Geomatics Engineering Trip to Switzerland 2024: Global Engineering Experience

Dates: February 17 – 23, 2023

Program Details:

Day 1: Arrival in Geneva

Arrive at Geneva airport and transfer to the hotel. Group discussion on trip itinerary. Explore the historic Old Town, Lake Geneva waterfront and possible museum visits (Museum of Natural History or Museum of Science).

Day 2: Lausanne

Travel by train to Lausanne for a campus tour of EPFL, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, and the School of Engineering. Visit Old Town Lausanne following the campus visit, and then on to the corporate offices of senseFly for a site visit. Learn about drones, sensors and software for GIS, mapping and surveying.

Day 3: Geneva - CERN

Start the day with a tour of the United Nations Geneva and then travel to CERN for the afternoon for a site visit and to view the permanent exhibitions.

Day 4: Geneva - Zurich

Travel to Zurich via Bern to stop and visit Swisstopo, the Federal Office of Topography, for insights into Switzerland's national mapping agency. Learn about Switzerland's history of cartography and surveying mapping and new geodata applications. Following Swisstopo, onwards to Zurich to visit the Old Town and Lake Zurich.

Day 5: Zurich

Visit ETH Zurich, the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, and the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geomatic Engineering known for its cutting-edge geomatics engineering research and programs. In the afternoon, visit the Leica Geosystems/Hexagon Swiss corporate office to learn about and see the latest technologies and applications of Leica/Hexagon products.

Day 6: Zurich Departure

More information:

Participants: Open to a maximum of **10 undergraduates** in **Geomatics Engineering major**. Students are required to complete the Global Engineering Experience application form. They must participate in all pre-departure education, meetings, and preparation activities.

Eligibility: Students who have a minimum GPA of 2.0 and **have not previously participated in the Global Experience** program. Students in all years of their Geomatics Engineering major are welcome to apply. Students must be currently eligible and have valid visas for travel to **Switzerland,** as well as all supporting travel documentation required for their destination. Please note, **passport must be valid at the time of application**.

Cost: Students eligible for this program will be required to pay out-of-pocket **$2,000**. This includes round-trip airfare, field trips, local transportation, emergency medical insurance, and accommodations. Some meals will be provided (program dependent), but students should budget for food and snack purchases.

Funding: Due to the significant existing financial contribution from SSE, students will not be eligible to receive Schulich Student Activities Funding (SSAF) or UCalgary International Funding for these experiences.

Pre-departure: The Engineering Student Centre and Chaperone(s) will host a mandatory pre-departure session for students. Topics covered will include student rules of conduct, customs/norms of the destination countries, attendance expectations, and a full overview of the agenda. Students will also be expected to complete online study abroad module in D2L.

Student conduct: Students will be bound by university non-academic misconduct policies and will be required to sign the SSE Rules of Engagement for Group travel document. If misconduct occurs, the faculty chaperones, in consultation with the Dean's Office, reserve the right to send the student(s) home. Students will be required to sign risk and student conduct waivers at the pre-departure session.

Additional student expenses: Managed directly by program participants:

- Meals (breakfast may be provided)
- Additional baggage fees (if required)
- Passport & Photos (If required)
- EU Visa (if required) or ETIAS (https://travel-europe.europa.eu/etias_en)
- Immunizations: based on recommendations from travel clinic, cost varies depending on individual circumstances and destination countries
- Travel insurance (emergency response will be in included)