquet (smart/smart-casual dress) [1]	RGW: (St. Fagans; Cardiff Castle); Davies, Palaeolithic to Iron Age: 10-25			
Thu May 19	Castles, Coal and Iron: Wales' Industrial Heritage Landscapes (Nos Da) [5.5] 8:30am Meet in Lobby for orientation; 8:50 am board minibus Arrive Castell Coch at 9:20; tour castle and grounds [1]. 10:30 depart for Blaenavon via Aberfan (11:00-Noon) {FT: The Aberfan Disaster} [1]; 12:30-2:00 Walking Tour of Blaenavon and Works and visit to UNESCO World Heritage Site Visite Center; lunch; depart at 2 pm for Big Pit for 2:30 pm Underground Tour and visit to museum [2] 5:15pm Meet at Entrance of Big Pit to depart for Cardiff	RGW: (Castell Coch; The Rhondda; Blaenavon) Davies, First and Second Industrial Eras: 100-135 or [1.5]			
Fri May 20	From Industrial Port to Post-Industrial Capital – Cardiff Bay Development (Nos Da) [3] 8:30 am Meet in lobby for orientation; Bus to Cardiff Bay [.5] 10:30-Noon Tour of the Senedd (National Government of Wales) [1.5]; Noon-3:00/4:00pm Free Time with option of visiting The Dr. Who Experience 3:00-4:00 or 4:00-5:00pm Sailing in Cardiff Bay with Skipper Steve [1] 5:30-7pm; Optional Group Dinner at Bosphorus Restaurant	RGW: (Cardiff; Modern Welsh Nationalism) Osmond, Welsh Civil Identity in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century			
Sat May 21	Gladiators of Ancient and Modern Times: Celts, Romans and Rugby – Caerleon and Cardiff (Nos Da) [7.5 8:00 Meet in lobby for <b>Breakfast Club Quiz</b> and orientation [1]; 9:00-Noon Walking Tour of Cardiff and National Museum of Wales [3] 1:00pm Bus trip to Newport and Caerleon Roman Fort Exhibits; [2] 4pm Return to Cardiff for Tour of Millennium Stadium [1],	RGW: (Caerleon; Rugby); Smith: A Century of Welsh Rugby; Johnes: A Prince, A King, and a Referendum 9:00am Breakfast Club Quiz I: RGW Ch. 1, Davies, Osmond, Smith, Johnes			

