

2 WEEK COURSE FOR EUROPEAN TEACHERS OF ENGLISH AT SECONDARY LEVEL

Creative Activities & Motivating Materials for the Secondary Classroom

CHELTENHAM : TUESDAY 03 APRIL – SUNDAY 15 APRIL 2012

DRAFT PROGRAMME

| DAY & DATE | MORNING | AFTERNOON | EVENING |
|-----------------------------|---|---|--|
| TUESDAY 03 APRIL | | | Arrive Cheltenham |
| WEDNESDAY 04 APRIL | 0900- Welcome and Introduction 1030 1100- Lecture: 'The Education System: 1300 Recent Developments and Current Issues' | 1430- Lecture: Multicultural Britain 1630 | |
| THURSDAY 05 APRIL | 0830- Day visit to a secondary school 1600 Observe lessons and opportunity for discussion with teachers | | |
| FRIDAY (Good) 06 APRIL | 0930- Walking Tour of Cheltenham 1100 and visit the Museum | 1200- Visit Gloucester & Cathedral 1600 | |
| SATURDAY 07 APRIL | Free for individual research or Optional visit to Bath | | |
| SUNDAY (Easter) 08 APRIL | Free for individual research or Optional visit to Oxford & Cotswold Villages | | |
| MONDAY 09 APRIL | 0900- Workshop on Shakespeare's 1200 Theatre | 1330- Workshop: Introducing Aspects 1730 of Life in Modern Britain through Literary Texts | |
| TUESDAY 10 APRIL | 0900- Workshop on Teaching English 1230 as a Foreign Language and Advanced Language Practice | 1330- Workshop on Teaching English 1630 as a Foreign Language | Optional theatre visit |
| WEDNESDAY 11 APRIL | 0900- Workshop on Teaching English 1230 as a Foreign Language | 1330- Workshop on Teaching English 1630 as a Foreign Language and New Developments in the English Language | Optional evening in a traditional pub |
| THURSDAY 12 APRIL | 0900- Workshop on Teaching English 1230 as a Foreign Language | 1330- Workshop on Teaching English 1630 as a Foreign Language | |
| FRIDAY 13 APRIL | 0900- Workshop on Teaching English 1230 as a Foreign Language | 1330- Workshop on Teaching English 1630 as a Foreign Language 1630- Evaluation Session 1730 | |
| SATURDAY 14 APRIL | 0800- Educational visit to Stratford-upon-Avon 1915 Visit Cotswold villages of Broadway and Chipping Camden en route Walk through historic Stratford Opportunity for individual visits eg. Shakespeare's Birthplace & Holy Trinity Church | Opportunity to attend A Shakespeare play at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre | |
| SUNDAY 15 APRIL | Depart Cheltenham | | |

INTERNATIONAL STUDY PROGRAMMES

The Manor, Hazleton, Cheltenham, GL54 4EB, UK
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1 & 2 WEEK COURSES FOR EUROPEAN TEACHERS OF ENGLISH AT SECONDARY LEVEL (Ages 10-19)

in England, Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland: Spring, Summer & Autumn 2012

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES & MOTIVATING MATERIALS FOR THE SECONDARY CLASSROOM

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

These courses are designed for European teachers of English at Secondary level (ages 10 – 19).

Participants will have the opportunity:

- to gain a huge variety of new teaching ideas & motivating materials ready to use in the classroom.
- to keep abreast of changes in British Life and Society and the Education System and of new developments in the English Language
- to improve/perfect their language skills
- to exchange ideas and develop links with teachers from secondary schools in different European countries.

