Printmaking Workshop in Belgium  
February 15 – March 1, 2013

This study abroad program is coordinated by the Northern Illinois University Study Abroad Office (SAO), in cooperation with the NIU College of Visual and Performing Arts and the School of Art.

**PROGRAM DATES:** The program will officially begin on Friday, February 15, 2013 in Kasterlee, Belgium, and will end on Friday, March 1, 2013. Students will be responsible for making their own air travel arrangements in order to arrive in Kasterlee, Belgium on Friday, February 15, 2013 and return Friday, March 1, 2013.

The program will officially begin with departure of the group from Chicago O’Hare Airport on **Thursday, February 14, 2013**, and will end with the return of the group from Brussels (Kasterlee), Belgium to Chicago, Illinois on Friday, March 1, 2013.

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR:** Michael Barnes, professor of School of Art in the NIU College of Visual and Performing Arts. Professor Barnes received his MFA from the University of Iowa in 1996, with an emphasis in Printmaking. His work has been presented in numerous solo and group exhibitions of his work throughout the country in both commercial galleries and in university settings. Professor Barnes is currently represented by the Davidson Galleries in Seattle, Washington and Cervini Haas Gallery in Scottsdale, Arizona. Additionally, his work has been exhibited in over 100 competitive group exhibitions, including exhibitions in Wales, Poland, Taiwan, Estonia, Japan, Romania, Finland, and the Republic of Macedonia.

Professor Barnes has received numerous awards, including an Illinois Arts Council Grant and an honorable mention for the Carmen Arozena International print award in Spain. His work is included in many collections, including the Museum of Fine Art, Boston, The Royal Museum of Art, Antwerp, Belgium, the City of Vaasa, Finland, The Plains Art Museum, Fargo, North Dakota, and many university and private collections. He has also participated in a number of residencies - at the Frans Masereel Centrum in Belgium, The Bemis Center of Contemporary Art in Omaha, Nebraska, and the Plains Art Museum in Fargo, North Dakota, and Anchor Graphics in Chicago.

Professor Barnes is currently an Associate Professor in the Printmaking program at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois where he has taught since 1998. He is currently Coordinator of Graduate Programs and has taught summer study abroad courses at the Santa Reparata International School of Art in Florence, Italy. For professional service he has served as President and as Secretary for the Mid America Print Council and is currently the Vice-President of Internal Affairs of Southern Graphics Council International.
PROGRAM OVERVIEW/OBJECTIVES: Participants will have the opportunity to develop a body of artwork in the medium of printmaking at the world renown printmaking residency program, the Frans Masereel Centrum, located in Kasterlee, Belgium. Students will produce prints utilizing the European methods and equipment, which are in many ways varied from how they conduct processes in the United States. Students will be working on a large German Mailander offset press to produce lithographs and monotypes. This is a unique piece of equipment to European studios and is rare to shops in the United States.

Furthermore, the students will be in residence at the same time as at least one other institution from the States or abroad, thus having the opportunity to foster networks and interaction with artists from outside of their immediate community. The group will also take a couple of field trips, one to the Playing Card Printing Museum in the nearby city of Turnhout, and one into Antwerpen, which is a major art center for this region on Belgium, with it’s medieval cathedral and major art museums.

The program will be organized by daily workshops that will meet from 8:00 a.m. in the morning until noon, in which Professor Barnes will present demonstrations and critiques of work. The students will then have the afternoon and evening (the studio is open until 8:00 p.m.) to work on their own, with Professor Barnes present to assist if required. Personal and group critiques of artwork, as well as presentations of a historical nature of printmaking will also be included during the workshop times.

PROGRAM SITE(S): The program will take place in Kasterlee, Belgium at the Frans Masereel Centrum, a Flemish government funded print artist residency founded in honor of the famous Belgium woodcut artist from the 1920’s. Kasterlee, is a small village, approximately 30 minutes east of Antwerpen.

The Frans Masereel residency is located in a beautiful wooded area outside of the small village of Kasterlee, amidst farms and horse pastures. Participants stay in
small A-frame cottages that are located on the grounds of the residency, immediately next to the printmaking studio, and surrounded by a beautiful Belgium-style garden. The Centrum offers a full printmaking studio, in which students will have access to produce their work.

Bicycles are provided to the residents so that they may ride into Kasterlee (a five minute ride) to buy groceries, eat at local restaurants or experience Belgian culture. The train from Geel (a short bus ride) will take participants anywhere within the country that they wish to go.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Field trips will take students to Turnhout to visit the famous Playing Card Museum (Nationaal Museum van de Speelkaart), which houses a fantastic museum of antique printing technology, along with many displays of the history of playing cards, of which Turnhout is the capital. A second trip will go to Antwerpen to visit the medieval cathedral and various art museums in the city. A couple of open days will be made available for students to explore other major medieval cities around the country, such as Brussels, Bruges, Ghent.

