

*in the*  
**FOOTSTEPS**  
*of the*  
**SISTERS**



**STUDY ABROAD | SUMMER 2023**

**What course is associated with the Study Abroad experience?**

LDP 4001: Rooted in the Past, Standing in the Present, Reaching toward the Future: Awakening Your Call to Serve (3 credits: didactic)  
The focus of this three-credit, upper level general education course is to explore the footsteps of the Bon Secours Sisters to cultivate one's call to serve. This course includes a pilgrimage to Bon Secours Retreat and Conference Center, Bon Secours Baltimore, and Bon Secours Paris. Students will explore the history, present, and future work of Bon Secours to reflect on one's journey of being and becoming a servant leader. This course requires an application and acceptance. This three credit course serves as one of the two upper-level general education required courses.

**What experiences are planned? (Subject to Change)**

**Baltimore, Maryland – June 15-16, 2023**

- Explore the history of the first Bon Secours sites in the USA.
- Tour current community outreach programs in Baltimore, Maryland.
- Examine archives of Sisters of Bon Secours in the United States.
- Quiet reflection time at the Bon Secours Retreat and Conference Center.

**Paris, France – Sunday, July 16 to Monday July 24, 2023**

- Explore all the must-see Paris locations – double decker bus tour, Louvre Museum, Eiffel Tower, Champs Elysée, Arc de Triumpe, Sacre Coeur, Luxemburg Gardens, and the Seine River.
- Becordel (village of the first Sister of Bon Secours) and Amiens, France
- Bon Secours Motherhouse, St. Sulpice, and the gravesite of the first sisters.
- Vendome, France – site of a Bon Secours Retirement home
- Palace of Versailles – Versailles, France
- Closing Celebrations

**What are the physical demands of the trip?**

On the trip be prepared to expect long days, lots of walking, and lots of stairs. We will be using mass transit. Average daily walking distance is approximately 5-10 miles a day. Good walking shoes will be required. You will need to be flexible with itinerary adjustments.

**What is the cost?**

- Tuition and fees for the 3 credit course
- Estimated trip fee \$3500 - covers transportation, lodging, group tours, and most food. We are exploring fundraising opportunities to help support the individual student cost.
  - \$100 due November 15, 2022
  - \$1200 due January 1, 2023
  - \$1200 due March 1, 2023
  - \$1000 due May 1, 2023

- Students will need \$300-500 spending money to bring with them to cover some food, individual activities, and shopping.
- If you are interested in learning more about using financial aid for both tuition please contact the financial aid office. Kelley A. Florian, Director of Financial Aid bsr-confinancial@bshsi.org; 804-627-5350

### How and when do I apply?

Applications can be found at <http://www.bsmcon.edu/news>. Applications are due **Sunday, November 6th**. One essay question is required: Describe what you expect to gain personally and professionally from participating in the course. Communication about selection for the trip will be completed no later than November 15, 2022.

### Who is eligible to participate in the experience?

All students admitted to the BSN or RN-BSN program. Alumni and College faculty and staff are open to apply as well for no academic credit.

### Tell me more about the course.

The course is 3 academic credits and will count for a general education course. This course may also substitute for a nursing elective if the student chooses.

- **Module I: Formation (pre-excursion)**
  - One face-to-face class prior to the trip – TBA
  - Personal Learning Objectives and Formation Presentation (20%) of grade
- **Module II: Experiential Learning (excursion)**
  - Participate in Baltimore, Maryland and France experiences
  - Reverent engagement (50%)
- **Module III: Commitment (post-excursion)**
  - Reflect on one's learning and commitment to serve others.
  - One face-to-face post-trip class – TBA
  - Post-excursion reflection assignment (10%)
  - Cumulative paper (20%)

### What is reverent engagement?

In this course there is a mixture of guest, faculty, student presentations and active participant engagement. It is expected that students/participants commit themselves to fully experience the purpose of the trip. There will be opportunities for prayer and reflection, as well as, contributing to the knowledge of the group. Reverent engagement is a spiritual journey that requires one to intentionally and prayerfully center oneself to be authentically present in the moment. Participants will be encouraged to use quiet time for self-reflection and to share their learning with the group.

### Do I have to be Catholic or Christian to participate?

No, you do not need to be affiliated with a particular religious tradition; however, you need to be comfortable with participating in Catholic services and Biblical references.

### What are the accommodations?

All accommodations are religious housing. In Maryland we will stay at the Bon Secours Retreat Center and in Paris we will stay at Accueil Barouillère in Paris. Accommodations include small, private rooms with a modest bed and bathroom. TVs, phones, and wifi are limited. These accommodations support the spiritual intent of the experience.

### What are the travel plans? Will everything be done as a group?

- **Baltimore:** The group will travel together in large rental vans and spend the night at the Bon Secours Retreat and Conference Center.
- **Paris:** The group will travel together to Dulles airport and fly on a non-stop flight on Air France to Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris, France. In Paris, the group will stay at Accueil Barouillère. Most of the time spent will be with the group.

### What if I have additional questions?

Please contact Dr. Perkins at [Chris-Tenna\\_Perkins@bshsi.org](mailto:Chris-Tenna_Perkins@bshsi.org) or 804-627-5352. For questions about financial aid, please contact Ms. Kelley Florian as described above.

***“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do,”  
— EPHESIANS 2:10***