1 WEEK COURSES

| | | | | |
|--------------|---|-----------|---------------------|--------------|
| SOUTHAMPTON: | Saturday 28 January- Sunday 05 February | Fee: €798 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1230 |
| CARDIFF: | Saturday 11 February- Sunday 19 February | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| CHELTENHAM: | Saturday 25 February- Sunday 04 March | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| MAIDSTONE: | Saturday 10 March- Sunday 18 March | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| DUNFERMLINE: | Saturday 17 March- Sunday 25 March | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| BELFAST: | Saturday 31 March- Sunday 08 April | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| CHELTENHAM: | Saturday 07 April- Sunday 15 April | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| EXETER: | Saturday 21 April- Sunday 29 April | Fee: €798 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1230 |
| | | | | |
| SOUTHAMPTON: | Saturday 05 May- Sunday 13 May | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| PORTSMOUTH: | Saturday 19 May- Sunday 27 May | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| SHREWSBURY: | Saturday 02 June- Sunday 10 June | Fee: €798 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1230 |
| DUNFERMLINE: | Saturday 16 June- Sunday 24 June | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| IPSWICH: | Saturday 30 June- Sunday 08 July | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| GLOUCESTER: | Saturday 14 July- Sunday 22 July | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| CARDIFF: | Saturday 21 July- Sunday 29 July | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| GLOUCESTER: | Saturday 28 July- Sunday 05 August | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| CARDIFF: | Saturday 04 August- Sunday 12 August | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| SOUTHAMPTON: | Saturday 11 August- Sunday 19 August • | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| PORTSMOUTH: | Saturday 25 August- Sunday 02 September | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| | | | | |
| CHELTENHAM: | Saturday 01 September-Sunday 09 September | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| COLCHESTER: | Saturday 01 September-Sunday 09 September | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| EXETER: | Saturday 29 September-Sunday 07 October | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| BELFAST: | Saturday 06 October-Sunday 14 October | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| CHELTENHAM: | Saturday 6 October- Sunday 14 October | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| DUNFERMLINE: | Saturday 13 October-Sunday 21 October | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| CARDIFF: | Saturday 27 October-Sunday 04 November | Fee: €837 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1269 |
| SOUTHAMPTON: | Saturday 10 November-Sunday 18 November | Fee: €798 | Accommodation: €432 | Total: €1230 |

2 WEEK COURSES

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|--------------|---|------------|---------------------|--------------|
| SOUTHAMPTON: | Tuesday 24 January- Sunday 05 February | Fee: €998 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1567 |
| SOUTHAMPTON: | Sunday 29 January- Friday 10 February | Fee: €998 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1567 |
| CARDIFF: | Tuesday 07 February- Sunday 19 February | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| CARDIFF: | Sunday 12 February- Friday 24 February | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| CHELTENHAM: | Tuesday 21 February- Sunday 04 March | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| CHELTENHAM: | Sunday 26 February- Friday 09 March | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| MAIDSTONE: | Tuesday 06 March- Sunday 18 March | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| MAIDSTONE: | Sunday 11 March- Friday 23 March | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| DUNFERMLINE: | Sunday 18 March- Friday 30 March | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| BELFAST: | Sunday 25 March- Friday 06 April | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| CHELTENHAM: | Tuesday 03 April- Sunday 15 April | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| CHELTENHAM: | Sunday 08 April- Friday 20 April | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| EXETER: | Tuesday 17 April- Sunday 29 April | Fee: €998 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1567 |
| EXETER: | Sunday 22 April- Friday 04 May | Fee: €998 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1567 |
| SOUTHAMPTON: | Tuesday 01 May- Sunday 13 May | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| SOUTHAMPTON: | Sunday 06 May- Friday 18 May | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| PORTSMOUTH: | Tuesday 15 May- Sunday 27 May | Fee: €998 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1567 |
| PORTSMOUTH: | Sunday 20 May- Friday 01 June | Fee: €998 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1567 |
| SHREWSBURY: | Tuesday 29 May- Sunday 10 June | Fee: €998 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1567 |
| SHREWSBURY: | Sunday 3 June- Friday 15 June | Fee: €998 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1567 |
| DUNFERMLINE: | Tuesday 12 June- Sunday 24 June | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| DUNFERMLINE: | Sunday 17 June- Friday 29 June | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| IPSWICH: | Tuesday 26 June- Sunday 08 July | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| IPSWICH: | Sunday 01 July- Friday 13 July | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| BELFAST: | Sunday 01 July- Friday 13 July | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| GLOUCESTER: | Tuesday 10 July- Sunday 22 July | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| GLOUCESTER: | Sunday 15 July- Friday 27 July | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| CARDIFF: | Sunday 22 July- Friday 03 August | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| DUNFERMLINE: | Sunday 22 July- Friday 03 August | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| GLOUCESTER: | Sunday 29 July- Friday 10 August ▲ | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| BELFAST: | Sunday 29 July- Friday 10 August | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| CARDIFF: | Sunday 05 August- Friday 17 August | Fee: €998 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1567 |
| DUNFERMLINE: | Sunday 05 August- Friday 17 August | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| BELFAST: | Sunday 12 August- Friday 24 August | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| SOUTHAMPTON: | Sunday 12 August- Friday 24 August ● | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| DUNFERMLINE: | Sunday 19 August- Friday 31 August | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| PORTSMOUTH: | Tuesday 21 August- Sunday 02 September ▲ | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| PORTSMOUTH: | Sunday 26 August- Friday 07 September ▲ | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| CHELTENHAM: | Sunday 02 September – Friday 14 September | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| COLCHESTER: | Sunday 02 September – Friday 14 September | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| EXETER: | Tuesday 25 September-Sunday 07 October | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| EXETER: | Sunday 30 September-Friday 12 October | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| BELFAST: | Sunday 07 October-Friday 19 October | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| CHELTENHAM: | Sunday 07 October-Friday 19 October | Fee: €998 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1567 |
| DUNFERMLINE: | Sunday 14 October-Friday 26 October | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| CARDIFF: | Tuesday 23 October-Sunday 04 November | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| CARDIFF: | Sunday 28 October-Friday 09 November | Fee: €1029 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1598 |
| SOUTHAMPTON: | Tuesday 06 November-Sunday 18 November | Fee: €998 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1567 |
| SOUTHAMPTON: | Sunday 11 November- Friday 23 November | Fee: €998 | Accommodation: €569 | Total: €1567 |

