

## Application Deadline: 1 February 2010

(maximum of 16 participants)

To apply, detach and complete this form. Include a check for \$825 (includes \$50 non-refundable registration fee) payable to "NCHC Honors Semesters Committee."

Mail check, form, and brief description\* to

**Bernice Braid** ([braid@liu.edu](mailto:braid@liu.edu))  
**Long Island University Brooklyn**  
**1 University Plaza – Pratt 514**  
**Brooklyn, NY 11201**

*\*For on-line registration and credit card payment, go to [www.nchchonors.org](http://www.nchchonors.org).*

### Las Vegas/Death Valley: Death and Desire in the American West

**Registration Form:** Please type or print clearly.

<b>Name:</b>
<b>Institution:</b>
<b>Address:</b>
<b>Tel:</b>
<b>E-mail:</b>
<b>*Disciplinary Interests:</b>

\*Please attach a brief description of your interest in urban studies, themes of development and environmental or ecological pressures, experiential learning, visual arts, or related topics.

Enclosed is check # \_\_\_\_\_ for \$\_\_\_\_\_.  
NCHC Federal ID# 52-1188042  
Please copy this form for multiple registrants.



## National Collegiate Honors Council Honors Semesters Committee Faculty Institute



Death Valley NP – photo by Alan Van Valkenburg

# LAS VEGAS / DEATH VALLEY

Death and Desire  
in the American West

**16-21 March 2010**



Las Vegas Strip - PDPhoto.org

**This Institute is a project of the  
NCHC Honors Semesters  
Committee.**

## LAS VEGAS/DEATH VALLEY: DEATH AND DESIRE IN THE AMERICAN WEST

This Faculty Institute explores the built and natural environments of Las Vegas and Death Valley, contrasting the image and reality of these visually rich yet seemingly empty locations. In these superb venues for social, cultural, and natural exploration, participants will experience on-site exploration, readings of natural history, and analyses of literature and film. These experiences, combined with reflective and analytical writings and discussions, will provide a sense of the ecological and social conflicts characteristic of extreme landscapes.

### INSTITUTE AT A GLANCE

The Institute will begin in Las Vegas, move to Death Valley National Park, and then return to the city to complete a journey through space and time. Participants will investigate both locations through walkabouts, interviews, observations, mapping exercises, and reflections on these experiences through individual written reports and lively seminar discussions. The Institute will culminate with a workshop on adaptations of Place as Text pedagogy for participants' use on their own campuses and in academic travel programs.

### PARTICIPANTS

This Institute is designed for honors and other faculty and administrators who wish to incorporate interdisciplinary and field-based elements into their courses and programs. Participants from previous Institutes have used City as Text™ pedagogy in courses ranging

from literature to biology. The hands-on methodology, combined with reflective practices and writing assignments, have been adapted for use in student orientations, campus assessments, and professional development workshops. Identifying and transferring principles of experiential learning are important goals of this Institute.

### SCHEDULE MARCH 2010

**Plan to arrive in Las Vegas by 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 16, and depart no earlier than 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 21.**

Tue. 16 Mar – Arrival in Las Vegas. Opening reception. Overnight in Las Vegas.

Wed. 17 Mar – Las Vegas: City as Text™ explorations (The Strip, North Las Vegas, etc.). Overnight in Las Vegas.

Thu. 18 Mar – Las Vegas to Death Valley: Drive to Death Valley in the AM. Overnight in Death Valley.

Fri. 19 Mar – Death Valley: Place as Text explorations in Death Valley. Overnight in Death Valley.

Sat. 20 Mar – Death Valley: Discussion of Institute assignments and future applications. Final dinner and overnight in Death Valley.

Sun. 21 Mar – Death Valley to Las Vegas. Wrap-up of Institute. Mid-morning departure for Las Vegas. End of Institute.

### FACILITATORS & CONTACTS\*

**\*Bernice Braid, *Long Island University Brooklyn*  
718-488-1329 (braid@liu.edu)**

**Devon Graham, *Florida International University***

**\*Peter Machonis, *Florida International University*  
305-348-2379 (machonis@fiu.edu)**

**Sabina Thomas, *Baldwin-Wallace College***

### INSTITUTE COSTS

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:  
1 FEBRUARY 2010**

**COST:** \$825 (includes a non-refundable registration fee of \$50)

This cost covers Institute reading materials, instructional fees, some activity fees, opening reception, shared accommodations (double rooms) in Death Valley National Park, transportation to and from Death Valley, and final group dinner.

Fees do not include travel to Las Vegas prior to the Institute or from Las Vegas after it concludes, airport transfers, lodging in Las Vegas, most meals, or personal expenses.

### ACCOMMODATIONS

In Las Vegas, participants are responsible for accommodation costs and should book their room directly with the Institute hotel for the nights of March 16 and 17.

**Institute Hotel: SpringHill Suites  
2989 Paradise Road, Las Vegas**

To reserve a room, call (800) 321-2211 or (702) 433-5880 and ask for the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) rate: \$99 per room plus tax.

This guaranteed group rate is good until 1 February 2010. Participants may also obtain this rate for 21 March if they desire to spend an extra night in Las Vegas after the Institute ends.

Accommodations in Death Valley are included in the program fee.