

The following information will be published on the Courses page of the [Summer Sessions Website](#):

<b>Course Title:</b>	Queer Collectives in Europe		
<b>Course Number:</b>	GSS 3505	<b>Credit Hours:</b>	3
<b>First Instructor:</b>	Danyelle Valentine	<b>First Instructor Email:</b>	Danyelle.Valentine@Vanderbilt.edu
<b>Second Instructor:</b>	Kristin Rose	<b>Second Instructor Email:</b>	Kristin.e.Rose@Vanderbilt.edu
<b>Program start date:</b>	05/07/2025	<b>Program end date:</b>	05/28/2025
<b>Program destination(s):</b> (Each city, country - start/end date)	London, UK - 05/07 to 05/14 Amsterdam, Netherlands - 05/14 to 05/21 Berlin, Germany 05/21 to 05/28		
<b>Does this course fulfill any AXLE credit? If so, what?</b>	Perspectives		
<b>What are the academic pre-requisites (if any) for enrolling in this course?</b>	None		

<p><b>What are some are some conditions or challenges that students will face?</b> (Ex. Hiking long distances, extreme temperatures, rocky terrain, etc.)</p>	<p>Walking long distances on city tours.</p> <p>Students must be able to carry their own personal luggage from train stations to and from hotel locations</p> <p>Students must be able to endure consistently high heat temperatures throughout the day, and student must be able to walk and stand for extended periods of time during our travel days.</p>
<p><b>What is covered in the student budget:</b></p>	<p><b>Detailed answers below:</b> All lodging, entry fees for all site-visits, museums, archives, and shows, all transportation costs (trains and public transit).</p>
<p>Lodging (Total nights + included amenities):</p>	<p>21 nights hotel lodging in London, Amsterdam, and Berlin shared with a roommate, including Wi-Fi.</p>
<p>Meals:</p>	<p><b>Total breakfasts:</b> All (21 days) Total lunches: 3 (travel days) Total dinners: 3 (welcome dinner, group dinner in Amsterdam, and goodbye dinner in Berlin)</p>
<p>Transportation (Airfare, public transit, etc.):</p>	<p><b>Flights:</b> From the <b>US</b> to <b>London</b>, <b>Berlin</b> to the <b>U.S.</b> <b>London</b> to <b>Amsterdam</b>, <b>Amsterdam</b> to <b>Berlin</b></p> <p><b>Transit to and from airports &amp; hotels.</b></p>
<p>Supplies (Textbooks, gear, etc.):</p>	<p>Students are required to access the Maymester course website--which will include the course syllabus, readings, journal for field notes, travel itinerary, and walking shoes.</p> <p>The Maymester course website will also be accessible to families to follow our travel itinerary.</p>

	<p>Wi-Fi is included in all hotels; an international cell service plan and smart phone with camera is recommended.</p>
<p>Excursions (Tour fees, admission fees, etc.):</p>	<p>Tickets to museums, performances, heritage sites, and events in each city; tours of each city’s historic queer neighborhoods (Soho in London, Reguliersdwarsstraat in Amsterdam, and Nollendorfplatz in Berlin, etc).</p>
<p><b>What is <u>not</u> covered in the student budget:</b></p>	<p>Detailed answers below:</p>
<p>Lodging (Total nights):</p>	<p>All Included – 21 nights</p>
<p>Meals:</p>	<p>Total breakfasts: 20 <b>(Included)</b>  Total lunches: 18 <b>(Not included)</b>  Total dinners: 18 <b>(Not included)</b></p>
<p>Transportation (international airfare, public transit, etc.):</p>	<p><b>Flights:</b>  from the <b>US</b> to <b>London, Berlin</b> to the <b>U.S.</b></p> <p><b>Public Transit:</b>  Subway and bus fare to attend program site-visits and excursions.</p>
<p>Supplies (Textbooks, gear, personal items, etc.):</p>	<p>Included (course reading materials, journals to complete feel notes, writing utensils)</p> <p>Student will be required to bring their own cameras and cellphone devices.</p>
<p>Excursions (Optional activities, tour fees, admission fees, etc.):</p>	<p>Included (entry into all museums, archives, shows, and event spaces is included)</p> <p>Students must use personal cash to purchase souvenirs and memorabilia.</p>

<b>Visa needed for US passport holders?</b>	No
<b>Is the cost of the visa included in the student fee?</b>	NA
<b>Does the course have a service-learning component:</b>	No
<b>Please provide the course description below:</b>	

Dive into the dynamic world of queer collectives in our course that uncovers the vibrant histories and modern-day impact of LGBTQIA+ communities in London, Amsterdam, and Berlin. These cities have long been epicenters of queer culture, art, and activism. Discover how local collectives have shaped and supported marginalized identities, sparking creativity and driving social change. Join us as we explore these dynamic spaces that celebrate diversity and provide crucial support, immersing yourself in the heart of queer empowerment and creative expression.

Queer collectives—whether through political action, artistic endeavors, communal living, or non-profit organizing—create sacred spaces for community-building and cultural expression. These collectives play a crucial role in centering marginalized identities within the global fight for LGBTQIA+ rights, offering members of the community a shared sense of belonging, solidarity, and empowerment.

Historically, these collectives have been pivotal in establishing queer kinship and serving as platforms for activism. From the emergence of the first gay and lesbian bars in the nineteenth century to the development of thriving queer neighborhoods and art scenes, London, Amsterdam, and Berlin offer students a transhistorical perspective on queer culture spanning over two centuries.

Throughout the course, students will analyze the historical origins of queer collectives by examining LGBTQIA+ histories in each city. We will explore significant events and figures, such as the legal battles over gay intimacy in Oscar Wilde's London, the role of Dutch resistance fighters during WWII, and the pioneering work in gender-affirming care at Magnus Hirschfeld's Berlin institute. Our study will be complemented by tours of iconic queer neighborhoods, museums, heritage sites, and landmarks.

The course will also bring historical narratives to life through immersive experiences. Students will engage with contemporary queer collectives via site visits to local organizations and hands-on workshops, gaining a dynamic understanding of how historical struggles shape current activism and community-building. Collectively, these experiences will underscore the significance of queer collectives as spaces of validation, recognition, and celebration, unencumbered by discrimination and judgment. Through lectures and workshops with active queer collectives involved in art, fashion, drag, BIPOC care networks, and human rights advocacy, students will explore the diverse ways these collectives contribute to and enrich queer culture today.

Events will include (pending availability):

- LGBTQIA+ History Tours in each city
- Visit to queer collectives in each city, inclusive of: Purple Rain Collective (London), Queer Youth Art Collective (London), The Rijksmuseum Neighborhood and the Resistance Museum (Amsterdam), QueerBerg Collective (Berlin), the Schwules Museum & Research Archive (Berlin).

During free time in each destination, students will explore the city's cultural offerings.

Note, no prerequisites required but familiarity with the core concepts of GSS is beneficial (GSS 1150 & 1160).