

**Initial Points of Information  
2019 Danube Summer Institute**

Item	Details
POLS306-150; POLS306-151 (Special Topics)	These two courses are the two classes within which you must be enrolled for the summer program. Each is 3 hours, and for grade.
Academic requirements	TBA: with syllabus later in spring semester. Basically, participation on all required activities of program, a daily program academic journal, and a short effective essay due by end of program constitutes the basis for the grade for the six-hours.
Book/reading requirements	All material will be PDF format and placed in e-reserve of Evans for you under the POLS306 courses.
Program information	<a href="https://pols.tamu.edu/undergraduate-studies/danube-summer-institute/">https://pols.tamu.edu/undergraduate-studies/danube-summer-institute/</a> Flight Information: web page to be updated on DSI web page Program Schedule): TBA for 2019
Study Abroad Advisor contact	Alexis Humphreys ( <a href="mailto:ahumphreys@tamu.edu">ahumphreys@tamu.edu</a> ); 845-0544.

Trans-Atlantic Flight Information	Dr. Robertson's flights for the 2019 Danube Summer Institute are as follows:							
	Airline	Flight Number	Departing date	Departing City (Airport)	Arriving City (Airport)	Departing Time	Arriving Time	Arriving Date
	Air France	AF 639	Friday July 5, 2019	Houston (IAH)	Paris, France (CDG)	3:45 PM (15:45)	8:15 AM (Europe time)	Saturday July 6, 2019
	Air France	AF 1734	Saturday July 6, 2019	Paris, France (CDG)	Berlin, Germany (Tegel)	9:20 AM	11:05 AM	Saturday July 6, 2019
	Air France	AF 5037 (Operated by Czech Air)	Monday August 5, 2019	Prague, Czech Republic (Havel)	Paris, France (CDG)	7:10 AM	9:00 AM	Monday August 5, 2019
	Air France	AF 636	Monday August 5, 2019	Paris, France (CDG)	Houston (IAH)	10:10 AM	1:45 PM (13:45)	Monday August 5, 2019
<p><i>In order to travel with the chartered bus to the Golden Tulip Hotel in Berlin, it is imperative you arrive before my flight into Berlin (before 11:05AM local time on July 6). The chartered bus can only wait a short time for the group and is scheduled to pick up the group according to the time my flight arrives in Berlin. If for any reason you arrive more than a few minutes (for instance, more than 10-15 minutes) after I arrive at 11:05, the bus will have to leave for the hotel. This means you have two options should you miss the bus: (1) take public transportation (subway) to area near hotel and walk the four or five city blocks with your luggage, which requires a ticket (about 2€); or, take a taxi from the airport to the hotel. This costs about \$30 (25€). Either option requires you get Euro currency from the ATM in the airport upon arrival. <b>I will go over these options in detail during the prep sessions, as well as with any student individually who knows ahead of time of such a need.</b></i></p>								

Points to remember of overseas flights	Weight limit: typically, 50lbs (22kg). Check with airlines. Extra luggage can cost up to \$100 Flying to Europe loses one day The trans-Atlantic flight can take up to 11 - 12 hours
Accessing money in Europe	It is best to bring a bank debit/credit card to withdraw money for personal use from ATMs in Europe. Have a backup plan (either an extra card with you in hotel, or plan to get one from parents/friends/home if needed)
Laptops	Not required, but good idea as they are means to access information on program, and all hotels have free wifi in some form (either in room or in lobby)
Mobile phones	It is best to have one. <b>YOU SHOULD HAVE ONE.</b> Check with your career about rate plans and international plans. Mobile smart phones with email/text options the best, but NOT required.
Passports	You will need a passport. AND, you will need it VERY SOON. Do not delay – order that passport NOW if you do not have it. Contact TAMU Study Abroad about how you may apply for and order your Passport through TAMU study abroad office.  It is urgent you have it soon: many venues in Europe during program require security background check many week and sometimes month before we arrive. Your passports are essential.  Copies of passports will be required for study abroad and Robertson
Travel plans before and after program	You are free to travel before you arrive for the program on May 25 in Munich; you may stay later than the group (June 25). You may also travel during program if there is a free weekend. BUT, you must let Robertson know of your travel plans during the program.
Language	Program is in English. German phrase book is helpful. But, English is widely spoken where you will be travelling.
Insurance	You will purchase in price of program health insurance (CISI) which Alexis Humphreys and/or Study Abroad mandatory prep session will brief you on later. Having additional travel insurance is often recommended. Larry Komrower can be of help here.
Medicines	Make sure all prescription drugs you require are <b><i>in prescription bottles with proper labeling</i></b> . Be sure to have enough (for at least 30 days). And, best to bring a number of over the volunteer drug we can get here (aspirin, stomach and digestive aids, etc.). As many of these are not available over-the-counter in Europe.  Be sure to have the proper contact information for you physician.
Clothing	<b><i>You will need at least 2 or 3 “business casual” outfits for official venues.</i></b> Comfortable walking shoes, and light sweater/jacket also good idea. Weather can be very warm, it can be rainy and cold. An umbrella is a good idea.
Electrical converters, etc.	Electrical converter (to convert current from 220 to 110); strongly recommend a converter, not merely an adaptor. If your electrical instrument already charges with a converter (notebooks, Apple iPhones, Androids, etc.), you may not need the converter; rather, a simple “adapter” is needed (which has prongs for continental Europe and attaches to the end of your American cord, allows you then to plug your cord into the European socket, and your device’s converter converts the current of 220 coming from outlet to 110 by the time it arrives in your device). But, be safe rather than sorry: get a converter designed for Germany (continental Europe) from which you may charge toy equipment and convert the electrical voltage coming from wall to your instrument. Females using hair straighteners, or anyone using high energy devise that generate high heat would be wise to have a converter, or plan on buying the devise while in Europe.