

Travel Seminar to London & Paris with Skidmore Faculty

For information on cost and travel logistics, contact Lisa Hobbs in OCSE at lhobbs@skidmore.edu or 580-5355. For course content and academic requirements contact Professor Bender at 580-5420 sbender@skidmore.edu or Professor Barnes at 580-5153 abarnes@skidmore.edu.

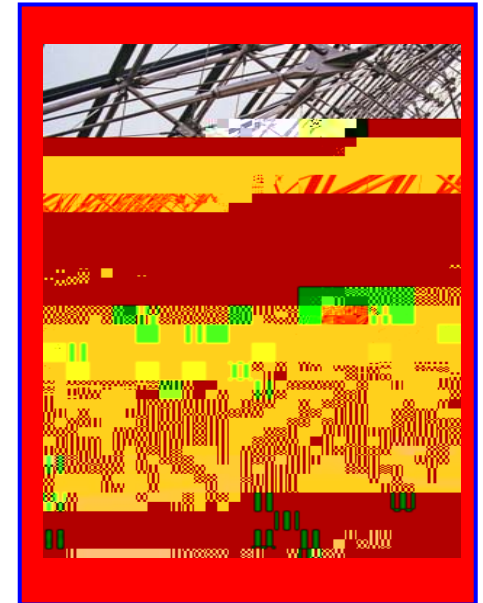


"Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one corner of the earth all one's lifetime." Mark Twain, *The Innocents Abroad* (1869) Chapter LXII



Skidmore College

Museums from the Outside In:
What can we learn from
London and Paris Museums?



TX 200B: FACULTY-LED TRAVEL SEMINAR
TO LONDON, ENGLAND & PARIS, FRANCE

December 28, 2009 to January 15, 2010

FACULTY

PROFESSOR SUSAN BENDER
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PROFESSOR ALISON BARNES
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The cities of London and Paris have fostered one of the longest and richest traditions of museums as civic institutions. The Louvre and the British Museum both originated in the 18th century and are among the first public museums in Europe. Since then each capital city has self-consciously displayed central elements of its nation's civic culture through the artful display of objects in its burgeoning museum landscape. Now these capitals support in excess of 100 museums each. Both the heritage and multiplicity of museums in these two cities make them ideal centers to explore the various ways in which museums as institutions can flow from and contribute to national identity formations.

The instructors will schedule two meetings on Skidmore's campus in Fall '09 to prepare for the on-site projects and discuss the logistics and the code of conduct for the travel experience. There will be one follow-up meeting upon returning from London and Paris (dates to be determined).

SUSAN BENDER is a Professor of Anthropology, with a specialization in archaeology. Her initial interests in museums stemmed from questioning how the past is represented to museum goers, particularly those pasts that relate to people without a written history. Since then she has increasingly used museum exhibits as a source for critical thinking exercises with her students and has become deeply engaged with research into the pedagogical potential of museums in a liberal arts education. She teaches courses on a variety of topics in archaeology, including gender, laboratory and field research, and the archaeologies of North and Central America.

ALISON BARNES is a Visiting Assistant Professor of English and Environmental Studies and Faculty Liaison to the Frances You4 rdnou4 rdnou4 rdnou4 ron q1 6.88lurdnouf