AGENDA (C	nt.)	
Day Da		Reading to be completed by/Assignments (Due) Orientation/Breakfast Club Quizzes
Sun May 22	Swansea, Dylan Thomas's 'Lovely, Ugly Town' – Swansea (Cline Farm) [3] 8:30am Meet in Lobby with luggage packed to leave for orientation [.5] 9:30-11:15 Caerphilly Castle [1] Arrive Swansea; Dylan Thomas Centre (12:15-1:00pm) {FT: Dylan Thomas} [.5] 1:15 am Walk to Swansea Marina 1:30-3:15pm Visit National Waterfront Museum (Use interactive panorama and exhibits; get lught 3:15 Quick Shopping trip to Tesco: shop for 3 breakfasts; 2 or 3 packed lunches (pub lunch option for Monday); 1 or 2 dinners: you'll have a kitchen to cook plus barbecue facilities) 4:00pm Bus to Clyne Farm and check-in 5:30 pm Depart or Optional Group Dinner at Viceroy of India Restaurant (smart casual)	
Mon May 2	Group Orienteering I: Gower Peninsular Cliff Walks – Gower (Cline Farm) [6] 8:00am Meet for day's orientation in Stables Cottage (it better be tidy!) [1] 9:00am Day of Hiking, beginning at Rhossili to hike out to Worm's Head at Low Tide [3] Bus to Parkmill to hike via Three Cliffs to Pennard Cliffs and Southgate [2] Evening Barbecue at Clyne Farm (Take cover, I'm cooking!)	RGW: (Gower); Gruffudd, Countryside as Educator
Tues May 2	Copperopolis – Swansea's Gloried Past and Inauspicious Present – Swansea (Cline Farm) [6] 9:00 Visit to Ysgol Cila (Killay Primary School) to meet real Welsh children and teachers [2] Noon-5:00pm Bus to Swansea University and City Centre for guided walking tours [4] Evening Free; Pack to leave for West Wales the following morning	Davies, War and Depression: 136-145
Wed May 2	Little England in Wales - Tenby (Tenby YHA) [3.5] 8:00am Breakfast Club Quiz Be packed and ready to check out from Clyne Farm before quiz [.5] 8:45 Load bus ready to depart at 9:00 am 10:00am-11:20 Carreg Cennen Castle (have flashlights along!) {FT: Carreg Cennen Castle} [1] 12:30 Arrive Tenby; check into Hostel Walk into Tenby Town for walking tour [1] 2pm Boat trip to Caldey Island (view old priory, church, chocolate factory and lighthouse) [1] Rugby on the beach; Evening Free	RGW: (England beyond Wales; Tenby; Caldey Is.); 8:00am: Breakfast Club Quiz II on RGW Chapter 2 & England Beyond Wales; Tenby; Caldey Is.; Davies (War); & Gruffudd (Countryside)
Thu May 26	Group Orienteering II: Along the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park (Kinloch Court) [5] 9:00am Leave for Manorbier and/or Stackpole (depending on the weather) Pembrokeshire Coast NP Hike, option to tour Manorbier Castle & St. James' (Norman) Church Noon Leave for Stackpole, Short hike Lilly ponds {FT: Pembrokeshire Coast NP} [5] Evening Free; Pack to leave early next morning for North Wales	RGW: (South Pembrokeshire Coast) Davies, Early Christian Wales: 30-35

