

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Mailed March 8, 1988

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Next stop, Moscow.

Participants of the Youngstown State University study tour of Russia may be hearing those very words during their 16-day tour of the Soviet Union from June 20-July 6.

As an introduction to the tour, a special program focusing on Russian culture, politics, art and economics is scheduled March 11, 12 and 13 by the two faculty members who will conduct the tour, Dr. Melissa Smith, assistant professor of Foreign Languages, and Dr. Kent Foutz, associate professor of Marketing.

It will open with a Russian dinner, complete with music and souvenirs, at 6 p.m. March 11 in the Cardinal Room of Kilcawley Center. On Sunday, March 13, there will be a visit to services at a Russian Orthodox Church.

A day-long seminar March 12 in the Buckeye Suites of Kilcawley Center will include lectures on Russian and Soviet history, culture, travel and government by Drs. Smith and Foutz and videotapes about travel in the Soviet Union. It will conclude with the Youngstown Symphony Orchestra concert in Powers Auditorium.

The entire program is open to the public and is especially recommended for persons planning to join the YSU study tour of the U.S.S.R. this summer. The cost is \$100, but half of this can be applied as a deposit for the summer study tour. Special arrangements can be made for YSU students, those who do not wish to attend all of the events, special guests, and tour members.

MORE

ADD ONE

For more information concerning the introductory program, or the tour, contact Dr. Melissa Smith at (216) 742-3463, or Dr. Kent Foutz, 742-1882.

The extensive tour beginning June 20 will focus on five major cities: Leningrad, Russia's second largest city; Riga, the Baltic sea port and capital of Latvia; Moscow, capital and showplace of Russia and site of the Kremlin; Kiev, capital of the Ukrainian republic; and Tbilisi, modern capital of Georgia in the Caucasus Mountains.

There will also be a six-day, optional tour of Siberia.

The sightseeing will be accompanied by regular seminars and meetings to discuss the cultural, historic, economic and political aspects of each region.

Since it is a study tour, participants may arrange for academic credit from YSU, although additional course work is required. Those interested in obtaining the undergraduate credit must meet all University requirements for admission.

For further information concerning academic credit for the tour, contact the YSU Office of Continuing Education and Education Outreach at (216) 742-3358.

Deadline for reservations is April 18.

The basic price for the tour, \$2,785, includes all travel from JFK terminal in New York to the U.S.S.R. and return, air and land transportation, rooms, meals, admissions, scheduled sightseeing and transfers. Tuition and fees will be charged those wishing to obtain academic credit.

MORE

ADD TWO

Dr. Smith, a Youngstown resident, has specialized in the study of the Russian language, literature and culture for more than 14 years. She spent two years in the Soviet Union as a student and as a leader for student exchange programs.

Dr. Foutz, who lives in Enon Valley, Pa., has been a professor of Marketing at YSU since 1986. He has lived in the Far East and England, and was a founder and director of the World Trade Associates of Denver, Colo., and a member of the International Trade Association of Colorado.

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