Belgium itself is particularly known for its amazing cuisine, along with being the true originators of frites (more commonly known by us as French Fries – although do not call them that in Belgium!). Fritur stands are frequently found throughout any town.

And most importantly for the art students – the Belgium and Holland region (then known as Flanders) was the center of the Northern Renaissance, giving rise to the amazing Flemish artists such as Hieronymus Bosch, Pieter Bruegel, and Jan Van Eych. Their amazing masterpieces can be seen at museums throughout Belgium.

**PROGRAM AUDIENCE:** Space is limited and qualified applicants will be accepted on a first-come-first-serve basis. Because the number of maximum participants is limited to eight (determined by the Frans Masereel’s policy) the study abroad workshop will give preference first to graduate students in the Printmaking program, and next to undergraduate printmaking majors. Students from other majors are welcome if spaces become available after the above groups have had a chance to sign up.

**INSTRUCTION METHOD:** Work sessions will be held daily, Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Afternoons and evenings until 8:00 p.m. are open work sessions for students to create their own work. (Fridays are open days). During the work sessions, demonstrations will be presented to students on the use of unique equipment and processes. The class will focus on the development of a body of work in the medium of monotype and/or lithography, utilizing advanced color printing techniques.

Group and individual critiques will take place throughout the workshop, with an emphasis on the second week, as projects start to take form.

It is expected that most, if not all of the participants will be graduate students. Therefore, projects will be designed with this in mind. For example, a contract, or project description will be required of each
student in regard to the type of work, in particular content, they intend to produce. The difference from an undergraduate experience will be that the students are required to demonstrate a greater mastery and complexity of the prints they produce. Given the short time frame of the workshop, the number of finished pieces will vary between students, but Professor Barnes expects at least two finished edition pieces or a series of six finished monotypes.

Pre- and Post- Programming will be designated primarily as preparation time for the program and to conclude any work that is in progress as the end of the program. The post-program will include a group critique and meeting for students to share the final work and to discuss the experience.

There is the potential that the other program that will be in residence at the same time will wish to collaborate. In this case, Professor Barnes will work out a system with the other professor to either team teach a component of the workshop, or to rotate the group of students between each professor. This would present an exciting opportunity for the students to work with the faculty and the students from another program, thus experiencing a fresh perspective.

PROGRAM ACADEMIC CREDIT: For satisfactory participation in the program, participants will receive 3 semester hours of undergraduate or graduate credit in one of the following NIU courses for the spring 2013 semester.

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<th>UNDERGRADUATE CREDIT:</th>
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<tr>
<td>ART 490 – Independent Research: Study Abroad Printmaking Workshop in Belgium. 4 semester hours</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong> The workshop will focus on the production of a series of prints that are aimed at developing a personalized body of work utilizing the printmaking medium.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisite:</strong> Completion of ARTS 430 and consent of school.</td>
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<th>GRADUATE CREDIT:</th>
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<tr>
<td>ART 690 – Independent Study: Study Abroad Printmaking Workshop in Belgium. 4 semester hours</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong> The workshop will focus on the production of a series of prints that are aimed at developing a personalized body of work utilizing the printmaking medium.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisite:</strong> Art major and consent of school and instructor.</td>
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HONORS CREDIT: Qualified students may also elect to receive Honors credit for any study abroad course(s) with the approval of the NIU faculty or instructor responsible for the course. For more information please contact the University Honors Office.

APPLICATION AND ADMISSION PROCEDURES: The program is open to undergraduate and graduate-level students who meet the NIU general admission requirements, and who are interested in Printmaking. Currently enrolled students must meet College of Visual and Performing Arts course
GPA requirements. Graduate level students must also meet NIU Graduate School admission, course and GPA requirements.

Students must be in good academic and disciplinary standing at the time of application. Students who are on academic or disciplinary probation are not eligible to participate in study abroad programs. Applicants must participate in the entire program and satisfy NIU undergraduate or graduate admission and course requirements.

Students cannot have any encumbrances against their NIU records. Any encumbrances placed on a student’s records by NIU (i.e., the Graduate School, Undergraduate Admissions, Bursar’s Office, Accounts Receivable, Registration and Records, Health Services, Parking Services, etc.) must be cleared before a student is granted admission to a study abroad program.

