

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

ALABAMA IN ICELAND

May 11 - May 29, 2009



Cultural Ecology, Natural History, and Sustainability



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA
INTERNATIONAL

<http://overseas-study.ua.edu>

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Cultural Ecology, Natural History, and Sustainability: Lessons from Iceland is a three-week Maymester program sponsored by the Center for Ecological Living and Learning (CELL) and New College, University of Alabama. The program focuses on a theme of sustainability through community and takes place in one of the most remote, geologically unique, and environmentally friendly countries in the world. This program offers not only an incredible educational adventure, but, more importantly, an opportunity to join a community of learners committed to making our world more sustainable.

During the three-week program, you will receive 7 college credits, while:

- Living in one of the world's unique eco-villages
- Volunteering in a tree planting/soil conservation program near Mt. Hekla, Iceland's most active volcano
- Participating in a four-day hiking expedition exploring mountains and glaciers
- Learning about the natural history of Iceland, including studying coastal birds while sea kayaking
- Learning about environmental and agricultural issues facing Iceland and about imaginative solutions to global and local problems
- Learning about Iceland's unique geology, its innovative use of geothermal energy, and how this island nation is leading the world toward a path of sustainability, and
- Developing a leadership action plan to grow what you have learned about sustainability through community once you return home.



Iceland Eco-village

COURSE OFFERINGS

NEW 490 - Sustainability: Secrets of Simplicity, Credit Hours: 3

This interdisciplinary course examines the field of sustainability and explores creative ways to build sustainable communities. We look at innovative strategies currently being implemented (both worldwide and in Iceland) to proactively address issues threatening sustainability. The focus of this class is to examine the choices we make and to look at how to incorporate sustainable practices into our lives. Students explore the principles of voluntary simplicity and the relationship of these principles to sustainability. Students live in one of the world's oldest and unique eco-villages and have opportunities to apply what they are learning in the classroom to real-life service-learning projects in the field.

Course content is presented primarily through faculty/student facilitated instruction, provocative readings, lively discussions, journaling/reflection, service-learning, and field trips.

NEW 442 - Natural Science II: Population and Environmental Problems, Credit Hours: 4

This course will examine the question: "What is it about Iceland's culture, history, and natural history that has helped to shape its current environmental ethic?" This course also introduces students to Iceland's unique natural areas and geology and provides inspiring examples of how Iceland is utilizing carbon-free geothermal resources for heating and electricity production. The course also surveys the complexities of global warming, explores personal responses to climate change, identifies our participation in this ecological crisis, and explores our individual and collective power to shape an effective response to climate change. Course material is presented through provocative readings, group discussions, journaling, and field trips, including a four-day hiking expedition.

Prerequisites: Introductory courses in science, social science, and writing; or permission from the instructor.

Note: This program is conducted in May in Iceland and will involve hiking in remote areas. Students, therefore, will need to be in good physical condition. Through participation in this program, you are joining a global community of people who are committed to making our world more sustainable. This is a key part of a CELL learning adventure!

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Students planning to use financial aid to fund their overseas study should pick up a program cost breakdown form from Capstone International in room 135 B. B. Comer prior to applying for this program. Students should take the form to Financial Aid and meet with a counselor. If Financial Aid determines an award will be made, the he/she must indicate on the overseas study application form that he/she plan to use these funds to pay for overseas study.

Capstone International has program scholarships available based on need and merit. Visit 135 B. B. Comer Hall for an application or online at <http://overseas-study.ua.edu>.



Svartifoss



Kerið crater



Jökulsárlón

*** The University of Alabama reserves the right to modify the program or its costs as necessitated by changes in the international economic situation, or to cancel the program if necessary. ***



Iceland Countryside

TOTAL COST AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

Total cost of program: \$5,800.00
(airfare included from Boston/Iceland/Boston)

Payment Schedule:

January 15	\$600.00 program confirmation deposit due
February 16	\$2,600.00
March 13	\$2,60.00 balance due

Note: Payments are nonrefundable after due date. In the event a student cancels enrollment in the program, a minimum of \$100 will be charged to he/she account. Please consult application for refund/cancellation policy. If space remains available, late applications will be considered. The program will not refund monies for day trips, excursions, entrance fees to churches, museums and castles, or any element of a planned group excursion and/or site visit in which the student does not participate. The program will not refund monies for group meals in which the student does not participate.

COST INCLUDES

- Tuition for 7 credit hours
- International Student I. D. Card
- Student Health Insurance
- Excursions and entrance fees
- Room and board
- Academic supplies and books
- Organized tour and activities fees
- Service-project materials
- Ground transportation for organized activities
- Roundtrip airfare from Boston to Iceland and return to Boston

COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Additional health insurance
- Personal expenditures for free time
- Transportation to and from Boston
- Fishing fees

2009 ALABAMA IN ICELAND



Reykjavik, Iceland's Capital

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