



General Information: America Excursion
Organized by Adam Christian von Wald
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Subject to Change

In the interest of bringing students into direct contact with both the English language and American culture, I have organized the following excursion to the United States. I look forward to having the opportunity to introduce my home to students in a completely authentic, non-classroom environment!

– Adam Christian von Wald

Who can go?

In order to ensure students have the maturity and freedom to enjoy the excursion to its fullest, students must be at least **21 years of age** before we leave Germany (19.07.2012). Of course, this trip is also only open to **students of English at the University of Duisburg-Essen**. There will most likely be more students interested in the excursion than can reasonably travel together. Therefore, there will be an **application procedure** (see application form). The limit will be between 8 and 12 students, depending on the amount of interest.

Where are we going?

As I am a Midwestern boy through and through, it only seemed logical to share the America that I know with you: **The American Midwest!** Do not let what you have heard scare you away though! This excursion will highlight the cream-of-the-crop locations in and around the Great Lakes, e.g. **Chicago, Traverse City, college town East Lansing and possibly a short stop over in Canada's Windsor**. You can research these cities on your own, but here is a short introduction: Chicago is the third largest city in the US and home to great shopping, amazing architecture, hip culture and a bustling nightlife. In contrast, Traverse City is a picturesque town on Lake Michigan in Northern Michigan with a small artsy community, beautiful beaches, imposing dunes and a refreshingly natural feel. East Lansing is home to Michigan State University and is therefore a student city with a gorgeous campus and many student life offerings. Michigan's proximity to Windsor in Canada gives us the opportunity to jet over to the Windsor Casino for a night out on the Canadian scene!

When are we going?

As America is not just a skip and jump away from continental Europe, we will be spending a good **two weeks** in America to get our money's worth. Additionally, due to flight costs during school holidays, we must either wait till the end of August – at which point the weather might not be so great – or pay a bit more to have better chances of having nice weather. I have opted on nice weather and have therefore selected the following dates for our trip: **23rd July – 8th August, 2012**.

How much is this going to cost?

This is a two-week trip to a country on the other side of the world. In this respect, one can expect that this trip will not be without cost. These will include: flight, hotels, car rental, gas, travel insurance, various admissions, food and spending money. All in all, I estimate that students will need **approximately 1,500 euros**. This estimate will ensure that students are able to enjoy their time in America without having to take out a calculator before buying a hotdog. **These costs will not occur all at the same time, however**. The flight will need to be booked by the end of November (approx. 800 euros) and the next payments for hotels and car rentals (approx. 2x200 euros) will not be due until the end of January and June respectively (see dates on the application form). Also, spending money will be managed by students according to their own personal budgets. I do understand that this is not a cheap trip – I wish I could move America closer but as of yet, I have been unsuccessful in this endeavor.

If you are interested, please fill out the application form and turn it in to me by November 10th, 2011.

Any Questions? Contact Adam Christian von Wald at adam.vonwald@uni-due.de