



European Educational Perspectives: Of Privilege and Promise

Professors: Dr. Cynthia Williams, c.s.williams@tcu.edu

Dates: Summer I, 2010; dates abroad: June 20-July 5

Program Description: This program will offer students an enriching opportunity to learn about European educational approaches in both **the Netherlands** and **Poland**. In and around **Amsterdam, Netherlands**, students will visit the Hogeschool Edith Stein and the Association Montessori Internationale. The Amsterdam experience will include visits to Montessori landmarks: the house where Maria Montessori worked and lived, as well as a visit to Nienhuis, the Netherlands manufacturers of Montessori teaching materials. In **Kraków, Poland**, students will have the opportunity to learn about, volunteer and interact with children at the Jan Brzechwa Orphanage, a children's home established by the famous Polish children's literature author, Jan Brzechwa. This facility houses 45 children under the age of six and 15 young mothers and/or pregnant girls, providing education and care for all of its residents and also enabling young mothers to continue their schooling while learning to care for their children. **Topics covered** while abroad will include: European educational approaches, Montessori and Reggio Emilia curriculum philosophies, and brain based research as applied to development, teaching and learning. **Optional excursions** may include city tours focusing on local culture and history, trips to museums such as the Vincent Van Gogh Museum, and excursions to historical sites nearby such as the famous Polish salt mines, Wawel Castle and/or Auschwitz.



PROGRAM FEE: \$3000

***Included in Program Fee:**

- Lectures on Montessori and Reggio Emilia curriculum philosophies, as well as on current brain-based research regarding development, teaching and learning in **the Netherlands**
- Hands-on learning experiences with young children and adolescents at the Jan Brzechwa Orphanage in **Kraków, Poland**
- Housing and some meals (TBA)
- Various cultural activities and excursions

***NOT included in Program Fee:**

- Tuition
- Airfare & some transportation
- Passport
- Some meals
- Spending money & personal expenses

Course/Credit Hours: EDUC 50990: International Experiences in Education

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