AGENDA (Cont.)		
Day Date	Academic Program – Location (Accommodation) [academic contact hours]  Tour Itinerary <b>{FT=Field Talk}</b>	Reading to be completed by/Assignments (Due) Orientation/Breakfast Club Quizzes
Fri May 27	The Myths, Legends, and Life of Dewi Sant, the patron saint of Wales – St. Davids (Llanberis YHA) [4.5] 8:45am Be packed and ready to leave for North Wales 10:00-Noon St. Davids, Britain's Smallest City [1] 12:15-1:30pm Whitesands Bay with short hike to St. Davids Head [1]; stop at Pentre Ifan [.5]	RGW: (St. Davids); Chap. 4: The Cambrian Coast; (Aberystwyth)
	30 min stop at Aberystwyth Seafront; Arrive Llanberis about 6pm [2, with commentary en route]	Hand-in Journals for second Review
Sat May 28	**Cultural Landscapes of North Wales – Portmeirion to Beaumaris (YHA Llanberis) [4]  **8:00 am Breakfast Club Quiz III;  8:30am Depart for Portmeirion (9:30-Noon); after tour, watch video and explore village [2]  Noon Depart for Caernarfon {TF}; town walking tour self-guided castle tour (1:00-3:00pm) [1]  3:00pm Depart for Llanfairpwllgwyn {FT: Llanfairpwyllgwyn} (3:20-4pm) [.5]  4:00pm Depart for Beaumaris Castle [FT: Menai Strait and Bridge} (4:30-5pm) [.5]  5:30pm Return to Llanberis; evening free (rest for Snowdon ascent)	8:00 am Breakfast Club Quiz III: RGW Ch. 4; St.Davids; Davies (Early Christian Wales) RGW: Chapter 6: Snowdonia and the Llŷn Gruffudd, Propaganda for Seemliness; Davies Impact of the Normans & The High Middle Ages: 36- 55, (Portmeirion; Caernarfon Town and Castle); Chapter 7: Anglessey (LlanfairPG; Beaumaris)
Sun May 29	Group Orienteering III: Ascending Mt. Snowdon (1080m) (YHA Llanberis) [6] 8:30am Depart for hike to summit of Mt. Snowdon (1085m), <b>{FT: Snowdonia NP}</b> [6] 5:00pm Return to Llanberis; Group Dinner at Pete's Eats (Snowdon Tradition, My Treat!) Evening Free; Pack to leave for to Brecon Beacons	RGW: (Snowdonia); Zaring: The Romantic Face of Wales
Mon May 30	Exploiting/Preserving Nature in Wales – Llanberis to Brecon Beacons (White Hart Inn) [5] 8:30am Breakfast Club Quiz IV; 9:15am Depart Hostel for National Slate Museum (9:30-Noon) [2 Noon Depart for Brecon Beacons National Park, stop at Swallow Falls 12:30-1:00pm[.5] 2:45pm Arrive at Rhayader Welsh Kite Centre (2:45-4pm) [1] Arrive Talybont-on-Usk (Brecon Beacons NP) about 5pm [1.5, with interpretation en route)	8:30am Breakfast Club Quiz IV: RGW Ch. 6, 7;  ] Davies (Normans & High Middles Ages); Gruffudd (Propaganda); Zaring  RGW: Chap. 3 (The Brecon Beacons)
Tues May 31	Brecon Beacons Waterfall Country – Brecon Beacons NP (White Hart Inn) [5] 9:00am Depart for Fforest Fach Geopark (Cwm Porth Car Park) for Waterfall Hike (10-2pm) [4]  {FT: Beacons NP Landscapes} 2-5pm Afternoon Trip to Hay-on-Wye [1]  Evening Free: Work on journals; submit questions for quiz; Pack for Cardiff	RGW: (Merthyr Tydfil); Davies, The Recent Past  Submit questions/answers for final quiz by 9pm
		The state of the s
Wed June 1	Reflections on Wales – Cardiff (Nos Da) [4.5] 9:00am Breakfast Club Quiz V; 10:30am Depart White Hart Inn for guided walk around Brecon Town and canal (11-Noon) [1]; Noon Depart for Cyfartha Castle, Merthyr Tydfil (1-2pm) [1] 2pm Depart Cyfartha Castle; arrive at Nos Da, Cardiff at 3:00pm (time for last-minute shopping)	9:00am Breakfast Club Quiz V: RGW Ch. 3, s (Recent Past) and Program Overview (with student submitted questions) Return Davies books to me
Thu June 2	5:30 pm Meet in Lobby for debriefing, travel waiver-signing, 'Last Supper' & Program Reflections	[1.5] Submit Completed Journals (by 11pm)
Thu June 2 Thu June 9	Travel: Meet in Lobby with luggage to walk to station to catch Bus to London  Research Paper D2L Dropbox Deadline	Submit Research Paper (D2L Dropbox–June 9)
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### Readings List and Quizzes by Date

Date Readings (to be completed by) / Quiz # (on material since previous quiz)

May 13 RGW: Basics and Contexts Sections, CIS Orientation Hand-outs; Syllabus; Readings as set; pre-tour campus classes

Orientation Quiz (D2L – Thu May 12 – Fri May 13)

May 17 RGW: Chapter 1: Southeast Wales

May 18 RGW: (St. Fagans; Cardiff Castle); Davies: 10-25

May 19 RGW: (Cardiff; Modern Welsh Nationalism); RP: Osmond, 'Welsh Civil Identity'

May 20: RGW: (Castell Coch; The Rhondda; Blaenavon); Davies: 100-135

May 21: RGW: (Caerleon; Rugby); RP: Smith, A Century of Welsh Rugby; Johnes: A Prince, A King, and a Referendum

#### May 21 Breakfast Club Quiz I

May 22: RGW: Chapter 2: Southwest Wales (Caerphilly; Swansea; Dylan Thomas)

May 23: RGW: (Gower); RP: Gruffudd, 'Countryside as Educator'

May 24: Davies: 136-143

May 25: RGW: (England Beyond Wales; Tenby; Caldey Island);

#### May 26 Breakfast Club Quiz II

May 26: RGW: South Pembrokeshire Coast); Davies: 30-35

May 27: RGW: (St. Davids); Chapter 4: The Cambrian Coast (Aberystwyth)

