

**Bridgewater State University**  
**“Teaching in the Republic of Georgia”**

**Summer 2020 Travel Course**  
**Travel dates: July 10 – 23, 2020**

**Faculty Leader**

Dr. Nicole Glen      [nglen@bridgew.edu](mailto:nglen@bridgew.edu)

*Please email for application information, or with questions.*

**Blog of previous trips**

<http://stemingeorgia.weebly.com/>

**Course Registration Information**

3 Graduate Credits in ELED 571\* (elementary ed.)  
or EDHM 5XX\* (secondary ed.)



\*Participants must have prior teaching experience and submit a resume showing their teaching experience upon application. This travel course is specific to current or former teachers.  
*Application deadline is February 26, 2020.*

**Course Description:**

Teachers will participate in a two-week first-hand experience in the country of Georgia. During the first week of the trip, participants will co-teach with a Georgian teacher at Buckswood International School during their summer school program for English language learners. Along with teaching, the first week will include cultural experiences in and near Tbilisi, Georgia, including visits to Old Tbilisi, Mtskheta, Signaghi or Didnauri, and experiences at a supra and traditional Georgian dancing. During the second week of the trip, we will travel north to Kazbegi and west to Batumi and the Black Sea. During pre-departure meetings, participants will research and present key features of Georgian culture, including religion, geographical location, current and historical connections to neighboring countries, food traditions, and/or education.

**Historical Sites and Highlights**

Tours of

- Old-town Tbilisi,
- Signaghi or Didnauri,
- Kutaisi,
- Mtskheta,
- Kazbegi, and
- Batumi and the Black Sea



Supra (traditional Georgian community meal)

Possible meetings with representatives of US Embassy and/or Georgian Universities.

## Learning outcomes:

Teachers will:

- Collaborate with Georgian teachers to teach English language learners,
- Increase their knowledge of Georgian community issues, needs, strengths, problems, and resources
- Compare and contrast education in Georgian schools to their personal experiences or those they have experienced in US schools;
- Analyze Georgia's plan to develop existing natural resources for public use in view of workforce education, technology needs, availability of renewable and nonrenewable resources, and current infrastructure.

## Assignments and Grading

- |                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| ● Pre-travel Presentation        | 15% |
| ● In-country Teaching Reflection | 25% |
| ● Blogging/Journaling            | 20% |
| ● Professional Dispositions      | 15% |



## Program Cost

Application fee: \$25

**Program price: \$3500**

The program fee will never exceed the maximum amount advertised and program fee refunds will be issued if there are savings.

## Program Cost Includes

Airfare (from the east coast), accommodations, transportation and guides in Georgia, admission to cultural and tourist activities, and 3 graduate credits from Bridgewater State University. Participants will be required to bring sufficient funds for most meals (approximately \$300).

## Accommodations

We will stay in low-cost, clean hotels throughout our trip. Linens will be available at all places. While staying in Tbilisi, we will have access to laundry. Participants should expect accommodations to be double- or triple-occupancy, always with their own bed. Participants may have the option to stay with a host family during the first week in Tbilisi.

## Pre- and post-travel meetings

There will be **two mandatory pre-travel seminars**: Monday, June 15, 2020, 5-9pm, and Monday, June 29, 2020, 5-9pm. It is preferred that you attend these in person. However, accommodations can be made to join these virtually as needed.

Post-travel assignments will be due no later than Monday, August 3, 2020.

**Bridgewater State University**  
**“Teaching in the Republic of Georgia”**  
**Itinerary Summer 2020**

*(subject to change)*

<b>Friday, July 10</b>	Depart Boston
<b>Saturday, July 11</b>	En-route to Georgia
<b>Sunday, July 12</b>	Arrive in Tbilisi in the early morning Explore city Overnight in Tbilisi
<b>Monday, July 13</b>	Buckswood Teaching Day 1 Explore Old Tbilisi and/or visit to US Embassy Overnight in Tbilisi
<b>Tuesday, July 14</b>	Buckswood Teaching Day 2 Jvari Monastery Mtskheta Overnight in Tbilisi
<b>Wednesday, July 15</b>	Buckswood Teaching Day 3 Sighnaghi or Didnauri Supra for dinner Overnight in Tbilisi
<b>Thursday, July 16</b>	Buckswood Teaching Day 4 Free time and pack for second week Possible show or other cultural experience in the city Overnight in Tbilisi
<b>Friday, July 17</b>	Buckswood Teaching Day 5 Drive to Stepantsminda Overnight in Stepantsminda
<b>Saturday, July 18</b>	Kazbegi National Park Gergeti Trinity Church Overnight in Stepantsminda
<b>Sunday, July 19</b>	Drive to Borjomi Explore Borjomi and Akhaltsikhe Overnight in Akhaltsikhe

<b>Monday, July 20</b>	Vardzia Drive to Kutaisi Gelati Monastery Overnight in Kutaisi
<b>Tuesday, July 21</b>	Morning in Kutaisi Bagrati Cathedral Drive to Batumi Overnight in Batumi
<b>Wednesday, July 22</b>	Day in Batumi Black Sea Overnight in Batumi
<b>Thursday, July 23</b>	Depart Batumi Flight to the US