Why Study Abroad in Africa?

Emory College Study Abroad programs in Africa fit perfectly with a major or minor in African Studies, giving you the chance to develop geographically focused international expertise and to experience first-hand the fascinating diversity of Africa’s 55 nations. Study abroad combined with the African Studies major/minor provides you with essential background and foundational skills for graduate work in the humanities and social sciences, as well as careers with NGOs, government and policy organizations, or the private sector in Africa. Many programs incorporate study and internships in health or development, making your experience in Africa one that prepares you for careers in global health or medicine with vital cultural contexts for future work overseas.

Both courses and language study abroad can count toward your major (9 courses) or minor (5 courses) — one preparatory course and a semester abroad put you well on your way to the major or minor!

Program Options

Semester:
- CIEE Ghana: Arts & Sciences
- SIT Ghana: African in the 21st Century
- SIT Rwanda: Post-Genocide Restoration & Peace Building
- CIEE Dakar: Language & Culture (Senegal)
- University of Cape Town (South Africa)
- Duke OTS South Africa
- SFS Tanzania: Wildlife Conservation & Political Ecology
- SIT Uganda: Development Studies

Summer - Emory Program(s):
- Emory Environmental Field Studies in Africa

FAQ for Study Abroad in Africa

Are there opportunities for independent research while studying abroad?

You must take one course about Africa to be eligible to study abroad on an African program.

How many courses taken abroad can count toward my major?

Typically two classes taken during study abroad can count toward the major/minor, pending approval by the Faculty Approver.

What classes do I need to take before going abroad?

As long as the student receives departmental approval from a faculty advisor for a directed reading or independent research course, such classes will receive a varying number of credit hours. Many study abroad programs in Africa encourage and facilitate independent study projects. Some programs, such as the SIT Uganda and SIT Rwanda require that the student enroll in a class devoted to the pursuit of an independent project as part of the core curriculum.

Student Experiences

Rwanda is full of the strongest people I have ever met. It was only twenty two years ago that this country was abandoned by the global community and went through a genocide where over 800,000 people were killed. Witnessing the beauty of forgiveness and the nation’s ongoing healing process has been the most influential experience of my life. "The Land of a Thousand Hills" is full of a beauty that really cannot be described. It is a beauty you can find in the people, the mountains, the culture, the language, and every experience you have there.

Seth Kal Iman Moskowitz '18
(SIT Rwanda: Post-Genocide Restoration and Peace Building)

"When I was deciding where to study abroad, I knew I wanted to go to a place where I would be pushed out of my comfort zone and immersed in a culture completely foreign to me. This experience was completely life changing in that it challenged my world view and perspective daily. Since I am extremely curious, adventurous, and love being outdoors, this program was the perfect fit for me."

Katherine Kaplan ’18
(University of Cape Town, South Africa)

"While I was in Senegal, I managed to experience a presidential election, hang out at a Pular wedding lasting 8 hours, and climb inside of the largest baobab in Western Senegal (there's a bat colony inside!). It was absolutely a worthwhile experience and I would recommend it to anyone who wants something different than the typical Western European study abroad experience."

Emily Chapman ’13
CIEE Dakar: Language and Culture Program