APPLICATION: Click Printmaking Workshop in Belgium or visit the NIU Study Abroad Office website at https://niu.studioabroad.com (and search for “Belgium” or the Printmaking Workshop in Belgium program) to begin the online application process for this program. The online process provides guidance on requesting information, advising, or applying for the program. Please note that at the time of application, applicants will be expected to submit a signature verification form and copy of their ID to the Study Abroad Office. More detailed instructions can be found on the https://niu.studioabroad.com website or by contacting the Study Abroad Office at (815) 753-0700 or niuabroad@niu.edu.

$200 APPLICATION FEE/DEPOSIT: A $200 application fee/deposit is required of all applicants. The $200 is broken down into $100 for the non-refundable application fee and $100 for a program deposit. Both the application fee and the deposit will be applied to the total balance of the program cost. The $100 deposit is refundable only if the participant withdraws prior to the withdrawal deadline indicated on the program materials or for medical reasons verified by a physician if the withdrawal takes place after the withdrawal deadline.

The $200 application fee/deposit will be charged to NIU students’ NIU Bursar's account. (Checks and money orders cannot be accepted from NIU students.) Non-NIU students must submit a check or money order in the amount of $200. More detailed instructions can be found on the website.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 7, 2012

ACCOMMODATIONS: Participants will reside in single bedded cabins, with two rooms, each room containing two single beds – each cabin accommodates four people total. Each cabin contains a bathroom and shower facility and full kitchen with refrigerator and stove. Free Laundry facilities are available on the site.

MEALS: Meals are to be provided by the participant throughout the period of residency. Grocery stores are located within walking or bike riding distance from the residency.
Total Estimated Meal expenses
€100 – 150 for two weeks - Unless participant decides to eat more frequently at restaurants in town. Additional meals should be budgeted for when traveling to other locations – approximately €25 – 35 per meal per person, depending on the type of restaurant. Two trips will be scheduled, plus optional free day travel.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: Individuals will be responsible for making their own air travel arrangements between the U.S. and Brussels, Belgium, and for purchasing their tickets from a travel agent or airline of their choice. (Travel insurance is recommended). Participants should keep in mind that in order to arrive in Brussels by February 15, they need to depart on or before February 14.

Important - The Study Abroad Office advises all participants that flight reservations for this program should not be booked until:

a. After the December 7, 2012 application deadline
   AND
b. The SAO has accepted the minimum number of participants needed to operate this program.

This advisory is given so that participants do not find themselves financially responsible for airline tickets should it be necessary to cancel the program. (See section entitled, CANCELLATION OF THE PROGRAM)

TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE: NIU recommends that all study abroad students consider trip cancellation insurance to cover items such as program fees, airline tickets, and travel-related costs in the unlikely event of withdrawal from a program.

LAND TRANSPORTATION: For program-related travel the group will travel by shuttle, van or taxi to and from the airport and via bus and train for field trips. Transportation for program-related activities is provided as part of the NIU program cost. (Refer to the Tentative Daily Schedule for specific details regarding other program-related transportation.)

Additional travel within Belgium for field trips and free time activities will be the responsibility of the student. Examples of travel expenses include:

- Bus fare from Kasterlee to the train station is €1.50.
- Train fare to Antwerp and other regional cities in proximity to Kasterlee is approximately €10.00 - 15.00 each way.
- Estimated total additional travel while in Belgium: €50.

MUSEUM AND FIELD TRIPS: Entry into museums or other related site visits will be provided as part of the program cost.

PASSPORT: --IMPORTANT--All participants are required to possess a valid passport by January 4, 2013. Important Note: U.S. passports must be valid SIX months beyond the intended stay overseas. Individuals who do not currently possess a valid
passport should apply for one immediately upon acceptance into the program. After January 4, 2013 applicants may need to request expedited services or apply in person at the Chicago Passport Agency. If applicants are not within the Chicago area, they must apply at the nearest passport agency.) Information on acquiring a U.S. passport is available at the U.S. State Department’s website: http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html. Foreign passport holders may need special visas for travel and are responsible for obtaining all necessary visas.

NIU MAJOR MEDICAL INSURANCE: NIU Student health insurance is required for participation in an NIU study abroad program. Participants not currently enrolled in the NIU Major Medical Insurance Plan will be enrolled by the Study Abroad Office. The NIU Major Medical Insurance Plan has a $250 deductible clause. Students requiring medical attention will be expected to pay any related costs and then file a claim with the NIU Student Insurance Office after returning to the States. Receipts showing payment for all medical expenses are required for reimbursement.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT I.D. CARD: The ISIC card is provided as part of the program cost. The I.D. card can provide discount on international airfare and other travel. Students will receive an application and instructions for obtaining this card when accepted into the program.

