

## Toppers at Sea 2014 – The Climate Change Challenge

Explore the impacts of climate change through the lens of many perspectives on board the *MV Explorer*.

### COURSES

Each student picks one 3-credit hour course:

**Economics 430** - Environmental and Resource Economics

Dr. Cathy Carey – [cathy.carey@wku.edu](mailto:cathy.carey@wku.edu)

Dr. Dan Duran – Whittier College - [dduran@whittier.edu](mailto:dduran@whittier.edu)

**EDU 401 / 401G** – Special Topics in Teacher Education.

Dr. Andrew West – [andrew.west@wku.edu](mailto:andrew.west@wku.edu)

**Geography 475 or Geoscience 510** - We've Climate

Changed: Interpreting Climate Change Science

Dr. Jason Polk - [jason.polk@wku.edu](mailto:jason.polk@wku.edu)

Dr. Leslie North - [leslie.north@wku.edu](mailto:leslie.north@wku.edu)

**Honors 380** - Trends Shaping Our Future: Local and Global Perspectives

Dr. Nathan Phelps - [nathan.phelps@wku.edu](mailto:nathan.phelps@wku.edu)

**All students will also be enrolled in this 1-credit hour course:**

**ICSR 301** - An Interdisciplinary Approach Addressing the Challenges of Climate Change

Dr. Bernie Strenecky - [bernie.strenecky@wku.edu](mailto:bernie.strenecky@wku.edu)

### Class Meetings

Class meetings will take place on campus prior to departing for the shipboard portion of the program. The faculty of each course will determine the meeting schedule and requirements. All participants will also meet prior to departing for a required pre-departure orientation.

- May 19– 23, 2014. Faculty for each course will determine class meeting times/format.
- June 1– June 15 2014, Toppers at Sea 2014 voyage.

Class meetings/assignments will be arranged for Visiting students.

### ACCOMMODATIONS

You will study on board the *MV Explorer*, a 1,000-passenger vessel, operated by the Institute for Shipboard Education (ISE). The ship is a state-of-the-art floating campus, open to voyagers of all ages. The standard package includes standard cabins on decks 2-5 based on triple occupancy. Upgrades may be available at additional cost. [Learn more about the cabins.](#)

### PROGRAM

For those with a passion for world travel, a love of learning, and a thirst for cross-cultural experience, the Toppers at Sea 2014 voyage provides an unparalleled academic experience. Earn WKU credit on Semester at Sea's May 2014 Enrichment Voyage as we study climate change in locations in the North Atlantic that are directly affected by this scientific phenomenon.

This interdisciplinary program includes several courses. Together the group will learn how climate change affects the world from varied academic perspectives. The 1-credit hour service-learning course will bring together the findings from each course for a presentation to an international partner in one of the countries we will visit.

**Learning Objectives:** Each course has specific learning goals, including how to:

- Employ experiential learning in order to better understand climate change.
- Analyze the impact of climate change on a specific region of the globe.
- Develop an understanding of strategies to deal with climate change.
- Develop and understanding for dealing with climate change (special emphasis will be placed on service learning).
- Create an academic learning community

**ITINERARY** (*subject to change*) –

*\* updated 10/24/2013*

May 30	Arrive Stockholm, Sweden (ARN)	June 8	Reykjavik, Iceland *
May 31	Stockholm	June 9	Isafjordur, Iceland
June 1	Stockholm - Embark the <i>MV Explorer</i>	June 10	Akureyri, Iceland *
June 2	At Sea	June 11	At Sea
June 3	Copenhagen, Denmark	June 12	At Sea
June 4	At Sea	June 13	Belfast, Northern Ireland
June 5	Lerwick, United Kingdom (Shetland Islands)	June 14	At Sea
June 6	At Sea	June 15	Southampton, England (Disembark)
June 7	At Sea		

**ELIGIBILITY FOR CREDIT**

- Undergraduate students must be in good standing. ([Undergraduate Catalog](#)).
- Graduate students must be in good standing. (see [Graduate Catalog](#)).
- Permission of instructor is required.
- Current WKU student eligible to register for WKU courses.
- Students from outside WKU may participate as [visiting students](#).
- 18 years of age or older by May 29, 2014.
- Permission of parent or guardian for those under 18 years.
- Possess passport with an expiration date after December 15, 2014 (all participants regardless of age).
- No current disciplinary sanctions as verified by Judicial Affairs.
- Meet payment schedule and full payment prior to departure.
- Completion of all pre-departure orientations.
- Maintain adherence to Toppers at Sea Student Code of Conduct.
- Completion of the [Study Abroad & Global Learning application process](#) prior to being registered for a course. We suggest you start this application process immediately and respond to all emails promptly.
- Payment of \$150 study abroad application fee.

**ELIGIBILITY FOR NONCREDIT PARTICIPANTS**

- Minors must be accompanied and supervised by a full-paying parent or guardian, who is neither a program leader nor a student enrolled in a course.
- Possess passport with an expiration date after December 15, 2014 (regardless of age).
- Meet payment schedule and full payment prior to departure.
- Completion of all pre-departure orientations.
- Maintain adherence to Toppers at Sea Student Code of Conduct.
- Completion of appropriate registration forms provided by program leaders.

**Study Abroad courses are not eligible for employee tuition waivers or discounts. The final program fee is subject to change due to travel arrangements.**

PACKAGE OPTIONS

**STANDARD: \$3,698 – \$3,898**

**Included in Standard Package**

- Tuition
  - Undergraduate tuition for 4 credit hours
  - Graduate tuition for 4 credit hours
- Stockholm (May 30 - 31)
  - Airport to hotel transfer for those on group flight
  - 2-nights of accommodation
  - Welcome reception and orientation
  - Hotel to ship transfer for those staying at hotel
- Shipboard (June 1 – 15)
  - 14-nights of accommodation and meals on board the *MV Explorer*.
  - Standard cabin on decks 2-5 based with **triple occupancy**. \*
  - Two course-related field programs.
  - Shipboard tips and one load of laundry.
  - On-board resident life services and medical services.
- International medical insurance.

