

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Fast Facts

Language of instruction	English
Language pre-requisite	None
Duration	Approximately three weeks
Term	Summer I
GPA requirement	2.50
Courses offered	FW465 or FW565
May Non-NCSU students apply?	Yes
Program Director:	Dr Werner Dörgeloh wgdorgel@ncsu.edu

The program

This three week program is offered through Fisheries & Wildlife Sciences in the College of Natural Resources, NC State University. It is an opportunity to visit and explore Africa through introductions to desert- and savanna ecology, African wildlife ecology, park management, conservation programs, field sampling techniques, international ecotourism and foreign cultures.

The program is structured around lectures, discussions and field exercises. Students will familiarize themselves with the flora and fauna of the different ecosystems visited, interact with staff from various organizations, and will be able to participate in hands-on learning.

Am I eligible?

The program is intended for upper-level undergraduate and graduate students, but students at all levels will greatly benefit from this program. Students majoring in wildlife management, natural resource management, ecology, zoology, biological sciences, tourism or any related field may apply. Students are required to have a GPA of at least 2.50. NC State students will be given first priority, but students from other universities are encouraged to apply.

Non bona fide students such as scientists, natural resource managers or persons working, or who are involved in one of these disciplines may also apply. Their applications will be considered based on their relevant qualifications, experience or activities in these disciplines, as well as the availability of seats on the program. Non bona fide students have to register with the study abroad office of NC State and have to participate in all activities like any other student in the program.

Which course should I register for?

Go to the online application homepage on the study abroad office website

<http://studyabroad.ncsu.edu>, select the post-acceptance questionnaire and complete Summer – Country - Final Course Selections. Select only one of the courses (see list below) being offered in the Summer I semester. You will then be automatically registered.

Note: You cannot register the course yourself.

- FW465 (501) African Ecology and Conservation 4 graded credits
- or
- FW565 (501) African Ecology and Conservation 4 graded credits

When will we go?

This three week program is offered during the Summer I semester and typically starts a week after graduation. For specific dates visit the Itinerary.

How will we travel?

We will fly as a group from the USA to the host country. In the host country we will travel in one or two safari-type vehicles depending on the size of the group. We will not be stationed in one base only, but will travel to various destinations throughout the country.

Do I need a passport or visa?

Yes, all foreign tourists to Namibia and Botswana need a valid passport. The passport has to be valid 6 months after your return flight. To apply for, or renew your passport visit the US

Department of State <http://www.state.gov>. US citizens do not need a visa for Namibia or Botswana.

Are there special health issues?

Please visit the Travel Clinic at NCSU http://www.ncsu.edu/student_health/Travel/travel.html or Travel Clinic at your own university, or see your general practitioner for vaccinations. It is important to receive your vaccinations or treatments as early as possible as some need to be taken a few months prior to departure. For general information about diseases and vaccinations visit the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention at <http://www.cdc.gov>

Do I have to be fit and healthy?

Participants should be in good health and reasonably physically fit. For example some activities require walking in the field which can be somewhat strenuous.

Where will we stay?

In the cities we will stay in a backpacker's lodge and chalets, while in rural areas we will camp. Two-man dome shaped tents (2.5m x 2.5m to 3m x 3m), mattresses and sleeping bags will be provided. You need to bring your own sheets and pillow.

Do we have to cook and what type of food will we eat?

This is a participatory trip where students are expected to help load/unload the vehicle and trailer, put up/take down their own tents, assist with preparing meals, and wash their own dishes.

Three meals a day will be provided, and although it is camp food, students refer to it as 5 star dorm food. While we stay in the cities, meals at First World standard restaurants are on your own account.

Will there be orientation sessions?

Yes, there will be five orientation sessions during the spring semester where we will discuss the program. A number of lectures will also be presented during these meetings.

What does it cost and what is included?

The program fee varies each year, but you can find the preliminary cost on the flyers (visit the notice boards in your department) or you can go to the Study Abroad Office at <http://studyabroad.ncsu.edu> Students will be notified by the Study Abroad Office of the final cost once the budget has been approved. The program is self-supporting and a minimum enrollment of 8 students is required to make the program financially feasible.

The program fee covers:

- tuition fee
- medical insurance
- pre-departure orientation sessions
- ground transportation in the host country
- accommodation
- all meals, except for some meals (refer to the itinerary)
- park entrance fees and special permits
- services of the driver/guides
- lectures and field lectures
- field exercises and excursions

Not included in the program fee:

- air ticket, airport taxes, departure taxes, transfer fees
- passport application fee
- pre-departure Travel Clinic or doctor visits
- pre-departure vaccinations
- travel insurance
- airport transfer if travelling individually and not as part of the main group
- personal expenses
- additional activities that are not part of the scheduled program
- customary end of trip gratuities for the driver/guides

Where can I find more information about the program?

Further information about the program is available on this website under Itinerary, Syllabus, Student Handbook, and Application, Registration and Scholarships. You can also visit the Study Abroad Office at <http://studyabroad.ncsu.edu> or talk to people involved with the program at the annual Study Abroad Fair, NC State University in September of each year.

Who can I contact for further information?

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