COMENIUS GRANTS:

These courses are listed in the Comenius/Grundtvig Database and have Comenius reference numbers.

Eligible applicants may apply to the European Union for Comenius funding for all courses.

Grant applications should be made to participants' National Agency for the Lifelong Learning Programme.

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|------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Deadlines: | 16 September 2011 | for courses starting 01 January – 30 April 2012 | (please check with your National Agency) |
| | ? 13 January 2012 | for courses starting 01 May – 31 August 2012 | (please check with your National Agency) |
| | ? 30 April 2012 | for courses starting 01 September – 31 December 2012 | (please check with your National Agency) |

INTERNATIONAL STUDY PROGRAMMES:

International Study Programmes has 30 years experience in organising courses for Teachers of English on behalf of European Ministries of Education and In-service Teacher Training Institutes. International Study Programmes' team of teacher trainers includes highly respected trainers such as Graham Workman, Lucy Norris and Dr Diana Hicks (author of 'Cambridge English for Schools' and 'Cambridge English Worldwide').

COURSE CONTENT:

1. Practical Methodology Workshops on Teaching English as a Foreign Language (3, 4 or 5 days)

conducted by expert teacher trainers with many years of experience in training European teachers of English and a wealth of exciting ideas to impart.

The workshops will explore a wide range of teaching ideas and activities designed to motivate students and make language lessons more enjoyable and worthwhile. Some or all of the following will be included:

- a variety of motivating activities which engage students' imaginations and creativity - innovative role play and drama activities, use of the media, poetry and stories (based on the European Lingua Project: "Staging Foreign Language Learning")
- learner styles and learner training - different strategies for differentiation
- increasing motivation and inclusivity in the classroom
- motivating mixed ability classes
- creative activities for large classes
- cross-curricular language teaching
- developing learner autonomy
- language analysis for teaching
- all four skills - particularly integrated tasks
- stimulating ideas for exploiting textbooks
- creative writing activities
- correction and feedback strategies
- evaluation and assessment
- using authentic materials
- grammar activities
- teaching vocabulary
- the Lexical Approach
- task based learning
- recent developments in English
- relevance of World Englishes and ELF to the language classroom

Teachers will be encouraged to share their own ideas and experiences and to participate in practical activities suitable for secondary students.

A wide range of ready-made teaching materials will be provided, including materials suitable for all ages from 10 to 19 years.

The workshop will include **ADVANCED LANGUAGE PRACTICE**, giving teachers the opportunity to polish their own language skills.

