

Psychology at its roots:

An exploration of the history of Western European Psychology

The overarching goal of this course was to provide students with a three dimensional learning experience of the birth of experimental and clinical psychology. The focus was on the emergence of psychology in Western Europe, primarily Germany and England.

To make sure no one was 'lost' in transit, we all met at the airport prior to departure.



We then flew from Detroit to Frankfurt, Germany and from there we took a train to Leipzig.



Figure 1 Group in Frankfurt train station

Our kickoff dinner was at Auerbachs Keller – A historic restaurant dating to the first half of the fifteenth century.



The course then ‘geographically’ traced the history of psychology. We began with a guided tour (in English) of the Wundt room at the University of Leipzig. Because the Wundt Room is small, our group went in two shifts. While half of us waited in a classroom, we discovered that lectures in Germany can look very similar to lectures at EMU!



Figure 2 Dr. Lauterbach giving impromptu statistics lecture

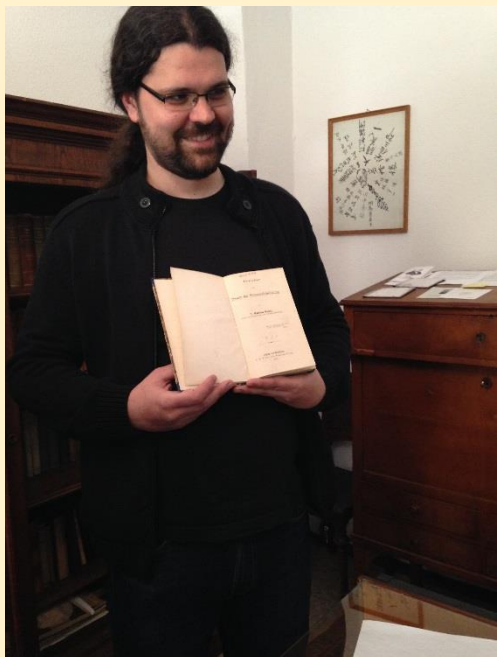


Figure 2 Tour guide in the Wundt Room



Figure 3 Portrait of Wundt and Plaster Casts of his Hands

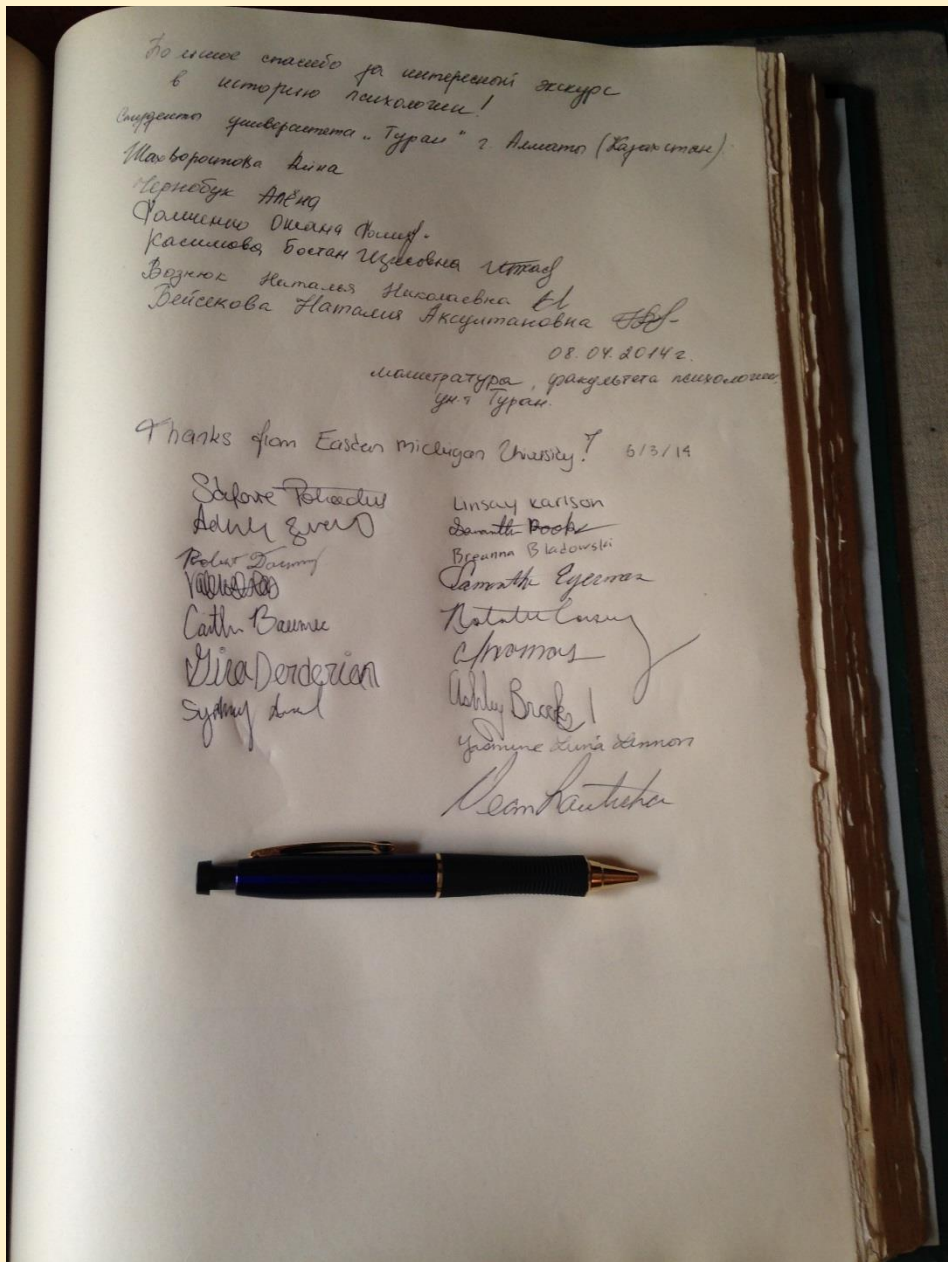


Figure 3 Dueling selfies in the Wundt Room

While on our visit to the Wundt Room, students had the opportunity to observe the original equipment Wundt used to conduct his experiments and even sit in Wundt's chair.