#### May 28 Breakfast Club Quiz III

May 28: RP: Gruffudd, 'Propaganda for Seemliness'; RGW: Chapter 6: Snowdonia and the Llŷn (Portmeirion; Caerrnarfon Town and Castle); Chapter 7: Anglessey (LlanfairPG; Beaumaris); Davies: 36-55

May 29: RP: Zaring 'Romantic Face'; RGW: (Snowdonia)

#### May 30 Breakfast Club Quiz IV

May 30: RGW: Chapter 3 (The Brecon Beacons)

May 31: RGW: (Merthyr Tydfil); Davies: 144-153

June 1 Breakfast Club Quiz V (incl. main points from entire tour and your submitted questions)

RGW - Rough Guide to Wales

RP - Readings Packet

Davies - The Making of Wales (one of the six circulating communal books)

#### **EVALUATION AND GRADING**

The grading system will basically follow the standard format as per General Catalog:

You will be assessed by a research paper (due one week after your return), a field talk on a preset topic (plus a hand-out and short written report of it), 6 quizzes; 3 Group Orienteering Exercises; 10 journal entries and illustrations; and on your general involvement and decorum (conduct).

#### The breakdown is as follows:

Paper and Field Talk/Report	Quizzes/Exercises Journal	Field Co	nduct & Involvement
Research Paper 20%	Orientation 3%	10 Entries (2% each)	Academic Involvement in Field (5%)
Field Talk & Extras 10%	5 Breakfast Club (3%)	Illustrations (10%)	Field Decorum (Conduct) 5%
	3 Group Orienteering (4%	)	, ,
= <u>30%</u>	= 30%	= <u>30%</u>	= 10%
	Total =	100%	

Journals (30%): Throughout the program you will maintain a journal consisting of text entries and illustrations:. Entries (20%): you are required to make at least 10 journal entries; usually these are done in the evenings. This should include your personal reflections on the activities of the last couple of days focusing on the value of travel study as a study abroad experience addressing at some point in your reflections each of the following areas (possibly dealing with one per journal entry): 1) how you prepared for your study abroad experience; 2) Your thoughts and fears about traveling and studying abroad prior to departure; 3) your initial impressions having arrived in Britain/Wales; 4) the degree to which you think your understanding of the host society and place is shaped by your own background and values; 5) the degree to which your initial impressions of the host culture/country were transformed during the study tour; 6) unique problems of traveling and studying abroad and how deal with or overcome them; 7) how your study abroad experience differed from your expectations; 8) the most significant thing you learned about the host culture/country during the study tour; 8) the most significant thing you learned about yourself on the study abroad program; 9) in what ways would you prepare differently for future travel and study programs abroad; and 10) what you think you will take with you for the rest of your life from the Wales study tour. One page per entry is expected. Your journal should also consistently focus on the following: relationships between ways of life and the landscape; role of tourism in the place visited; and interesting Welsh words encountered. (Number the items accordingly when addressing in your journal.)

Illustrations (10%): As part of your journal you are required to create a fully illustrated sketch (hand-drawn) map of your journey as you travel (4%); 2 field drawings of landscapes encountered (2% each); and a short poem or prose on a Wales-inspired topic (2%). Illustrations are not graded for artistic merit but detail and a spirited attempt.

Research Paper (20%): Chosen in consultation with the faculty director, your paper may be on any topic related to Welsh culture, geography and society. At 6-8 pages of text in length. Your paper should be fully cited (including intext citations) and include a map, other illustrations (graphs, table, photos etc.), a separate title page and list of references (in APA or Chicago Manual of Style), of which 4 must be scholarly (journal articles or academic books). The paper is due one week after our arrival back in MN. Use a double-spaced, 12-point type in Times New Roman, Garamond, Book Antiqua or Calibri font and reset the page to 1-inch margins, and 1 inch at the top and bottom. Do not plagiarize and that includes copying and pasting off the internet—I will check for this. Plagiarism of any sort will result in an F for the assignment.