**NONCREDIT: \$3,698 – \$3,898**

**Included in Noncredit Package**

- Standard Package plus
- Inside cabin, **double occupancy**, decks 2-5 \*
- Two course-related field program.

**YOUTH (under 17): \$997 - 1,197**

**Included in Youth Package**

- Standard Package (without course credit) plus
- Accommodations in a cabin with two full-fare passengers.
- On-board youth program and medical services.
- Two course-related field program.

**\* Other Cabin Options**

- Inside cabin, **double occupancy**, decks 2-5 \* **ADD \$235**
- Outside cabin, double occupancy, decks 2-5: **ADD \$735**
- Single cabin, decks 2-5: **ADD \$832**. *Single Rate available for a limited number of inside and outside cabins. Single supplement for suites and balconies very limited.*
- 3rd or 4th person in cabin with two full-fare passengers: **ADD \$795**. *Limited number of cabins with capacity for a 3rd or 4th person.*

**Green Sheet subject to change due to adjustment in program or pricing.**

**EXCLUDED FROM ALL PACKAGES**

- Items not explicitly listed in package.
- International airfare. Must arrive in Stockholm by May 30.
- Transportation between your departure airport and your home.
- Independent travel (non-program travel) such as shore programs.
- Airport transfer from ship in Southampton, England to London's Heathrow airport (\$40/person estimate).
- Airport taxes or fees.
- Meals, services, and beverages not included on-board or during course-related field programs.
- Personal expenses such as laundry, phone service, and Internet access.
- Tips for guides and drivers not included in program-related activity.
- Travel cancellation/interruption insurance. *Highly recommended.*
- Baggage fees and costs associated with flight changes.
- Visa/immigration fees not included in ISE services.
- On-board amenities. [Check them out.](#)
- Fuel supplement - Thirty days in advance of sailing, the Institute for Shipboard Education (ISE) will enact a fuel supplement for all participants up to \$9 per person per day should the price of light sweet crude oil, according to the NY Mercantile Exchange, increases above \$85 per barrel. If this is to occur, it will be charged to your shipboard account and paid by each individual, separate from the Toppers at Sea 2014 package.

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

### Important Notifications:

- A limited number of seats on a group reservation will be available on a first-come, first-served basis (with completed applications and deposit). If you choose to book your own flight, you must adhere to the arrival schedule and terms listed here. See web site for [Group flight information](#).
- Arrival and return information.
  - Participants must arrive at hotel in Stockholm **by May 30, 2014**. A leader team will meet you at the hotel.
  - Departure flight on **June 15** should be no earlier than 3:30 pm (Exact time to be determined) to give you time to disembark, board the bus for London's Heathrow airport and check in for your flight.
  - If not traveling under the group reservation, your Stockholm arrival information (flight & arrival time) should be provided to the program leaders by a date to be specified.
- It is essential to understand that the *MV Explorer* will not wait for late arrivals. Missed embarkation from any port may mean you will not be able to participate in the program and there will be no refund.
- There are very specific requirements related to living on board the *MV Explorer*. Find FAQs about sailing on the *MV Explorer* [here](#).
- The selection process for this program may require additional materials to be submitted by applicants.
- Independent travel (*before and/or after the programs start and end date*) is permitted, but each voyager should confirm travel with Study Abroad & Global Learning.

**Insurance:** The Toppers at Sea 2014 package includes supplemental international medical insurance. As with all travel arrangements, flexibility is key and **Trip Cancellation/Interruption insurance** is recommended.

**Travel Documents:** The ISE has information about specific travel documentation.

<http://enrichmentvoyages.org/voyages/may-2014-iron-and-ice/required-travel-documents/>

**Code of Conduct:** All voyagers will be held to the "Toppers at Sea Code of Conduct" that will be provided to accepted participants.

<p><b>Billing Schedule:</b></p> <p><b>Immediately</b> - Application with \$250 deposit * Applicants will be billed after deposit received.</p> <p><b>May 6, 2014:</b> Balance due. Final amount may be adjusted if program fee changes.</p> <p><b>* Applications accepted on a first-come, first-served, rolling basis until February 6, 2014. Late fee will apply after this date.</b></p>	<p><b>Penalty for Withdrawal or Non-Payment:</b></p> <p><b>Deposit non-refundable.</b></p> <p><b>After February 6:</b> 25% program fee due. <b>After March 6:</b> 50% program fee due. <b>After April 6:</b> 75% program fee due. <b>After May 6:</b> 100% due - No refund.</p> <p><b>If a balance remains after the payment due date, the participant may be dropped from the program. A student may remain in the program by providing an award notification from WKU's Student Financial Assistance that verifies ability to pay the program fee immediately after aid is received.</b></p>
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*Western Kentucky University and its associates are not responsible for any loss due to theft, personal injury, flight or weather delays negligence or default of suppliers, or suppliers changing of itineraries. They and their associates are not responsible for any loss due to travel/flight delays or changes in travel plans due to Acts of Nature or other unforeseen circumstances, nor are we responsible for accidents and medical care. Tour services are furnished by independent contractors who are not agents or servants of Western Kentucky University. Refunds are not available for unused portions of the package.*

Contact [facultyled.abroad@wku.edu](mailto:facultyled.abroad@wku.edu) for information.

Toppers at Sea is made possible with the following partners:

