

# the **epic** ADVANTAGE

## **Student/Faculty Collaborative Research Experience**

### **EPIC ADVANTAGE: Hiking with Hadrian: Explorations of Border and Empire in Northern England**

**Dates: May 12 – 27, 2019**

**Credit: 2 credits (credit/no credit)**

**Leaders: Neal Baker and Maxwell Paule**

**Application Deadline: October 15, 2018**



## **Description of Experience and Research:**

We will hike the northern edge of the Roman Empire along the 84-mile Hadrian's Wall Path, crossing England from sea to sea. Constructed in CE 122 by order of Emperor Hadrian, the Wall inspired George R. R. Martin's *Game of Thrones* and looms as a symbolic touchstone for US-Mexico border control. The largest Roman construction ever built, it is a UNESCO World Heritage Site that marks the mythic Anglo-Scottish dividing line. Along the way, students will explore the affordances of digital storytelling and the politics of representing "place" and borders. Sites visited include Roman forts like Vindolanda and Birdoswald, plus Lanercost Abbey and the frontier town of Carlisle. The route ends near Burgh by Sands on the Irish Sea, now hypothesized as a prime contender for the location of legendary Avalon, and afterwards we will visit York – northern headquarters of Roman Britain – and Edinburgh across the Scottish border.

## **Faculty:**

**Neal Baker** is Library Director and teaches first-year seminars. He has co-led Earlham off-campus programs to France and Montreal, all of which involved media studies and production.

**Maxwell Paule** teaches in the Ancient and Classical Studies department where he studies Latin, Romans, and their lasting impact on the modern world.

## **Expectations for Students:**

Students must be able to complete daily hikes of moderate difficulty with light day packs at minimum distances of 8 miles and maximum distances of 14.5 miles. Prior knowledge of Classical Studies, the United Kingdom, or digital storytelling is not required but will be useful.

## **Learning Goals:**

- To pay close attention to aspects of "place."
- To explore issues surrounding creative choices that represent "place."
- To enhance your expression of ideas through images, spoken word, written work, and sound capture.
- To study the interaction between Ancient Rome and the modern United Kingdom.
- To consider issues of border, empire, and control - and the extent to which such issues have changed since antiquity.



**Dates of Experience:**

May 12 – 27, 2019

**Start and End Point of Program:**

Students will arrive and depart from Edinburgh Airport in Scotland.

**Application Dates:**

Applications can be received from students starting on Sept. 15, 2018. Application window closes on Oct. 15, 2018.

**Link to Application:**

Apply in Handshake.

**Preparation:**

Students will be required to take a 1 credit EPIC Advantage Orientation seminar during the Spring 2019 academic semester. This seminar will provide the necessary background and travel logistics for students to maximize the experience. Class meeting dates/times will be determined in the future.

**Student Eligibility:**

Rising Sophomores, juniors, or seniors are eligible to apply.

**Cost to Student:**

This experience is funded as an EPIC ADVANTAGE opportunity. Funding includes travel, room and board, and other expenses required by the program. Passports and immunizations as well as other personal expenses will be covered by students. Students who are accepted and withdraw after January 15, 2019 must reimburse the college for all expenses committed on their behalf.

**Program plans subject to change.**

**Program Policies:** <https://earlham.edu/academics/off-campus-study/program-policies/>