Field talk (10%): you will present a field talk on a topic of interest complete with a one-page hand-out to be distributed to everyone in the group. An exact list of topics and presenters will be issued at the orientation meeting in early May (see attached). When you present your talk, allow about 10 minutes for the talk and be prepared for questions. Your talk should be typed up as a mini-report with sources cited. The report will be due along with your research paper.

Orientation and Breakfast Club Quizzes (18%): There will be a quiz on the information covered during orientation and on D2L in preparation of the Study Tour worth a total of 3%. Then, as we travel, there will be five 12-15-question quizzes, each worth 3%, based on the readings in the Rough Guide and Readings Packet as well as information encountered in the field (such as on tours and group orienteering) and presented in the student field talks. Quizzes will be administered following breakfast on the days set in the Agenda, hence their name. A list of quizzes and what readings are covered in each is included below.

Group (Map) Orienteering (12%): During our visit to each of Wales's three national parks you will complete fun interactive activity sheets in groups using maps and orienteering skills as we hike and explore the landscape and our surroundings. Activities will be based on your skills in using 1:25,000 scale Ordnance Survey (OS) maps and compasses, drawing clues from local signs, surrounding landscape features, your Welsh dictionaries, and the local people, and in working effectively together as a group. Groups will be assigned on the day based on my whims.

Academic Involvement in Field (5%): you are expected to be engaged in the academic component of the tour, including field talks; daily orientation and fieldtrips; engaging with guides and docents. Being academically engaged and involved means being appropriately curious, asking questions and applying your knowledge along the way in the questions you ask.

Field Decorum (5%): Since this is an official SCSU Education Abroad Program, you are effectively ambassadors for your university as well as your state and country. You are expected, therefore, to be courteous, helpful and kind (to your fellow tourists as well as your hosts), and to abide by the rules set out by the sites that we visit (including house rules for accommodation, National Park regulations and the UK Country Code): more on this at Orientation.

#### **GENERAL NOTES AND GUIDELINES**

#### Alcoholic beverages

In Wales it is legal to consume alcoholic beverages aged 18 and older. However, and this is a big however, the program is essentially, first and foremost a class not a vacation and so I have classroom/program policies that will be pretty strict on when it's okay to consume alcoholic drinks (only at designated settings such as an optional group dinner or during free time after all the day's instructional activity) and even how many. This will be in force from the time we meet at the airport to fly to London to the time you get off the plane back in Minnesota. Any infringements of any kind involving alcohol will not be tolerated and could lead to a student being expelled from the program. I've sent students home from programs before and will do it again. Ultimately, you are representing your school, your state, your country and, perhaps because I am taking you to my city and my country, how you do that is very important. Alcohol violations can result in a fail grade for the course and expulsion from the tour at the offender's cost.

#### Punctuality

Since we will be travelling through Wales and there are a lot of scheduled activities and departure times it is imperative that you be punctual and meet on time at given rendezvous points. Lateness will be penalized 1% of your total grade for every minute that you are late for something. I know, harsh, but so is making everyone miss a bus connection or a guided tour.

#### Personal belongings: Affects, Passports, IDs, Money and Meds

You will be responsible for the security of your personal belongings. You are encouraged not to bring along items of monetary or sentimental value. Loss and sometimes theft (though there is not an especially high risk of this in Wales) is just a fact of life when travelling, so pack appropriately. Your passport, IDs, phone and SCSU Public Safety Contact Information should be kept close to you at all times. It is recommended that you keep your money spilt between you and your luggage, so that if you lose either your luggage or lose your wallet or purse that you keep on you, you are not left without money. It is a good idea to split supplies of any medications for the same reason. Be sure to bring more than enough of any prescription medication that you require for the duration of the program

and be sure that they are clearly labeled (in original containers) for potential official search and security purposes. EU law dictates that you cannot carry weapons of any sort into the area, and this includes pepper sprays.

Lastly, I am there as your teacher, guide, support, advocate, protector and leader. Don't hesitate to inform me of any issues or concerns (however, minor you may think they are) or to ask me anything that'll help you along. In every situation I promise I will do everything I can to answer your questions, solve any issues and work to make this education abroad experience everything it can be as an integral part of a positive life-learning experience at SCSU!

