Study Abroad Proposal

African American and Diaspora Studies and the Global Education Office propose the addition of a direct-credit study abroad program in Stellenbosch, South Africa administered through CIEE. This proposal outlines the rationale for establishing such a program for Vanderbilt students and provides information regarding its academic and cultural benefits.

Rationale for adding CIEE Stellenbosch as a Vanderbilt-approved direct-credit study abroad program:

The success of the recently-approved Cape Town, South Africa program, the VISAGE program in Cape Town, and the Kampala Project through the Office of Active Citizenship and Service, indicate a growing interest in study abroad programs in Africa. The Global Education Office currently offers only one study abroad program in Africa during the academic year—a program which has not been able to meet the student demand for study opportunities on the continent. During the fall application process, four of the eight Vanderbilt students applying for the CIEE Cape Town program for the Spring 2008 semester were waitlisted due to the unprecedented increase in applicants for the program.

The CIEE Stellenbosch, South Africa would provide another option for students interested in studying abroad in Africa. The program is designed for a wide variety of students, including those interested in studying the political and economic challenges facing Africa and developing nations, the sociological and historical aspects of apartheid South Africa, and those seeking a cultural immersion experience in sub-Saharan Africa. It offers wonderful opportunities, in the classroom and in the community, for students interested in issues surrounding development, international relations, African studies, political science, history and sociology. This program is appropriate for students from all academic disciplines with a strong interest in learning about transformation in contemporary South Africa in a picturesque college-town setting.

Unlike the University of Cape Town, which is a large university in an urban setting, the University of Stellenbosch is a smaller institution located in a suburban area. The program itself accepts no more than 20 students per term (in contrast to 120 students in Spring 2008 at UCT). Participants study alongside South African students while taking Stellenbosch University courses and engage in the community through personalized volunteer opportunities.

Program Highlights:

- Community service and involvement through CIEE and campus-wide community service programs in Kayamandi and surrounding areas
- Wide range of course offerings in arts and social sciences and language and culture
Opportunity to live and interact with and study alongside African students in a society in transition
Independent study opportunities
Cultural and educational activities such as visits to local theater, music, and dance productions, museums, rural cooperatives, and cricket and rugby matches
Excursions to various sites of cultural importance in and around Cape Town such as the Cape Peninsula, the Cape Flats, Robben Island, and the Karoo
Volunteering
Habitat for Humanity project

Academics

The rich academic program built upon CIEE’s experience in the Western Cape since 1998 allows students to pursue their academic studies while providing first-hand knowledge of contemporary South African life and society. Students take a core course focusing on South Africa, in addition to enrolling directly in Stellenbosch University courses. Students also have an independent study option.

Afrikaans is heard both on the streets and in the hallways of Stellenbosch University. But in the spirit of change, English courses are growing in number, bringing opportunities for non-Afrikaans speaking students (from overseas and from within South Africa) to enjoy the rich academic tradition of Stellenbosch University. Students are strongly encouraged to enroll in either Afrikaans or Xhosa language classes in order to facilitate their interaction and engagement with the community.

The Resident Director, Bradley Rink, individually advises each student on the courses they chose at Stellenbosch. All CIEE Study Centers have a full-time Resident Director on-site who supervises and administers the program. The Resident Director also assists students with academic, administrative and day-to-day matters.

Before arriving to South Africa, students can peruse the CIEE website for courses available in English. The courses at Stellenbosch are taught in Afrikaans, English or “T”, which means that both Africaans and English are the language of instruction. Most “T” and Africaans courses have English parallel courses taught through IPSU (International Programs Office). Many of these courses are in Political Science, History, Sociology, African Studies, Art, Business and others in the humanities. It is difficult to find courses available for study abroad students in the hard sciences or education, although there are a few engineering courses are available. CIEE is partnering with UMN for Summer 2009 to create an engineering program during the summer which may be an option later for Vanderbilt students.

Students are encouraged to investigate courses of interest and Bradley Rink will consult with departments as to the language of instruction. Students must apply to each department for acceptance into the courses. Many honors courses are considered post-graduate in level.
Program Requirements

All students are required to enroll in Politics and Cultural Change in Contemporary South Africa, in addition to four additional courses for a total of five Stellenbosch University courses. Students may enroll in courses from the faculties of arts and social sciences; economic and management sciences; engineering; science; or specially-designed courses in language and culture for international students.

Credit

Total recommended credit for the semester is 15 semester/22.5 quarter hours and for the academic and calendar year is 30 semester/45 quarter hours.

Courses

Required Stellenbosch University Course

Politics and Cultural Change in Contemporary South Africa
This course contextualizes the contemporary South African experience and grounds it in African history, politics, culture, and identity. Lectures include discussions on a wide array of topics including: culture, ethnocentrism and relativism; tradition and cultural change; South Africa in the African continent; medical science, traditional medicine, technology and the human body; conquest and migrant labor; popular culture, sub-cultures, and rural/urban identities; Apartheid and its legacies, including urban social problems with particular focus on the everyday life in informal settlements; the State and South African intellectuals in the post apartheid period; and representing South Africa to the world. Contact Hours: 45. Recommended credit: 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours.
Instructor: Prof. Simon Bekker

Stellenbosch University International Programmes
These are specially-designed courses in language and culture topics relevant to South Africa for international students. The following courses are offered:

Afrikaans for Beginners
  Basic Afrikaans Level 1 (fall and spring)
  Basic Afrikaans Level 2 (fall only)
Economic and Development Problems in South Africa and Africa
Introduction to the South African Wine Industry
Overview of South African History
Public Theology in Post Apartheid South Africa
Southern African Music
Studies and Issues in African and South African Art
Xhosa: Language and Culture

Stellenbosch University Faculties
Students are advised that due to possible changes in the courses offered each term, they
should be flexible in course selection and not necessarily expect to fulfill specific major requirements of their home institution. A list of Stellenbosch University courses taught in English is available on the Stellenbosch University website at www.sun.ac.za/international.

