

# Chowan launches off-campus study in London

**J**UST IMAGINE spending an entire semester in a cultural capital of Western civilization! With a backdrop of castles and towers, up to sixteen Chowan students will have the opportunity to study in London for a spring semester, beginning in 1998.

The vibrant city retains the color, character and charm that historically have set London apart from all other cities. Students who can call London a second home begin to see themselves on a global, not a regional stage. They have embarked on an exploration of their world and of themselves.

Recently approved by the Chowan Curricular Committee, the program was originally designed by Louisiana College and Mississippi College as a foreign study program that combined stimulating academic activity with a rich cross-cultural learning experience. With Mississippi College preparing for a broader program of their own, Chowan has been given the opportunity to partner with Louisiana College in the venture.

Students will study in London under British and U. S. faculty members who design courses that make London the classroom. The program runs from mid-January to mid-April every year. British history, London museums and galleries, overseas

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median, theatre and parliament experiences are incorporated into the courses taught by British professors.

U. S. professors teach courses in literature, history, science, religion, music and other disciplines. Field trips will include visits to such famous locations as the Globe museum, London Tower, Royal Society, Kew Gardens, Stratford, Cambridge, Dover, Canterbury and Hampton Court.

Students will stay six weeks in central London at St. Margaret's, a bed and breakfast hotel near the British Museum and the University of London, and four weeks with a British family. During the home stay, small groups of students move to the London



suburbs and commute to classes on the Tube. Interaction with a British host family gives students an opportunity to learn first-hand about British life while sharing meals, conversation and ideas.

During midterm break students tour England, Scotland and Wales. Visits include the Lake District, York, Bath, Stratford and Stonehenge in England; Edinburg in Scotland; and Carnarvon Castle in Wales.

Students must enroll in a minimum of four credit courses. Each student will earn from 12-15 hours of academic credit and return to their home campus having studied in a major European city with all the knowledge and outlooks that can only be gained through an overseas experience.

The study-abroad program is a "first" for Chowan. Other institutions, who have overseas programs involving both course work and experiential learning, report many advantages to students, faculty and the school. Students develop self-knowledge, confidence, and cross-cultural skills.

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The program develops and introductory knowledge or world history and cultures, and understanding of contemporary issues of global significance; competence in cross-cultural communication and recognition of differing cultural values, and a deeper understanding of a particular world region, including its geography, culture, history, and political, economic and environmental systems.

It exposes a student to the integration of academic and experiential learning; the practical application of academic learning while living and studying in a larger intellectual and cultural framework; and increases the ability to communicate clearly through the written and spoken word.

Students will understand and respect the diversity of world communities, including the commonality of human problems and the interrelationships of nations and peoples, and appreciate their contributions, values and accomplishments.

London Semester students will pay the amount regularly charged by the host institution plus approximately \$1,000. An exceptional program, the London Semester compares favorably to other schools charging a great deal more for fewer opportunities and experiences.

According to Dr. Connie Douglas of Louisiana College, "Alumni who have participated in the London Semester regularly report that it was the highlight of their college education." Approximately 125 Louisiana students have participated in the program and many have reported to Douglas that during job interviews it was clear that the London experience was an influential element in obtaining positions.

In addition to the personal and professional advantages that students will gain from the experience, they will also have the opportunity to develop relationships that will last a lifetime. Homecoming festivities at Louisiana regularly include reunions of London Semester alumni.

*Program to be offered each year from mid-January to mid-April*

*Students will have opportunity to tour England, Scotland and Wales*



The rapidly expanding staff of Information Technology recently held an Open House to introduce new employees to the campus community. Paving the electronic way are: (front, l-r) Brian Jernigan, director of technical services, Dr. Andrea Eason, executive director, Sherry Duncan, database administrator; (rear, l-r) Jay Howell, network administrator, Tim Walters, technology support specialist, and Carol Joyner, secretary.