

PRELIMINARY TRAVEL SCHEDULE

(subject to change)

May 14 (Sat.)	Receive pretrip reading and writing assignments; afternoon field visits
May 21 (Sat.)	Departing flight for Paris
May 22 (Sun.)	Arrival in Paris; check-in at accommodations; orientation at Skidmore Center; group dinner
May 23 (Mon.)	Discuss completed assignments; afternoon free
May 24 (Tue.)	"Survival French"; film viewing and discussion
May 25 (Wed.)	Guest speaker and discussion; field visits in pairs
May 26 (Thu.)	Marché visits; "Survival French"; individual conferences; evening salon
May 27 (Fri.)	Marché visits; writing day
May 28 (Sat.)	First workshop submissions due
May 30 (Mon.)	Workshop; afternoon field visits
May 31 (Tues.)	Conferences; "Survival French"; film viewing and discussion
June 1 (Wed.)	Workshop; conferences; guest speaker and discussion
June 2 (Thurs.)	Workshop; "Survival French"; afternoon field visits; evening salon
June 3 (Fri.)	Writing day
June 4 (Sat.)	Second workshop submissions due
June 6 (Mon.)	Workshop; afternoon field visits
June 7 (Tues.)	Conferences; film viewing and discussion
June 8 (Wed.)	Workshop; conferences; guest speaker and discussion
June 9 (Thurs.)	Workshop; conferences; final salon and farewell dinner
June 10 (Fri.)	Writing day; free day
June 11 (Sat.)	Check-out of accommodations; departing flight from Paris

Note: In lieu of one field visit or salon, we will attend a relevant, to-be-determined cultural event as a group.



PARIS Travel Seminar

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For details about costs and travel logistics:

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For details about course content
and academic requirements:

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SKIDMORE
C O L L E G E

CREATIVE THOUGHT TRAVELS

OCSE 2015-16

FICTION WORKSHOP

PARIS

*few colossal boxes. The abandoned mind or gaze
and attach itself to this quality when it disappears
normal person and as it came about the
I was once unjustly accused of being of the
I was going to the great grief of wild, chaotic
lost of the confidence of my comrades — frequent
puged sleep, in preoccupation or a hostile
realized by some indefinable sign that
the revelation was something on the horizon. I
made in return of my own or at any rate
in which they were then very no more than
from the same world, the psychic
judgments is a matter of no longer being. I am still a
meaning something. I forget that, my father's words
it is probably repeat, as mine of the foundation.*

"Seeking and Writing
Real Paris"

4-credit, 300-level travel seminar
(TX300)

May 21-June 11, 2016



TRAVEL SEMINAR in Paris

WHY FICTION IN PARIS?

Paris brings to mind romance, art, and pleasure. We can't help but think of Hemingway and

Gertrude Stein, the Eiffel Tower and the Mona Lisa, berets and fine wine. But how do we get beneath and beyond the clichés, to the socially complex Paris of everyday contemporary life? Given the power and ubiquity of popular images of the city, Paris can in fact be an ideal laboratory for thoughtfully developing the eyes, ears, and imaginative energy to discover surprising realities. In this three-week seminar, we will aim to do so through focused exploring, writing, and sharing of creative work in workshop format.

We will begin by engaging our preconceived ideas about Paris, through readings, a predeparture writing assignment, films, and field visits. Then we will move past those ideas to render diverse, empirical engagements of the city through the writing of short fiction. Students will submit fiction weekly, to be workshoped by the class; these submissions will be inspired by field visits to off-the-beaten-path locales and events around the city, films, fiction and essays by contemporary Parisian authors, and specific writing prompts.

Our structured time together will include workshop sessions, seminar-style discussion, film viewing, guest speakers, twice weekly “survival French” language sessions, and a weekly salon. Students will make most observational field visits independently or in pairs, so please come with an intrepid explorer’s spirit of adventure.

In weekly one-on-one conferences with the instructor, students will further discuss ways in which what they see and experience—their own present-time, living, “real Paris”—can be developed in their stories. A final portfolio will be due upon return to the States. Students will generate a total of 25–40 pages of new fiction, along with three short reflective pieces in response to field visits.



PREREQUISITES

TX300, “Seeking and Writing Real Paris,” is the equivalent of EN 380, “Fiction Workshop” (4 credits). The prerequisite for TX300 is EN 280, EN 281, or EN 282. Special considerations may apply. Please note: Use of a laptop is required for this program.

FACULTY DIRECTOR

Sonya Chung is the author of the novel *Long for This World* (Scribner, 2010), which one reviewer called “an intricately structured and powerfully resonant portrait of lives lived at the crossroads of culture, and a family torn between the old world and the new.” Her forthcoming novel is *The Loved Ones* (Relegation Books, 2016), a portion of which is set in Paris. She is an assistant professor in Skidmore’s English Department, teaching introductory and advanced fiction workshops, as well as “Reading for Writers” courses. She previously taught undergraduate and graduate fiction-writing courses at Columbia University, New York University, and the College of Mount St. Vincent. She has traveled periodically to Paris since 1999, and annually since 2013, when she was co-director of Columbia’s creative writing summer program at Reid Hall.

COSTS

The anticipated fee for the travel seminar is **\$4,000** (subject to fluctuation). This includes Skidmore tuition, on-site accommodation (generally double occupancy), some meals, local ground transportation in Paris, international medical insurance, guest speakers, entrance fees for group cultural excursions, Skidmore faculty on site, and the support of OCSE. The fee does not include transportation to and from Paris, regular meals, passport and visa costs, or personal expenses.

Financial aid is *not* available for this program.

APPLY

Preferred deadline is **Monday, December 7, 2015**. Final deadline is **Monday, February 15, 2016**.

Application forms are at skidmore.edu/ocse. At the time of application, all applicants must submit a \$250 deposit (100% refundable for applicants not accepted to the program), which will be applied to the program fee.

