THE MSU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

ODYSSEY TO OXFORD

AUGUST 20 – SEPTEMBER 2, 2017
Two Weeks of Lifelong Education Abroad
University of Oxford, England

With a special invitation from Professor Angus Hawkins
Dear Friend,

From August 20 to September 2, 2017, we will celebrate the 34th anniversary of the University of Oxford Odyssey to Oxford travel/study program and I should like to extend to you a special invitation. Due to the limited number of spaces available, I urge you to register early. This year’s choice of courses will take you back to the years 1542 - 1587 when Mary, Queen of Scots ruled over two kingdoms; the drama and intrigue of the French Revolution and the British response; the exploration of Victorian and Edwardian life through the fabric and domestic culture of the home; and last, but not least, in search of time and the many mysteries of the fourth dimension.

I very much look forward to welcoming you on your return visit to Oxford next August.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Professor Angus Hawkins, FRHistS
Director, Public and International Programmes
University of Oxford
Brighton Royal Pavilion was a seaside retreat for King George IV. Constructed in 1787, it was renovated by the designer John Nash between 1815-1823, and it is his work that is still visible today. Restoration work began in earnest after World War II and many of the original interiors have been accurately recreated.

Kew Palace, located in Kew Gardens on the banks of the Thames, was the “hidden home” of King George III. Beginning in 1788, he was incarcerated periodically due to his bouts of madness which was cause to keep him out of the public eye.

**THE FIRST WAR ON TERROR:**
The French Revolution and the British Response

At the start of the 18th century, the contrast between French politics and those of Britain could not have seemed greater to many, with Britain’s relative liberalism appearing as a beacon of light in contrast to the dark world of continental absolutism. But with the outbreak of revolution in 1789, it appeared that France, too, was about to embrace those freedoms. Yet within three years, those liberal certainties were brought crashing down when news began to emerge of a terrifying massacre taking place on the streets of France’s capital in September 1792. The repercussions of those days lasted, giving birth to a concept of terrorism which had a major impact on both French and British politics, and whose echoes continue to resonate in the world today.

In this course, we’ll explore the causes and consequences of the French Revolution, why events took such a dramatic turn in France, how Britain responded at both the popular and governmental levels, and a consideration of the longer term impact of the revolution on both sides of the English Channel and even beyond.

**COURSES OF STUDY FOR 2017**

Select one course from the four listed in this brochure for your two-week study program, but please indicate a second choice when you register. A typical day’s schedule includes classes in the morning and some days include course-related excursions or general group excursions. The course excursions are planned by the tutor to enhance the curriculum and are available to those enrolled in the course. Participants cannot attend another course’s excursion. General group excursions are for all program participants. Participants will receive a suggested reading list for their course of study prior to the program. Early registration is recommended as courses are limited to 10-14 participants each and fill quickly.

**COURSE EXCursions**

Additional Fee: $180

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**Tutor:** Dr. Kate Watson is a graduate of York University where she specialized in the theory and philosophy of history. She has taught for the Open University, Mansfield College, Oxford, and has lectured and published on many aspects of modern British and European history. She currently teaches for the Oxford University Department for Continuing Education.
IN SEARCH OF TIME
The Art and Science of the Fourth Dimension

Saint Augustine wrote of time: “If no one asks me, I know what it is. If I try to explain it to him who asks, I know not.” And despite the best efforts of science and philosophy, still, today, we “know not.” This course looks at the many mysteries of the fourth dimension, examining the inexhaustible lure of time for physicists, writers, filmmakers, theologians and historians.

Clocking time — from the Palaeolithic age to the postmodern, we’ll consider the implications on our daily life of the precise measurement of time, and how the inexorable drive toward technological accuracy has shaped us.

Time in the mind — contrasting the latest developments in neuroscience with metaphysical hypotheses posed by Thomas Aquinas, Benedict de Spinoza and Edmund Husserl, we’ll examine how humans strive to comprehend and control their personal experience of time.

Time’s arrow — we’ll consider quantum physics to determine if there was time before the Big Bang, why does time flow and only in one direction, what is infinity, and finally, can we ever truly understand time.

COURSE EXCURSIONS
Additional Fee: $165

Greenwich is a district in London and notable for giving its name to the Greenwich Meridian and Greenwich Mean Time, as well as its maritime history. We’ll visit the Meridian Line dividing the eastern and western hemispheres, the Royal Observatory, and time permitting, the planetarium at the National Maritime Museum.

Discover the world’s oldest clock and watch collection at the Science Museum in London. This remarkable collection traces the story of the capital’s clockmakers from their first marine chronometers and mechanical clocks through the evolution of the wristwatch.