- ▲ The Gloucester 29 July – 10 August and Portsmouth 21 August – 2 September & 26 August – 7 September courses focus on improving teachers' own language skills (with 24 hours of **language tuition** as well as methodology workshops).
- The Southampton 12 -24 August and 11-19 August courses focus on **USING NEW TECHNOLOGY IN LANGUAGE LEARNING** and **MOTIVATION FOR LEARNING + LEARNING-TO-LEARN SKILLS**

2. The Education System:

- **Lecture on the Education System** – recent developments and current issues.
- **Day visit to two (or one) State Schools:** with an opportunity to observe lessons: each teacher may choose 1 or 2 types of state schools he/she wishes to visit: eg: primary school, secondary school, sixth form college, vocational/further education college (except in school holidays and on certain one week programmes – see course programmes). Visit to an Independent School (on certain courses only)
- **Discussion session** drawing comparisons between secondary schooling in the different European countries represented and lecture and discussion on Modern Language Teaching (on certain courses).

3. Workshops on Life in Britain:

- **Introducing Aspects of Life in Modern Britain through Literary Texts** - ½ day (on certain courses only)
- **Multicultural Britain** - ½ day (on certain courses only)

or **Lectures on Welsh Literature** (Cardiff courses only)

or **Lectures on Scottish History, Politics & Literature** (Dunfermline courses only)

or **Lectures on Irish History, Politics & Literature** (Belfast courses only)

4. Shakespeare's Theatre:

A visit to Stratford-upon-Avon with an option to see a play at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, preceded by a workshop on Shakespeare's Theatre (Cheltenham & Gloucester courses), or an optional visit to a Shakespeare play at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London preceded by a workshop on Shakespeare's Theatre (Summer courses in Southampton & Portsmouth)

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|----|--|-------------------------------|
| or Educational visit | to | Winchester | from Southampton & Portsmouth |
| | or | London | from Maidstone |
| | or | Dartmoor National Park & Dartmouth | from Exeter |
| | or | Norwich | from Ipswich |
| | or | The Constable Country | from Colchester |
| | or | Chester | from Shrewsbury |
| | or | Welsh Open Air Museum & St Fagans Castle | from Cardiff |
| | or | Dublin | from Belfast |
| | or | Edinburgh | from Dunfermline |

The Dunfermline 5-17 August & 19-31 August courses will take place during the **Edinburgh International Festival and Festival Fringe**, which offer a huge choice of literary and cultural events, and the Edinburgh Tattoo. (Edinburgh is a short rail journey from Dunfermline.)

The Cheltenham 6-14 October & 7-19 October courses will take place during the **Cheltenham Festival of Literature**.

TOTAL PRICE comprises:

(a) **COURSE FEE** (as detailed on Pages 1 & 2) to include:

Full programme of study sessions and visits as itemized above.

NB. Participants are responsible for paying their own daily transport costs, including transport to secondary schools/colleges
Optional excursions and theatre visits are not included in the price. (Theatre tickets cost about 25 – 40 Euro)

(b) **HOST FAMILY ACCOMMODATION** (as detailed on Page 1 & 2) to include:

Full board accommodation with a local family (inclusive of registration fee): 8 or 12 nights
(Teachers may request to be the only guest of their mother tongue or to stay in the same family as a colleague).

Host families are carefully selected and offer a friendly welcome and opportunities to chat and learn more about life in Britain today. Participants often find that the experience of staying with a host family is one of the most memorable aspects of the course. Accommodation is in single rooms (unless participants request to share). Breakfast, packed lunch and evening meal are provided by the host family. (Food allergies, likes and dislikes are taken into account.)

Please note that many of the suitable residential areas are not within walking distance of the town centre, and most host families are an easy bus ride from the town centre/tuition centre. Local transport from host families to the town centre and local schools is at the participants' own expense and is likely to cost 15-30 Euro per week.

Additional nights with host families can be arranged, giving participants extra time for individual research and visits. Accommodation can be provided for family members (but not unaccompanied children) subject to availability. (Rates on request).

