Education Abroad



Kenya

Behavioral Ecology of African Mammals (BEAM)

Semester(s) Available: Summer 2020: Dates abroad: 05/12/2020 - 06/01/2020

Minimum Credits: Six (6) for Summer 2020

Program Application Deadline(s): 03/01/2020 for Summer 2020

Scholarship Information: http://bit.ly/EAscholarships

Courses: ZOL490

Requirements: Minimum GPA 3.00

Cost:

Program Fee: \$4,425.00 Estimated Additional Cost: \$2,101.00 (Summer 2020)

Tuition is not included for most programs. See program's webpage for details.

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This program, offered through the College of Natural Science, focuses on the behavior of African mammals and the ecological variables that shape their behavior. Students begin by identifying and becoming familiar with resident mammals during twice-daily game drives. They then move on to making detailed observations of individuals and groups, and monitoring their interactions. Ultimately, students use a variety of techniques for systematic data collection to test hypotheses suggesting explanations for particular types of observed behaviors. During daily lectures, invited talks, and student-led discussions, students will address the scientific method and its application to the study of behavioral ecology, the effect of human populations on the behavior and conservation of Africa's fauna, and more.

The course focuses on the African mammals inhabiting four of Africa's most spectacular wildlife areas. The curriculum is designed to exploit the extraordinary richness and diversity of each ecosystem's mammalian fauna, as well as the ease with which it can be observed. Bush vehicles are used as mobile classrooms from which to observe the behavior of resident species, including lions, hyenas, cheetahs, giraffes, elephants, rhinos, hippos, and more. Students also have the opportunity to experience traditional Maasai culture and learn first-hand about its relationship with the Kenyan landscape.

More details about this program can be found at... http://osa.isp.msu.edu/Programs/kenmam.html

