

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT 2016 WINTER IN LONDON: SOCIOLOGY OF FOOD**

### **I am not a sociology major. Can I still participate in the 2016 Winter in London program?**

Of course you can! If you are mature, open minded, and eager to learn about London and the Sociology of Food, you are welcome to apply to the program.

### **Are there any ways to customize the program?**

Not really. The only course on offer is SOC 358: Sociology of Food, and all students are required to stay at the same place—Stay Club in Camden.

### **Do I really have to share housing with other UB students, even if I have alternatives?**

Yes, regardless of your circumstances (aunt lives in London, want to live in a tent), the cost of shared London student housing is part of the package price for the program. If you want to stay elsewhere, or don't want to be fully immersed in the academic part of the program, then your best choice would be to go to London as a tourist.

### **So...what if I don't need 3 credit hours of sociology?**

Well, Professor Street thinks it is always a good thing to learn more sociology! If you are not a sociology major, your 3 hours would probably count as electives—double check with your academic advisor. All sociology courses meet the SUNY general education requirements in the social sciences.

### **If I submit my application by the Oct.9 deadline, am I automatically accepted?**

No, not automatically, this is a selective program with a limited number of spaces. In all likelihood, the program will fill and students who apply late and are accepted will be placed on a wait list. Applications will be reviewed in the order in which they are completed, and for eligible students places will be awarded on a first come/first served basis. Eligible students must be mature enough to handle living with strangers in a foreign city, serious about their intellectual goals, capable of dependably handling the logistics of being away from home, performing well in their course, tolerant, and be confidently fluent in English so that there are no unexpected problems negotiating either course work or living arrangements.

### **What about the recommendation?**

There is a form to be filled out by your recommender, generated automatically via email when you finish your online application. Be sure to check with your recommender before you put their name in the online application—professors don't really like it when students assume they will provide recommendations without first being asked.

### **Will it be cold in London in January?**

Yes.

\*\*\*\*Do not make travel arrangements until after program admission and deposits are settled.

\*\*\*\*Do continue on to read the next page if you are an international student.

## **ADDITIONAL FAQ FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS APPLYING TO THE LONDON WINTER PROGRAM**

### **How do International students apply?**

Complete ALL of the application materials online. You are UB students. Consequently, you pay exactly the same program fees (health insurance, housing deposit, etc.) as any other UB student, regardless of “home” campus or your own citizenship.

### **Get advice, both academic and immigration**

All UB international students must seek academic advice from their academic advisors; check in with the Undergraduate Coordinator in your major Department before applying to the London program. If you hold US, Canadian, or Singaporean passports, you can visit the UK for a short study trip without obtaining a visa. However, if you are not a citizen of those countries, you may need a visa to visit the UK for even three weeks. Be sure to check UK visa requirements that might pertain to you, because you are entirely responsible for the study decisions that you make. No one here at UB can make decisions about your immigration matters, they are your personal responsibility and subject to the laws of your country of citizenship, the US, Singapore (in some cases) and the UK. Neither Professor Street nor the personnel in the UB north campus Study Abroad office has the depth of expertise in the intricacies of the UK, US, or Singaporean visa systems for international students. International students are ultimately responsible for arranging UK visas themselves and *\*\*\*\*\*note this carefully\*\*\*\*\**for ensuring that their US or Singapore student visa status is not compromised if they expect to study in London and then return to the United States or Singapore to complete their studies. It would be horrible to study Sociology of Food in London, only to find that your student visa status had lapsed and you could not return to the US or Singapore to complete your studies. Don't take chances on this, get advice from your consulate or embassy AND from the US and Singaporean governments.