OR

Self-catering accommodation in a university residence or similar in a central location - single bedroom with en-suite shower/wc; no meals provided (inclusive of registration fee) - available (subject to confirmation) in:

Maidstone (March courses) - same price as host family accommodation

| | | | |
|--|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Cardiff 22 July – 3 August (12 nights) | Course fee: €1029 | Self-catering accommodation: € 659 | Total: € 1688 |
| Cardiff 05 – 17 August (12 nights) | Course fee: € 998 | Self-catering accommodation: € 659 | Total: € 1657 |
| Cardiff 21 – 29 July & 4 – 12 August (8 nights) | Course fee: € 837 | Self-catering accommodation: € 479 | Total: € 1316 |

PAYMENT:

Full payment will be due 2 months before the course begins, or for teachers awaiting Comenius funding – as soon as the Comenius grant is received. Cancellation charges apply for cancellations 4 weeks or less before the course commences. 3-4 weeks before arrival: cancellation fee: 380 Euros. No refund for cancellations within 3 weeks of arrival. Cancellation insurance can be arranged through Endsleigh Insurance.

PREPARATION:

Participants complete a detailed questionnaire before the course starts to ascertain their level of experience and training, as well as the age groups and types of learners they teach. Suggestions for pre-course reading are given.

OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course participants will have:

- Gained a wide variety of new ideas, skills and materials for teaching English at Secondary level
- Updated their knowledge of the English Language, the UK and the Education System
- Established links with other teachers from different European Countries

EVALUATION:

At the end of the course teachers participate in a detailed evaluation of the course.

FOLLOW UP:

At the end of the course teachers are asked to consider which aspects of the course will be the most relevant to their own teaching situations. On their return they are invited to keep a record of how they have been able to utilise ideas gained on the course in their own classrooms. They are encouraged to share their experiences with their fellow participants by email. Teachers will also have email access to the teacher trainers for discussion and advice after the course.

LOCATIONS:

CHELTENHAM, England: Population: 108,000; 98 miles (157 kilometres) west of London (2¼ hours by rail)

Cheltenham is an elegant spa town, situated on the edge of the Cotswold Hills, which are famous for their picturesque stone villages. Cheltenham is known for its Regency architecture, colourful parks and gardens and it has many attractive residential areas.

The most convenient airports: Heathrow (direct National Express Coach to Cheltenham), Birmingham (rail to Cheltenham) or Bristol (airport bus then rail to Cheltenham)

COLCHESTER, England: Population 150,000; 54 miles (86 kilometres) north-east of London (1 hour by rail).

Colchester is England's oldest recorded town and first Roman city. It is an attractive town rich in historic buildings, including a fine castle. The Essex coast and many picturesque villages are within easy reach.

The most convenient airport: Stansted (direct National Express coach to Colchester) or other London airports (rail/coach via Central London to Colchester)

EXETER, England: Population: 105,000; 190 miles (305 kilometres) south-west of London (2½ hours by rail).

Exeter is an historic city with a magnificent Gothic cathedral, many lovely old buildings and a variety of interesting museums. It is the county town of Devon, situated in beautiful hilly countryside, close to the South Devon coast and Dartmoor National Park.

The most convenient airports: Exeter (bus to city centre), Bristol (airport bus then rail or coach to Exeter) or Heathrow (direct National Express Coach to Exeter)

GLOUCESTER, England: Population: 105,000; 105 miles (170 kilometres) west of London (2 hours by rail).

Gloucester is an ancient city with a magnificent medieval cathedral and cloister, as well as being a lively modern town. The historic docks have been impressively restored to include various museums, shops and cafes. The city is close to the spectacular countryside of the Cotswolds Hills, the Wye Valley and the Forest of Dean.

The most convenient airports: Heathrow (direct National Express Coach to Gloucester) or Birmingham (rail to Gloucester) or Bristol (airport bus then rail to Gloucester)

IPSWICH, England: Population: 120,000; 90 miles (144 kilometres) north-east of London (1¼ hours by rail).

Ipswich, the county town of Suffolk, is situated close to the unspoilt Suffolk coast and to many picturesque villages. It has an attractive waterfront and some noteworthy historic buildings, including a fine Tudor mansion.

The most convenient airport: Stansted (direct National Express coach to Ipswich) or other London airports (rail/coach via Central London to Ipswich)

MAIDSTONE, England: Population: 140,000; 37 miles (55 kilometres) south-east of London (1 hour by rail).

Maidstone is situated in the beautiful county of Kent within easy reach of London and the coast. It is a pleasant town with various historic buildings including a medieval archbishop's palace. One of its chief attractions is the wealth of charming villages in the surrounding countryside.

