BUILDING ZION BEYOND BORDERS

WOMEN, FAITH, AND COMMUNITY IN WESTERN CANADA

STUDY ABROAD SUMMER 2027

Western Canada provides a distinctive setting for studying the ways gender, culture, religion, colonialism, and civic life shape people's experiences of belonging. Through GWS 222, Introduction to Global Women's Studies, and IAS 397R, Fostering Belonging, students will examine the contributions of women to Canadian politics, social reform, religion, the arts, environmental stewardship, and community building. Particular attention will be given to Indigenous women's resilience and leadership, and contemporary efforts toward truth, reconciliation, and decolonization, and the experiences of early LDS Women settlers. By learning in the places where these histories unfolded and from people whose communities continue to be shaped by them, students will explore how Christlike compassion, civic leadership, peacemaking, and covenant belonging can help create communities in which all people are valued.

The study abroad will begin in Calgary, Alberta, with travel through Banff, Lake Louise, Waterton, and surrounding communities before continuing to British Columbia and Vancouver Island, and ending in the city of Vancouver. Experiences will include visits to sites connected to the Famous Five and women's political leadership, museums and historic locations examining pioneer life and social reform, and cultural and natural landscapes of multiple Canadian National Parks. Program activities may include Indigenous-led cultural learning, Heritage Park, the Royal BC Museum, First Peoples cultural centers, and sites connected to Indigenous stewardship and reconciliation. Throughout the program, students will experience Canada's remarkable history, cultures, cities, and natural landscapes while considering how women and marginalized communities have contributed to building more peaceful, inclusive, and equitable societies.

DATES
20 July – 11 August (approx.)

HOUSING
Students will stay in hotels and hostels. Two meals a day will be provided by the program. The third daily meal is not included in the study abroad cost and will often be dinner. The program cannot meet all special dietary needs nor can it ensure a safe

environment for those with food allergies. If you have dietary or allergy concern, we recommend that you speak with the International Study Programs office before you apply.

COURSES
Students are required to enroll in 6 credit hours during the program:
Required:

IAS 397R—Fostering Belonging (2 credits)
GWS 222—Introduction to Global Women's Studies (3 credits) **OR** GWS 395R—Global Women's Studies Study Abroad (2 credits)

Elective:

ST DEV 214R—Belonging Internship (1-3 credit)

Participants may not take any other courses on this program, including BYU Online courses, without approval by the program director and ISP.

COST
$3,300–3,800
Includes BYU LDS undergraduate tuition, accommodations, 2 meals a day (normally breakfast and one other meal), group transportation between cities cultural excursions, and international health insurance. Not included is round-trip airfare between the continental U.S. and Canada, some meals, personal spending money, and international phone plans.

TRAVEL
Students are responsible for purchasing their own airfare to and from the program. Airfare reservations must be made through BYU Travel. Students should contact a BYU Travel agent at: BYU Travel | 801-422-6293 | travel@byu.edu | 280 HRCB

PREPARATION
Accepted students are required to participate in a preparation course (IAS 369R 1 credit hour). This course will be held during second block, winter semester 2027. Accompanying spouses need to be credit-bearing participants on the program. Spouses will also need to apply online and take the preparation course.
International study programs are physically, emotionally, and mentally taxing and you must be in good health to participate. These programs often take place in locations that do not have the same level of safety and services in terms of transportation, living conditions, residential accommodations, food, public behavior, and policing that you may be used to on campus. If you have further questions or concerns on this, please see https://kennedy.byu.edu/isp-travel-policy.

FUNDING SOURCES
Regular BYU tuition scholarships, Pell Grants, and Federal Insured Student Loans may be applied to study abroad programs. Students who submit the financial aid section of the ISP application and who have a current FAFSA form on file at the Financial Aid Office (A-41 ASB) will be considered for a Study Abroad scholarship. Academic departments and colleges may assist with scholarships and grants. Private grants and scholarships outside of BYU may also assist (see kennedy.byu.edu/scholarships). Funding for this program will also be generously provided by Global Women's Studies and the Office of Belonging, which will work behind the scenes to reduce overall program cost.

APPLICATION PROCESS
Students must be adults 18 years-of-age or older. Complete the online application at kennedy.byu.edu/apply. The application requires a $35 fee. Students will be notified via e-mail of their acceptance into the program. The first payment is due upon acceptance. Please refer to the 2021 Payment Information document (see kennedy.byu.edu/isp-forms/ISPpayments2021.pdf).
Priority Deadline: 1 November 2026
Application Deadline: 1 December 2026

FACULTY
Dr. Melissa Jones is an Associate Teaching Professor of Psychology. 272 TLRB | (801) 422-6480 | melissa_jones@byu.edu
Julianne H Grose is the Associate Vice President of Belonging. 2007 WSC | Julianne_Grose@byu.edu

INTERESTED STUDENTS SHOULD CONTACT
International Study Programs | 101 HRCB | (801) 422-3686 | isp@byu.edu | kennedy.byu.edu/isp

PROGRAM ADJUSTMENTS
International Study Programs (ISP) reserves the right to cancel this program, revise its offerings, or make any adjustments to the preliminary cost. If it becomes necessary for ISP to cancel a program, all program payments made to BYU ISP will be refunded to the student's BYU financial account. ISP is the only office authorized to cancel any of its programs.