Welcome to the UGA Summer Study Abroad in Southern Africa

*International Issues in Conservation*

WILD 5200-7200 (6 credits)

Instructors:
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**Course Objectives**

To familiarize students with issues in International Wildlife Management, and to provide a firsthand understanding of the natural history of the bushveld in eastern Botswana and South Africa. Also, to familiarize students with mammal, avian and reptile biology, including anatomy and physiology, behavior, ecology, evolution, and conservation. This amazing 28 days study abroad provides a firsthand understanding of the natural history of the bushveld of eastern Botswana and northern South Africa leading into an introduction to wildlife conservation. This course offers many opportunities and challenges when traveling to a foreign country. We will have at least 10 pre-trip lectures to familiarize students with place, culture, and the natural history of the study area. These pre-trip lectures are mandatory and will include homework assignments, quizzes, and exams just as any university course.

**Attendance and Participation**

Punctual attendance at all scheduled program-related activities is required, including group meetings, discussions, field excursions, as well as lectures and any other scheduled activities. Participation in educational field activities (such as hiking, snorkeling, swimming, etc.) is voluntary and at the discretion of the student; however, should you wish not to participate you must inform the instructor and an alternate education non-field activity will be assigned. An excused absence or decision not to participate in one or any of these field activities will not affect your course grade. During the field studies, no student may leave the group without the consent of the faculty supervisor. Unless an absence is approved by one of the instructors, students will lose 10% of their final grade for each day or part-day they fail to participate. Unexcused absences or chronic late arrival to program activities may be grounds for dismissal from the program (refer to the *Program Manual* for further details).

**Late and Missed Assignments**

Because of the nature of this course and the tight schedule, assignments are not accepted late without prior approval from the instructor.

**Academic Honesty**
All academic work must meet the standards contained in the University's Culture of Honesty policy (www.uga.edu/honesty). All students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. The penalties for academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) award of a failing grade for the course, suspension, notification placed on the student’s transcript of their having been found guilty of cheating, and expulsion from the university, and ignorance is not an acceptable defense. Academic dishonesty will be reported to the University Academic Policy Panel.

Special Accommodations

Any student(s) who require special accommodation(s) or other requirements in this course must contact the instructor within one week of the UGA on-campus orientation and register with UGA Disability Resource Center (www.drc.uga.edu). Some activities include moderate exercise, such as hiking and snorkeling.

Required Texts


Grade Assessment

Your grade will be based on a total of 300 points, split between one pre-trip lecture exam (100 points), a field trip journal (100 points) and one final lecture exam (100 points).

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

- A 93 –100 percent
- A- 89.5 – 92.9 percent
- B+ 87 – 89.4 percent
- B 83 – 86.9 percent
- B- 79.5 – 82.9 percent
- C+ 77 – 79.4 percent
- C 73 – 76.0 percent
- C- 69.5 – 72.9 percent
- D 59.5 - 69.4 percent
- F below 59.4 percent

Course Itinerary

Pre-Trip Lectures: Wednesday 6:00-8:00pm in Warnell, room 1-209

February 18th
Preparation/Equipment Supply List/Documents and releases

February 25th
Introduction to Botswana and South Africa, History of Botswana and South Africa

March 4th
Trees/Biomes

March 9th
Spring Break (No Class)

March 18th
Herpetology

March 25th
Mammals

April 1st
Ornithology

April 8th
Biogeography

April 15th
Pre-Trip Test

April 22nd
Final Pre Trip Meeting

Trip Dates and Field Labs:

May 20, 2015
Latest date students can fly out of Atlanta—earlier is fine, but you will need to make your own hotel arrangements.

May 21, 2015
Arrival in Jo’burg, transfer from airport to the hotel.

May 22, 2015
Leave Hotel by 7:00 am, arrive at Camp around 4:00 pm.

May 23, 2015
Botswana Bush Bonanza and animal viewing!!!!!!

June 5, 2015
Leave Camp for Karongwe, South Africa

June 6th, 2015
South Africa Bush Extravaganza and animal viewing!!!!!!

June 17th, 2015
Final Exam

June 18, 2015
Leave camp to Jo’burg, and end of the class. You will be dropped off at the airport around 4:00 PM and you may go to your desired location at your own leisure. Make sure your flight is at least 3 to 4 hours after drop off. Students may fly out late that evening (after 8pm) or may make your own arrangements to stay longer if you desire. The course ends at airport drop-off.