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Department of African Languages
Department of Drama
Department of English
Department of Geography and Environmental Studies
Department of History
Department of Information Science
Department of Modern Foreign Languages
Department of Music

Department of Philosophy
Department of Political Science
Department of Psychology
Department of Sociology

Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science

Faculty of Engineering
Department of Mechanical Engineering

Faculty of Science
Biological Sciences
Department of Chemistry
Department of Mathematics
Department of Physics

CIEE Independent Study

INDE 3001 STSA/ INDE 3002 STSA/INDE 3003 STSA

Independent Study
Students who make the necessary arrangements may undertake an independent study. Students who wish to do so for credit must submit a clear statement of purpose, an explanation of research plans, a description of preparation in the planned area of study, a list of resources, a tentative outline of a final paper, requirements for grading, and a suggested schedule of progress. Permission in writing must be granted by the home institution before the student departs for South Africa. The number of credit hours granted is determined by the student’s home institution, but cannot exceed three credits. Upon receipt of the approved plan, the Resident Director meets with an appropriate faculty member and, after arrival, meets with the student to work out the details of the student’s project. The Resident Director also provides a course component on research
methods. Students may want to combine their community service volunteer work with their independent research. In some cases, students may be required to pay an additional fee (approximately $100–$300). Contact hours: Varies. Recommended credit: 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours.

This course listing is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a contract between CIEE and any applicant, student, institution, or other party. The courses, as described, may be subject to changes as a result of ongoing curricular revisions, assignment of lecturers and teaching staff, and program development. Courses may be cancelled due to insufficient enrollment. Syllabi for the CIEE courses listed above are available upon request.

Faculty

All courses are taught by faculty from Stellenbosch University.

Orientation

Students participate in an extensive week-long orientation conducted by CIEE and the University of Stellenbosch. Representatives from various departments on campus speak with students about culture shock, mental health resources, academics, health, safety and security, and other support services. Stellenbosch has adopted many security measures on campus, one of which being the “Green Route.” This path through campus is monitored 24/7 by campus security and is fully lit. Students are safe to walk on this path at any time, day or night. Because of the location of the university in a small town, there are fewer incidents of crime on campus or in the vicinity.

Culture

Cultural Activities and Field Trips
The academic program is supplemented by field trips and excursions to various points of interest around Stellenbosch and the Western Cape Province. Field trips and excursions may include the Cape Peninsula, the Cape Flats, wine farms, cricket or rugby matches, and a rural weekend stay.

The comprehensive cultural program developed by CIEE consists of visits to local theater, music, and dance productions; museum tours; and rural cooperatives. Events and activities are chosen to provide students with a good overview of the diversity in South Africa. Students are also encouraged to participate in the many social, sport, or cultural clubs at the University.

Immersion

Volunteering
The Community Service Program aims to provide students with personalized volunteer
opportunities in the historically disadvantaged communities around Stellenbosch such as Kayamandi. Such activities may include tutoring in local schools, assisting at local NGOs, working on HIV/AIDS projects, mentoring children in after-school programs, volunteering at women’s empowerment groups, and assisting with low-cost housing projects. Some recent volunteer placement organizations include: Peace Parks Foundation; The Watergarden Project; ISOS Kayamandi; and Children in the Wilderness.

Habitat for Humanity
CIEE has entered into a partnership with Habitat for Humanity which allows students to participate in building a CIEE-sponsored house in a previously disadvantaged community on the Cape Peninsula.

Stellenbosch

Situated in the Winelands district of the Western Cape, Stellenbosch is a university town of 60,000 people. Only 30 miles from Cape Town, Stellenbosch is a town where international students can quickly assimilate into the local culture while still having access to the many opportunities that the Western Cape has to offer. Like Cape Town, Stellenbosch is a mixture of First World and Third World. The oak-lined streets filled with whitewashed Cape Dutch architecture provide a comfortable atmosphere in which to engage in your understanding of the broader South African society.

One of the oldest institutions of higher education in South Africa, Stellenbosch University was founded in 1866 and is comprised of 150 academic departments in 10 faculties. With a student population of approximately 18,000 (12,000 undergraduate and 6,000 graduate students) and staff of more than 2,000, the University endeavors to contribute toward building the scientific, technological, and intellectual capacity of Africa while being an active role player in the development of South African society.
Vision

2007

Steinbosch University

Data in Brief

1. Student Fees (for the year 2007)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Fee</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic (educational)</td>
<td>R7 258 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic (non-educational)</td>
<td>R1 428 000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Library

- 400,000 volumes
- 9,000 journals
- 12,000 students
- 8,000 full-text databases

3. Research

- 10% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) invested in research

4. Language Policy and Practice

- Promotes African languages and English
- Encourages multilingualism
- Encourages the use of local languages