RIT Faculty-Led Study Abroad Program:

DIGITAL STORYTELLING IN PORTUGAL

Lisbon, Coimbra & Porto

Use the historical and architectural cityscapes of Portugal to create a fictional world and tell a global narrative.

- Participate in interactive workshops with accomplished Portuguese digital artists and scholars.
- Explore urban spaces as you collaboratively create a fictional world based on the city’s history and culture.
- Earn six credits which can count towards an immersion or minor in creative writing or digital literature & comparative media.
- An excellent hands-on, collaborative international opportunity for students with an interest in interactive media, digital arts, game design, film/animation, photography, storytelling, or creating interactive narratives.

*Candidates would be considered for scholarships as part of application. Awards based on financial need. Two scholarships for airfare available for summer faculty-led or global campus programs.

COURSES:
ENGL 386 - World Building Workshop
ENGL 389 - Digital Creative Writing Workshop

Courses taught in English. No pre-reqs, open to all undergraduate majors.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
February 16, 2020

Summer 2020
June 3-24, 2020
Earn 6 credits

Scholarships available!*  
- $500-$1,000 travel grants
- Scholarships to cover airfare

MORE INFORMATION:
Contact faculty director:
Trent Hergenrader (wthgsl@rit.edu)

START AN APPLICATION:
Go to www.studyabroad.rit.edu and login to the Compass.
DIGITAL STORYTELLING IN PORTUGAL

Learn about 21st-century digital storytelling as you explore the cultural, historical, and architectural cityscapes of Portugal. This three-week program visits Lisbon, Porto, and Coimbra, Portugal’s three largest cities.

In Lisbon, the class will discuss the history of Portugal from the Roman era, Middle Ages and the colonial period of the Age of Discovery to the nation’s steady decline in the Modern period, and then consider Portugal’s 20th-century fascist past and it’s progressive forward-looking 21st-century future.

In Coimbra, you will spend a week in digital writing workshops at the University of Coimbra, one of the world’s oldest continually operating universities. Past projects included poetry generators, sound poetry, interactive fiction, radio performance pieces, and other genre-bending experimental forms.

The program concludes in Porto, where the group will decide what kind of alternate Porto they want to build. Using the city’s actual history, culture, and landmarks, you will choose a genre—steampunk, cyberpunk, high fantasy, urban fantasy—and tell an alternate history, using your own urban explorations as inspiration. Workshops will also be taught by one of Europe’s leading practitioners of digital poetics at the University of Fernando Pessoa.

WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING ABOUT THE PROGRAM

“Exposure to pioneers in the field of digital literature was pivotal to my understanding of work that is on the cutting-edge of technology, accessibility, and representation, and Portugal provides an ideal world-building setting because of its visible history. Taking classes over the summer as part of study abroad helped me explore topics I otherwise wouldn’t have been able to engage with until later in my college career.”
- John Blau
  Game Design & Development
  2019 Program

“Going on the program was the best decision I made in college. Every part of the experience - from binge-reading short stories to learning about different genres, to being locked in an apartment for a few days to hash out the world rules, to sitting down with other people’s creations to write vignettes - are all things I’ll talk about for the rest of my life.”
- Tyler Davis
  School of Individualized Study
  2017 Program

“The Portugal program was fantastic. Living with some amazing people and writing a sort-of alternate universe together inspired me, challenged me, and helped me grow in many ways. It was one of my best summers ever.”
- Christopher Locke
  New Media Design
  2017 Program