Tutor: Dr. Tim Barrett lectures on political history and the history of science and has been a tutor for the Oxford University Department for Continuing Education for 10 years. He is also an Honorary Research Fellow at Keele University, Staffordshire.
HOME SWEET HOME
The Fabric, Social Structure and Culture of the Victorian and Edwardian Home

History is often written from the perspective of the lives of the great, and of significant political, social, economic and cultural movements. But in the past as now, life was principally experienced at the more intimate level of the home, which these wider influences indirectly impacted. Wealth translated into houses and comfort, changes in social manners into domestic arrangements and furnishings, and culture into architectural styles and decoration. In this course, we’ll explore Victorian and Edwardian life through the fabric and domestic culture of the home.

The home was central to Victorian and Edwardian life and culture. The industrialists created for themselves lavish rural palaces in contrast to the worker’s squalid urban slums. Between these two extremes the middle classes emerged to economic and social prominence, with a culture of domestic virtue centered on the family and the home. Disquiet with the self-satisfied attitudes of Victorian society created a desire for change. For some, the lack of taste was a problem to be addressed and gave rise to numerous aesthetics and styles proffered by A.W.N. Pugin, Charles Eastlake, John Ruskin and William Morris. The succeeding Edwardian period saw the birth of the suburb and new technologies and means of production led to a better standard of living in the home.

COURSE EXCURSIONS
Additional Fee: $185

Wightwick Manor is one of the few surviving examples of a house built and furnished under the influence of the Arts and Crafts movement and contains William Morris wallpapers and fabrics, William Frend De Morgan tiles, Charles Eamer Kempe glass, and a remarkable collection of Pre-Raphaelite paintings by Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Edward Burne-Jones and their followers. We’ll also visit the preserved ‘back-to-back’ slum dwellings of Birmingham to see how people lived and worked in an industrial town.

Hughenden Manor is a red brick Victorian mansion and country residence. A visit offers a vivid insight into the charismatic personality and colorful private life of Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli, who lived here from 1848-1881.

Tutor: Dr. Antony Buxton teaches courses in design history and material culture at the Oxford University Department for Continuing Education as well as other craft and design institutions. He conducted his doctoral research on the relationship between people and their household furnishings and his continuing research is focused on the interpretation of historic design. For many years he has also been a furniture designer and maker in the Arts and Crafts tradition and a conservator of historic furnishings.
Mary, Queen of Scots has polarized opinions since her life and death, 1542-1587. This course will review the dramatic events of this controversial queen’s life as well as consider her impact on the lives of others and on the long-term history of politics and religion in England.

Mary is unusual for having lived as queen of two different kingdoms. She spent a long, formative period of her life as joint heir to the throne in France before moving back to rule in person in Scotland, then fleeing into exile and a long period of house arrest in England. The scandalous affair of her husband’s murder and the (forged?) Casket Letters that incriminated Mary will be discussed, as well as her life in exile in England and her awkward relationship with her English counterpart, Elizabeth I. Her presence caused major problems for Elizabeth’s government and contributed significantly to the shaping of foreign and domestic policy. The culminating moment was the Babington Plot of 1586, when Mary committed treason by approving a plan to overthrow Elizabeth. After a protracted political dispute, Mary was executed at Fotheringhay Castle in February 1587. The reality of her life in France, Scotland and England will be discussed, along with the challenges she faced and the problems that accompanied her wherever she went, changing the lives of those she encountered.

**COURSE EXCURSIONS**

Additional Fee: $165

Fotheringhay Castle was the final place of imprisonment of Mary, Queen of Scots, who was tried and executed in the castle. Peterborough Cathedral is one of the finest Norman cathedrals in England. Five months after her execution, Mary was buried here (she has since been removed to Westminster Abbey).

Mapledurham is an Elizabethan mansion built on a site owned by the Blount family since 1490 and still lived in by their descendants today. As one of the great Catholic families of England, the Blouts were drawn into the consequences of Mary’s exile in England. They lived dangerous and eventful lives, which is reflected in the collections on display in the house, including a secret altar and a private chapel.

**Tutor:** Dr. Janet Dickinson specializes in the history of early modern England and Europe, with particular interests in cultural and political history. Her first book, *Court Politics and the Earl of Essex*, was published in 2011. Current projects include work on the Elizabethan nobility and the last years of Elizabeth I’s life as well as court history in general. She has held lectureships at a number of English universities and currently works for New York University in London and the Open University. She teaches a number of programs for the Oxford University Department for Continuing Education and was named ‘most acclaimed lecturer’ by her Oxford students in 2014.
WHAT IS INCLUDED?

- Tuition for course of study
- Accommodations at the Oxford University Department for Continuing Education residential center for 13 nights in twin rooms with private bathrooms attached
- All but two meals (lunch and dinner on August 26)
- Common room, coffee/tea breaks
- Welcome reception and dinner
- Graduation reception and dinner
- Group excursion to Bath
- Group excursion to Harvington Hall
- Professional group photograph
- Bus transportation to Heathrow Airport on September 2, 2017 (for flights departing no earlier than noon)

ACCOMMODATIONS
Participants will stay in the Oxford University Department for Continuing Education residential center, located in the heart of historic Oxford. The residential center offers twin rooms with private bathrooms attached, telephone, coffee/tea kettle, hair dryer and color television. The residential center also has its own dining rooms, reading/library room, lecture rooms, common room and bar, computer room and laundry facilities.