Figure 4 Bre sitting at Wundt's desk



Большое спасибо за интересный экскурс
 в историю психологии!
 Выпускная конференция "Туран" ? Алматы (Казахстан)
 Махвердиева Алина
 Мертебул Аман
 Фалимова Оксана Александровна
 Касимова Бостан Исмаиловна
 Везюк Наталья Николаевна Ел
 Дейскова Наталья Александровна

08.04.2014г.
 магистратура, факультета психологии
 ул. Туран

Thanks from Eastern Michigan University! 6/3/14

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Sofone Potachis | Lindsay Karison |
| Adriy Green | Samtha Books |
| Polina Zaynoff | Brianna Bladawski |
| Yulia | Samantha Eyceman |
| Caitlin Baume | Katrina Lunny |
| Dina Derderian | A Prommas |
| Sydney | Abby Books |
| | Yasmine Diana Amos |
| | Leon Kautisha |

EMU Students (and
 faculty) left their
 mark in the Wundt
 Room (at least in the
 guest ledger)

Figure 5 Guest ledger

There was also ample opportunity for students to explore other attractions, such as the memorial to the Battle of the Nations.

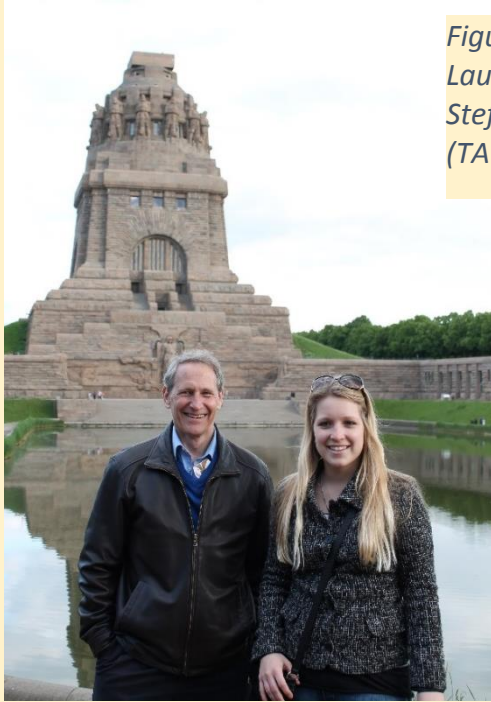


Figure 7 Dr. Lauterbach & Stefanie Poehacker (TA for the course)



Figure 6 Bucky Badger



Figure 8 Gina, Cassady, Lindsay, and Natalie

After about two days in Leipzig we traveled by rail to the Adolf-Würth Center for the History of Psychology at the University of Würzburg (founded 1402). We had a guided tour (in English) of the museum, which included the opportunity for students to participate in hands on demonstrations of early psychological experiments.



