

# in St. Andrews, Scotland





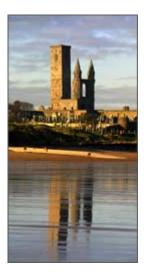
## **Spring 2009** February 2nd—May 31st





#### The University of St. Andrews

Founded in the fifteenth century, the University of St. Andrews is Scotland's oldest university, and the third oldest in the United Kingdom, after Oxford and Cambridge. Many of its classes and offices are housed in beautiful old stone buildings, which are located throughout the small, quaint, cobble-stoned, and tree-lined streets of the historic town, St. Andrews, with its 18,000 people. Set on the beautiful Fife coast surrounded, on the one side, by miles of open countryside, and stone-fenced hills where sheep roam and 17th and 18th century farmhouses are not uncommon, and on the north and east side, by the North Sea, St. Andrews is a university town with both ancient ruins and one of the world's most famous golf courses, the Old Course. For more than a thousand years St. Andrews has been the focal point of bishops and kings, conformists and dissenters, martyrs and saints, and scholars and students (and, of course, golfers galore!). The Old Course greets you as you motor in on Fourth Street from Dundee. The ruins of the castle and a large Cathedral, consecrated in 1388 under Robert the Bruce, dominate the landscape near the bay. While, also on North Street, St. Salvator's Chapel, with its high clock tower, is one of the finest examples of medieval architecture in Scotland, and nearby it are remembrances of martyrs. This town and this university are dear to Christians, both Catholics and Protestants, with their stories interwoven in the cultural, historical, and intellectual life not only of Scotland, but of the whole world. Now the University of St. Andrews is an educational hub for a bustling international community with students and faculty from over 80 different countries. With a diverse student body of approximately 6000 students (5000 undergraduate students and 1000 graduate students), approximately 1/3 are from Scotland, 1/3 are from the United Kingdom and the European Union, and 1/3 are from the rest of the world, including North America.





### **Program Director**

Dr. Jonathan Tran, Dr. Tran teaches theology, philosophy, and ethics in the Department of Religion. Carrie Tran, who previously coordinated international programs at Duke University, will accompany Dr. Tran

#### **Semester Schedule**

At the University of St. Andrews, the Candlemas semester (spring semester) begins on Monday, February 9 and ends on Friday, May 29, 2009. There is a two week break from Saturday, March 28 through April 12, 2009. The group will fly to St. Andrews on approximately February 2 and return to the US on May 31, 2009.



The department of philosophy at Baylor University aims to advance the education of Baylor students interested in the study of philosophy and religion (their intersection and manifestation in history and culture) by providing a unique semester study abroad opportunity. **Cost**: \$21,600 (includes full tuition, housing, 19 meals per week, roundtrip airfare, Britrail passes, student insurance, and a group trip during spring break to visit London, Cambridge, Oxford and other sites. Scholarships, loans, and grants may apply to the program.



Living Arrangements: Students will be provided accommodations in the University of St. Andrews residence halls. Students may view the residences halls here: http:// www.st-andrews.ac.uk/resbus/ VirtualTour.shtml. Baylor students will live in various residence halls as rooms are available second term. The university lies in the heart of the town, St. Andrews, a truly medieval town with ancient ruins, the hills and sea easily in view. The university is not gathered all in one place, but everything is within a short walk and along cobbled stone streets, so our residence hall situation, and its environs, is another attractive feature of this semester abroad program.

**Other Attractive Features:** Edinburgh, only about one hour from St. Andrews and easily accessible, has significant cultural, historical, philosophical, and religious importance to our own history and the larger history of the West. In addition, the natural beauty of Edinburgh and its architecture is impressive. Moreover, participants may have an opportunity to visit Glasgow, Aberdeen, Stirling, Ft. William, Inverness, the Isle of Skye, Iona, Culloden, Glencoe Lindensfarne, and many lovely glens and lochs in the Highlands. Also, within access by BritRail passes are the Borders, Hadrian's Wall, Whitby, Durham, York, London, Cambridge, Oxford, Salisbury, Stonehenge, and Bath, and many more sites of philosophical, religious, and cultural importance. **Trip costs include a six to seven day excursion during the first week of spring break.** 



Admissions Information: The St. Andrews Semester Study Abroad program is especially de-



signed for Baylor students who are interested in philosophy and religion, and their intersection and manifestations in culture and history. However, applicants need not be majoring in one of these disciplines to be selected for the program. St. Andrews has an outstanding international reputation and is especially strong in philosophy, religion, the classics, history, art history, psychology, and the sciences. Academically highly motivated students in these departments and the Honors College are encouraged to apply. Students who apply must have completed 30 hours of course work and have a 3.2 minimum GPA. Applicants will submit an application and each person will be interviewed by the director. This program is limited to 20 students so apply as soon as possible. To be assured of consideration, applications must be received no later than October 1, 2008. Applicants are accepted on a rolling admission basis. (Dr. Tran can be reached at: Jonathan\_Tran@baylor.edu)



**Applications:** Applications are available either online: www.baylor.edu/philosophy or from the Philosophy Department in Morrison Hall 219. Completed applications should be submitted to the Philosophy Department in Morrison Hall 219. Students will be notified of acceptance on an ongoing basis. Once a student has been admitted, a \$500 deposit is required to secure their place in the program. This amount will be deducted from the total cost of the program and is refundable until the final airline reservations are confirmed in November.

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**Courses:** Students are required to take the philosophy course taught by the director, Religion 4390 (see below). All other courses will be chosen from the St. Andrews undergraduate curriculum. Students are highly encouraged to take either a religion course offered at St. Mary's College, the divinity school at St. Andrews, or one offered by the Department of Philosophy at St. Andrews. (Both have outstanding faculties.) However, curricular options are available for students in a wide variety of academic disciplines. Baylor students have taken courses in Classics (Greek and Latin), English, Mathematics, and International Relations, in addition to philosophy and religion. St. Andrews has a



semester calendar much like Baylor's. Its courses are a combination of lecture and tutorial. Each student is expected to earn a full semester's credit toward his or her Baylor degree by taking three or four courses (the number depending on whether the courses taken from St. Andrews faculty are first and second level courses or third and fourth level courses). Students will examine the course catalogue and work with the director to find suitable courses. Transfer of credit should be smooth because many of the courses available at St. Andrews have counterparts to courses offered at Baylor. In addition, students are expected to participate actively in the educational and extracurricular activities organized by the director.

**Director's Course**: REL 4390 Contemporary Christian Ethics Theory (also an approved upper level elective for philosophy majors): Friedrich Nietzsche notoriously declared "God is dead." Students increasingly must come to terms with the realities of the death of God, instantiated in a world saturated with unimaginable suffering, omnipresent genocide, interminable moral conflict, and intractable sectarian and religious violence. This course seeks to immerse students into this post-Christian world by engaging "texts of terror" that seek to illuminate, interpret, and interrogate the so-called death of God. Students will begin by re-imagining western civilization by considering Europe, given our St. Andrews context, in the dark shadow of the Holocaust and then will enter the religious and philosophical tradition animated by Nietzsche's philosophical hammer. Along with Nietzsche, readings will include Martin Heidegger on technological apocalypse, Michel Foucault on biopower, and Alasdair MacIntyre on "the impending dark age."

