

Washington, D.C. Honors Study Away - Fall 2023

Travel Dates: December 9-13, 2023 (Saturday-Wednesday)

Please note: Students must be members of the Honors Program in good standing. You may not join the program simply to participate in the study away. A minimum GPA of 3.25 and enrollment in or completion of an Honors class with a final grade of B or better is required of currently enrolled students before students enroll in the study away/class.

Eligibility: All GPAs and enrollment in Honors classes will be verified. If you do not meet the 3.25 GPA requirements and are not making sufficient progress in earning the required Honors credit, then you will not be allowed to participate in the study away.

Enrollment Process: All students who do participate will also need to enroll in the 1-hour University Honors Study Away course (UH 398) for the Fall 2023 term and one other Academic Honors course.

If you are interested in the study away, complete and submit the application by **July 1, 2023**. A \$200 deposit made payable to JSU is due two days after your application is submitted. This \$200 deposit goes toward the final total of the pre-paid items.

Class Meetings: The UH 398 1-hour course will be a hybrid course, on select Mondays at 4:30 p.m., which means we will meet in class some weeks and you will complete outside work related to the class during other weeks. Since this is a one-hour collaborative course, this class may count as 1 of the required University Honors (UH) Participation courses.

This itinerary is a draft and is subject to some modification depending on weather and schedule conflicts, but it will give you a good idea of the things we will enjoy while we are in D.C. However, we will build the final itinerary of the course throughout the Fall 2023 semester. It is not likely that you will see everything you want to during our time in D.C. (there is just too much to see in 4 days!!!) but everyone should be able to mark several major museums and other attractions off their bucket list. Washington is beautiful during the Christmas Season!



The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Highlights of the Experience:

Itinerary Possibilities: Library of Congress, National Portrait Gallery, National Museum of American Art, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The National Christmas Tree and 50 state trees and US Territories, and Old Town Alexandria. Our Congressman, Mike Rogers, can request White House passes for our group and we must make that request with names and social security numbers 90 days in advance since the Secret Service will have to conduct a background check. The White House Tour is subject to modification and cancellation depending on circumstances.

Other potential destinations which will be decided by the class and instructor include:

***Private tour of US Capitol Building by Congressman Mike Rogers' office.** Congressman Rogers is the U.S. Representative for the Third Congressional District and a JSU Alum.

***Smithsonian Museums** (museums are free; admission might be charged for some special exhibits or for IMAX films but those are optional).

- National Museum of American History
- National Museum of Natural History
- National Air and Space Museum
- National Holocaust Museum
- National Archives
- National Museum of the American Indian
- National Museum of African American History and Culture

There are several additional art museums and galleries, but the ones listed above appeal to a wider audience.

***Various Monuments on the National Mall**

- Ford's Theatre
- Museum of the Bible - Admission charge is currently \$19.99 for students
- National Cathedral- Cost: \$8 per person for self-guided tour (Mon - Fri). Attending Sunday services is free (11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. or Choral Evensong 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Weekday Evensong is Mon-Thu 5:30 to 6:15 p.m.).
- ***Tour of Arlington National Cemetery and Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and Kennedy gravesites.** If you have relatives buried at Arlington, this would be a good opportunity to visit their graves. Cost for Tram Tours: \$19.50 per person.
- The John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts- Students have the option of purchasing tickets to a scheduled performance. Free concerts are also available each evening in the Millennium Theatre.



The United States Capitol.

Pre-paid Expenses: **Hotel** in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia and round-trip **Flights** from Atlanta to D.C.: \$916 per person. This price is **2 people per room** with standard beds and includes taxes **and full breakfast** for 4 nights/days. We have figured flights on the high end (\$500) and checking a bag on the departure and return flights. We will monitor flight prices throughout the semester and buy at the best rate. Students should realize flight prices are subject to change depending on world events. Airline ticket prices are currently elevated due to higher gas prices. All rooms will have a microwave and small refrigerator.

- Single occupancy and flight \$1,332.00 per person (includes baggage fees, taxes, and full breakfast)
- Triple occupancy (3 per room) and flight \$778 per person (includes baggage fees, taxes, and full breakfast)
- Quadruple occupancy (4 per room) and flight \$708 per person (includes baggage fees, taxes, and full breakfast)

Additional Expenses while in D.C.:

Lunch and Dinner: There is a Whole Foods full-service grocery store that has a deli with soup and salad bar near the hotel, so students may choose to eat on a smaller budget and spend their money on souvenirs or other items. We will be in the heart of D.C., the Beltway, for lunch each day, which is why we want you to take advantage of the full breakfast, so you will not have to spend as much on lunch. You should figure on \$10-\$15 for lunch each day, so \$50-\$75 total for 5 days. You may purchase food items from the grocery store for dinner or dine in one of the local restaurants near our hotel. Price range for dinners will be \$10-\$25 per day, so plan for \$30-\$125 total for dinners. Food price for 4 days/5 nights is \$100-\$200.

Metro Card: We will be traveling on foot and by metro (which is very clean and safe) and you will purchase a metro card when we arrive. A 7-day metro pass is available for \$38-\$58 or you can add value to your metro card each day before we board. There is a \$2 initial fee to purchase the smart metro card, which operates like a debit card when riding the metro.

Miscellaneous Uber or Lyft: \$30

Souvenirs: \$75-\$150

Enrollment and Class Registration: Students should allow time to complete and submit the required paperwork no later than July 1, 2023.

Rooms will be assigned by gender. If you wish to share a room, it is your responsibility to secure the number of students you want to have in your room (double, triple, or quadruple occupancy).

Space is limited for this study away so enroll accordingly.

Fundraising: The class might wish to hold one or more fundraisers during the term to lower the cost of the trip.

Enrollment in UH 398: Students will be enrolled in the study course after paying the \$200 deposit.

Contact Dr. Lori Owens at (256)782-8269 for additional information or email Dr. Lori Owens, professor of Political Science, who will serve as the Washington, D.C. group leader and instructor for the UH 398 course, at ljowens@jsu.edu.

Payment Schedule:

July 1 st	Application and \$200 deposit due
October 1 st	50% of remaining balance due for all students
November 1 st	Remaining balance due for all students