Figure 9 Sam looking through inverted image glasses

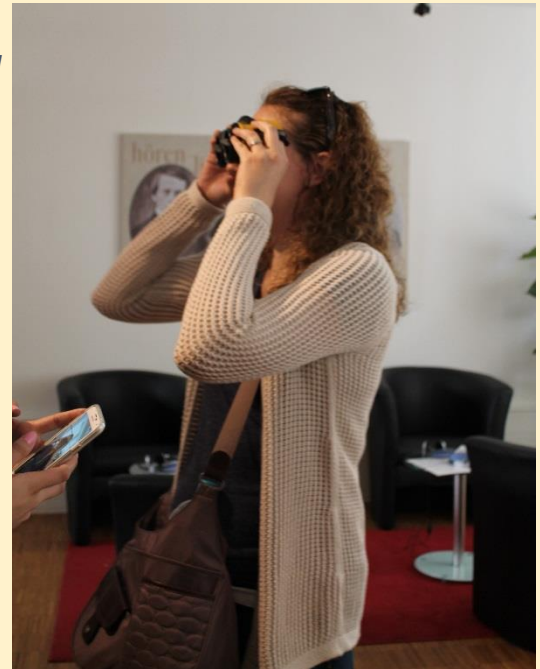


Figure 10 Yasmine looks on as our guide demonstrates resonance harmonics



Figure 11 Dr. Lauterbach lecturing in the breakfast room of a hostel



The city of Würzburg features the old world charm of Germany. Students had an opportunity to explore the Fortress Marienberg, the Alte Mainbrück (old bridge), and the Dom St. Kilian (cathedral).



Figure 12 Ashley on the Alte Mainbrück (Bridge) with the Fortress Marienberg in the background



Figure 13 Our tour guide/stand-up comedian Subhadra Das

Much of this early part of the course in Germany served to provide students with an immersive experience regarding the birth of experimental psychology. The next portion of the class was devoted to the birth of clinical psychology. For this we traveled to England. Our first day in England was spent at the Galton Collection at the University College, London (UCL).



Figure 14 Sam watching attentively as Subhadra demonstrates one of Galton's devices

The following day we traveled to the Freud Museum.

Sigmund Freud completed most of his important writings while in Vienna. However, he moved to London after the Nazi party's rise to power and the German annexation of Austria. Students had the opportunity to view these valuable artifacts of the origins of the talking therapy. The guided tour allowed students the opportunity to discuss Freud's life and work.



*Figure 15 Left:
Gina outside Freud
Museum Right:
Yibo entering
museum*

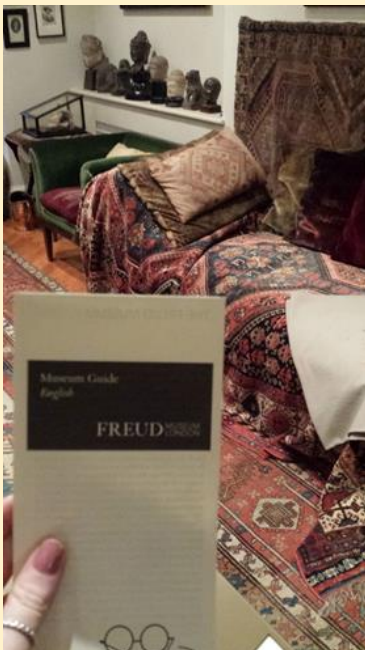


Figure 16 Freud's couch

Our next stop took us to Down House, the home of the famous naturalist, Charles Darwin. Down House is located on the North Downs of Kent, 16 miles east of Central London. This was one of the student's favorite attractions and many commented how they felt they now knew much more about Darwin the man, devoted husband, and father.



Figure 17 Above: slide from Darwin's house, Above Left: Back of Darwin's house, Right: Group photo with our spectacular driver





One of our constant companions was Bucky the Badger. Pictured at left Bucky is giving his approval of a restaurant we ate at following our tour of Down House.



In addition to the various course-related destinations, students had the opportunity to explore London!



Our capstone dinner took place at the Spaghetti House. The service was incredible and our server 'attempted to convince Robert to order his food in Italian.



This was the psychology department's first-ever study abroad program! It was over a year in the making and took the work of many people. Special thanks go to:

- Stefanie Poehacker – the course TA who was the fount of cultural information, our translator, and *invaluable* in the planning process
- Benita Goldman – the program coordinator and senior advisor of Academic Programs Abroad for her constant support before, during, and following the trip,
- Sharon Derrig at Conlin Travel, who made travel arrangements for the students incredibly stress-free,
- Sierra Iwanicki, Billy McCloskey, Ashley McConaughey, and David Phillips – my research team members who gave generously of their time as we planned the trip
- The instructors and faculty in the Department of Psychology who allowed us to present this course to classes including:
 - Dr. Jin Bo, Dr. Natalie Dove, Dr. Thomas Figurski, Pamela Landau, Chi-Mei Lee, Dr. Marya McCarroll, Dr. Kenneth Rusiniak, & Dr. Sara Wice
- The Honor's College for their generous support of several students who made the journey across the pond

Special thanks go to the students who were courageous enough to step out of their comfort zone and make this inaugural study abroad experience such a success.

THE NEXT PSYCHOLOGY STUDY ABROAD TRIP IS SCHEDULED FOR
SPRING, 2016

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO APPLY FOR THIS ONCE IN A LIFETIME EXPERIENCE