The most convenient airports: All London Airports (Gatwick, Heathrow, Luton, Stansted, City) – travel to Maidstone via central London

PORTSMOUTH, England: Population: 190,000; 75 miles (120 kilometres) south-west of London (1½ hours by rail).

Portsmouth, situated on the south coast, is an important port, famous for its historic ships - most notably Nelson's "Victory". Old Portsmouth overlooks the busy historic maritime harbour, while the attractive seaside resort area of Southsea, with its parks and gardens and two piers, has four miles of seafront with views across to the Isle of Wight.

The most convenient airports: Southampton (rail to Portsmouth), Heathrow (direct National Express coach to Portsmouth) or Gatwick (direct coach or rail to Portsmouth)

SHREWSBURY, England: Population: 96,000; 153 miles (245 kilometres) north-west of London (2½ hours by rail).

Shrewsbury, the county town of Shropshire, is a delightful old town, picturesquely situated in a bend of the River Severn. It has a wealth of historic buildings, including a castle and many half-timbered and Georgian houses, as well as several interesting museums. Shrewsbury is surrounded by lovely countryside and is only a short distance from the Welsh border.

The most convenient airports: Birmingham (rail to Shrewsbury) or Manchester (rail to Shrewsbury) or Liverpool (airport bus then rail to Shrewsbury)

SOUTHAMPTON, England: Population: 220,000; 80 miles (128 kilometres) south-west of London (1¼ hours by rail).

Southampton is a pleasant university town and an important port situated on the south coast, within easy reach of the New Forest, Winchester, Salisbury, Portsmouth, Bournemouth and the Isle of Wight. There is an historic old town, interesting museums, a new waterside development and an excellent shopping centre.

The most convenient airports: Southampton (rail to city centre), Heathrow (direct National Express coach to Southampton) or Gatwick (direct coach or rail to Southampton)

CARDIFF, Wales: Population: 330,000; 150 miles (240 kilometres) from London (2¼ hours by rail).

Cardiff, the capital city of Wales, situated on the south coast of Wales, is a lively cultural centre. Its attractions include: Cardiff Bay, Cardiff Castle, National Museum and Gallery and Llandaff Cathedral. Nearby are the Open-Air Museum of Welsh Life, Caerphilly Castle, the Brecon Beacons National Park and beautiful coastal scenery and beaches.

The most convenient airports: Cardiff (rail or bus to city centre), Heathrow (direct National Express coach to Cardiff) or Bristol (airport bus then rail to Cardiff)

DUNFERMLINE, Scotland: Population: 56,000; 16 miles (25 kilometres) north of Edinburgh.

Dunfermline, the ancient capital of Scotland, boasts a famous ancient abbey and a lovely park. It lies on the northern side of the Firth of Forth, at the southern gateway to the Scottish Highlands, and is ideally placed for visits to Edinburgh and to some of the most beautiful scenery of Scotland.

The most convenient airport: Edinburgh (direct Stagecoach 747 bus to Inverkeithing, which adjoins Dunfermline)

BELFAST, Northern Ireland: Population: 277,000. Belfast, the capital of Northern Ireland, is a lively city with excellent shopping and leisure facilities. The seaside resort of Bangor and the Ulster (Open-Air) Folk and Transport Museum are nearby. The beautiful Antrim coast and world famous Giant's Causeway and Dublin are within easy reach.

Belfast has two airports: Belfast City (bus to city centre – 20 minutes) or Belfast International (bus to city centre – 40 minutes)

These towns (unlike popular south coast resorts and tourist centres such as Oxford and Cambridge) are not overcrowded with overseas students and offer a typically British environment in which to study.

TRAVEL:

Transport at the beginning and end of the course is not provided and International Study Programmes regrets that it is unable to assist with travel arrangements. Please check the most convenient airports above. If arriving at other airports, travel to the course location is generally via central London by coach or rail.

For enquiries and timetables:

National Express Coach: www.nationalexpress.com +44 8717 818 178 (purchase of ticket in advance necessary)
Rail: www.thetrainline.com +44 191 227 5959

There is also a useful website www.transportdirect.info which will assist in planning a journey within the UK using every form of transport.