Discoveries in Chemistry and Textiles
May 14-27, 2007
A Study Abroad Course

Germany is a land of Middle Age villages, modern cities, wonderful bakeries, scenic castles and hard working, friendly people. Paris is a city of spectacular sights, fine dining, high fashion and romance. Come explore these places with us as we combine history with science and textile discoveries for an experience that will enhance your education.

This course is a two week course that serves as 1) advanced hours, 2) a 3 hour science elective and 3) a cultural elective course for students at SHSU. This is also a Continuing Education course for people who want to learn about the effects of the early scientists on society from their times to the present age. This course will cover the following topics and will follow the schedule below.

May 14  Leave Houston and fly to Frankfurt, Germany

May 15  Arrive in Frankfurt
        Tuesday Travel by train to Rothenburg
        Rest from trip: Optional tour of Rothenburg
        Stay: Rothenburg

Wednesday

May 16  Rothenburg:
        Morning Discussions: (I) The Influence of the 30 Year’s War on European Scientism (JW White)
        (II) 19th Century Thought in Europe and its Turn to Science. (M. Granic-White)
        Tour: Kriminal Museum
        Evening Discussion: The Break from Charlatanism to the Quest for Better Living through Chemistry (RC White)
        Stay: Rothenburg

May 17  Leave for Würzburg

Thursday

May 18  Würzburg
        Morning Discussion: Wilhelm Roentgen: The Discovery of X-Rays: From Shoe Shopping to Medical Breakthroughs (D. L. Williams)
        Tour Roentgen’s Laboratory
        Afternoon Discussion: Werner Heisenberg: When Exciting Science Crosses Ethical and Moral Lines (D.L. Williams)
        Stay: Würzburg

May 19  Würzburg
        Saturday Morning free to tour Würzburg
        Leave for Köln
        Afternoon Discussion: The Discovery of Cologne: Mmm: You smell good! (JH White)
        Evening Discussion: Kurt Alder: A Simple Way to Make Difficult Molecules (Heiko Ihmels)
        Stay: Köln

May 20  Köln
        Sunday Morning free or tour Köln Dom
        Leave for Heidelberg
        Stay: Heidelberg
May 21  Heidelberg
Monday  Morning Discussion:  I) August Kekule: How Dreams led to the Structure of Benzene
       (II) Wilhelm Bunsen: A Burning Desire to Learn (RC White)
       Tour: Heidelberg’s Castle on the Neckar River
       Evening Discussion: Fritz Haber: From Nitrogen to Nitrates: An Ugly Mixture of Science, Religion, and War (RC White)
       Stay: Heidelberg

May 22  Heidelberg
Tuesday  Morning Discussion: Richard Kuhn: Vitamins B₂ and B₆: Helping Hands for Maintenance of Good Health (RC White)
       Travel to Freiburg
       Stay: Freiburg

May 23  Freiburg
Wednesday  Evening Discussion: Hermann Staudinger: Studies on Cellulose: Building Blocks of Polymers (RC White)
       Stay: Freiburg

May 24  Freiburg
Thursday  Morning Discussion: Adolph Windaus: Cholesterol and Histidine: Clogged Arteries and Allergies (RC White)
       Explore the Black Forest
       Stay: Freiburg

May 25  Freiburg: Leave for Paris
Friday  Morning Discussion: Nobel Dynasty: The Curies (JH White)
       Tour: The Curie Museum
       Stay: Paris

May 26  Paris
Saturday  Morning Discussion: Louis Pasteur: Saving French Sericulture (JH White)
       Optional Tours: The Cathedral Notre Dame, the Arc De Triomphe, and Rue de Fauberg-Ste Honoré (Fashion Avenue)
       The Louvre
       Stay: Paris

May 27  Paris
Sunday  Morning Discussion: Count Chardonnet: The Invention of Artificial Silk (JH White)
       Fly to Houston
       Au Revoir! Auf Wiedersehen!

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