FEES PER PERSON
- Tuition, accommodations and most meals: $5,595, based on double occupancy
- Course excursions: $165 - $185, depending on course of study selected
- Optional group excursion to Hever Castle and Gardens: $115
- Single room supplement: $495

FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS
Participants are responsible for making their own flight arrangements as well as transportation from Heathrow Airport or Gatwick Airport to Oxford upon arrival. Information on bus and train transportation and schedules will be provided in advance. Bus transportation from the Oxford University Department for Continuing Education residential center to Heathrow Airport for return flights will be available on September 2, 2017 for flights departing no earlier than noon. Participants will be responsible for making their own transportation arrangements to Heathrow Airport for flights departing earlier than this, or for any flights departing from Gatwick Airport.

TRAVEL INSURANCE
It is strongly recommended that participants purchase trip cancellation, baggage and accident/medical insurance.

WHO CAN ATTEND
This lifelong education travel and study program is open to adults. Participants do not have to be a graduate of MSU.

SINGLE TRAVELERS
Participants requesting a single room will be charged a single room supplement of $495.

REGISTRATION, CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS
Participants must register and pay a $500 deposit prior to May 2, 2017. Registration will open on January 25, 2017, and will be conducted either online or by mail. Registrations are processed on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to availability, including those received after May 2, 2017. Early registration is recommended since courses of study are limited to 10-14 participants each and fill quickly. The balance of the fee is due by May 19, 2017.

Cancellations and requests for refunds must be received in writing by the MSU Alumni Association by May 19, 2017. Cancellations for any reason will be subject to a $500 per person cancellation fee. The MSU Alumni Association is not responsible for any fees incurred for cancelled flight arrangements.

Cancellations made after May 19, 2017 will result in forfeiture of the entire program cost per person. For your protection, we strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation, baggage and accident/medical insurance.

The MSU Alumni Association and the Oxford University Department for Continuing Education reserve the right to cancel the program prior to departure in which case the registration fees will be refunded without further obligation on the part of the universities. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any part of the program.

ITINERARY/PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS
Itineraries and programs, as contained in this brochure, are subject to modification and change by the MSU Alumni Association and the Oxford University Department for Continuing Education. We reserve the right to substitute accommodations of similar quality. Every effort will be made to carry out the program as planned. Participants who register for this program accept in full all of the conditions set forth.

EXCURSIONS
Course-related excursions and group excursions involve a moderate amount of walking that may range from less than half an hour to a couple of hours and may involve walking on uneven, steep or hilly ground, unpaved surfaces or climbing many stairs. Oxford’s historic city center has many cobblestone streets and walkways, and historic buildings.

FOR ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION CONTACT:

alumni.msu.edu
Elizabeth Wheeler
517-884-2106
szufnar@uadv.msu.edu
ODYSSEY TO OXFORD
AUGUST 20 – SEPTEMBER 2, 2017

REGISTRATION OPENS ON JANUARY 25, 2017 AND WILL BE HANDLED TWO WAYS:

ONLINE. To register online, you will complete a form and pay with a credit card, which is handled through the university’s secure, PCI-compliant server. Go to: alumni.msu.edu/oxford

MAIL. To register by mail, send this completed form with a personal check.

Due to increased measures by MSU to ensure a secure credit card transaction, we cannot accept credit card information over the phone for this program. At the time you register, we will only be collecting a $500 per person deposit. The balance of the fee will be due May 19, 2017 and we will send you a statement in regards to this.

Participant #1 _______________________________________________________________
(Name as it appears on participant’s passport)

Participant #2 _______________________________________________________________
(Name as it appears on participant’s passport)

Address: ________________________________________________________________

City: ____________________________ State: _______ Zip: __________

Preferred Phone Number: (____________________ ) ____________________________

Email: ____________________________________________ I do not have an email

Have you previously attended? □ Yes □ No Year(s): ____________

ACCOMMODATIONS

□ Participant #1 and Participant #2 will be sharing a twin room
□ Participant #1 is planning to room with ____________________________ who will also register
□ Participant #1 would like a single room and will pay the single supplement of $495
□ Nonsmoker  □ Smoker

COURSE OF STUDY
Indicate 1st Choice as □ 2nd Choice as □

Participant #1

□ First War on Terror?  □ In Search of Time
□ Home Sweet Home  □ Mary, Queen of Scots

Participant #2

□ First War on Terror?  □ In Search of Time
□ Home Sweet Home  □ Mary, Queen of Scots

OPTIONAL EXCURSION TO HEVER CASTLE AND GARDENS: □ Yes □ No

Based on the information provided above, please reserve ______ space(s) at $500 per person. Enclosed is a check for ________________

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY.

Mail to: Elizabeth Wheeler
MSU Alumni Association
535 Chestnut Road, Room 300
East Lansing, MI 48824