The International Student Identity Card also includes a limited health and accident insurance policy which is only valid outside the U.S. Students will have to pay bills at the time of treatment and will be reimbursed later.

| NIU PROGRAM COST: The program cost pays for the following cost related services: |
| 1. Accommodations (includes housing and bedding) while the group is in Belgium. |
| 2. Land transportation between the Brussels airport and the residency in Kasterlee and some program-related cultural activities. |
| 3. Admission fees to cultural and historical sites visited as part of the daily schedule. |
| 4. International Student I.D. |
| 5. NIU tuition for undergraduate or graduate credit. |
| 6. NIU major medical insurance. |

PROGRAM COST: $1,300

All prices quoted are subject to change. The information contained in the program documents and forms is presented in good faith and is believed to be correct as of the date presented. Northern Illinois University reserves the right to amend, modify, revise, or delete any information appearing in these documents, including but not limited to the cost of the program.
ADDITIONAL COSTS TO PARTICIPANTS:
- Airfare
- Cost of acquiring a passport (approximately $130, including two passport pictures).
- Additional costs associated with obtaining a visa for non-U.S. passport holders.
- Independent travel and visa costs associated with independent travel.
- Expenses for free-time pursuits.
- Expenses and purchases of a personal nature.
- Art Supplies (Approximately €50 – 100 (mainly paper) – all ink and chemicals are provided.)

FINANCIAL AID: As a participant in a study abroad program through NIU, applicants may be eligible for: Pell Grant, SEOG, Perkins Loan, PLUS Loan, Subsidized or Unsubsidized Stafford Loan, MAP Award or your privately awarded scholarship with consent of awarding organization. Tuition waivers do not apply. Please contact Pamela Rosenberg, International Programs Business Manager, Williston Hall 407, (815) 753-9530, prosenberg@niu.edu for more information.

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PROGRAM: Applicants withdrawing from the program after December 7, 2012 will not be refunded the $200 program deposit. Applicants withdrawing from the program after this date will also be held accountable for any funds obligated to overseas vendors and agents on the applicant’s behalf. This provision is in effect even if the applicant has not submitted the $200 deposit or additional payments, and if the applicant is applying for financial aid.

If the applicant must withdraw after December 7, 2012 for medical reasons, funds obligated on their behalf to overseas vendors can only be refunded if:

1) The request is submitted to the Study Abroad Office in writing and accompanied by a signed statement stating that travel is not advised from a physician on the physician’s letterhead; and
2) NIU is able to obtain refunds from overseas vendors and agents.

CANCELLATION OF THE PROGRAM: The Study Abroad Office reserves the right to cancel this program if the minimum required enrollment is not attained. If, prior to the commencement of the program, a U.S. State Department Travel Warning is issued for Belgium, all applicants will be notified promptly of the warning and the possibility of cancellation of the program. If, during the course of the program, a U.S. State Department Travel Warning is issued for Belgium, students will be promptly notified of the warning and the advisability of canceling the program.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ALTER OR CANCEL THIS PROGRAM AS MAY BE DEEMED NECESSARY!
TENTATIVE DAILY SCHEDULE

PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP IN BELGIUM

Overseas Program: February 15 – March 1, 2013
Orientation Meeting: Friday, February 15, 7:00 p.m., De Leeuw, Kasterlee, Belgium.

Week 1

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14
• Depart from Chicago

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15
• Arrive at the Frans Masereel Centrum in Kasterlee, Belgium, via Brussels (early afternoon).
• Housing check-in.
• Orientation – De Leeuw, Kasterlee, 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16
• Workshop begins. Introduction to studio and monotype processes utilizing the Mailander offset press.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17
• (Studio Closed)
• Field Trip – Antwerpen (visit museums and cathedral).

Week 2

MONDAY - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18 - 21
• Workshop meetings – 8:00 a.m. until noon.
• Afternoons and evenings – open studio until 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22
• Field Trip - Nationaal Museum van de Speelkaart, Turnhout.

SATURDAY - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 AND 24
• Open days – travel, work in studio, etc. (Remember, the studio is closed on Sunday).

MONDAY – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25 - 27
• Workshop resumes (8:00 a.m. – noon daily).
• Afternoons and evenings – open studio until 8:00 p.m.
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28
• Workshop (8:00 a.m. – noon)
• Group Critique and presentation of work – Thursday, 2:00 p.m.
• Clean up studio and apartments – prepare to depart.
• Group dinner in town (TBA)

FRIDAY, MARCH 1
• Depart for airport (early morning).

Photos courtesy of:
Map of Belgium: http://www.lonelyplanet.com/maps/europe/belgium/
Playing Card Museum: http://www.zoover.de/belgien/antwerpen/turnhout/nationaal-museum-van-de-speelkaart/fotos