



Study in South Africa

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES



**CUSTOMIZED
FACULTY-LED
STUDY ABROAD**

WWW.AIFSCUSTOMIZED.COM

"I have been organizing faculty led programs since 2012, and the Cape Town program in 2018 was the best one yet. The staff members at AIFS were wonderful to work with, and they took great care to craft an enriching experience for myself and the students. The partners on ground in Cape Town were incredibly responsive, both in terms of program logistics (e.g., home stays, excursions, transportation) and more substantive matters (e.g., internships, culture shock, health and safety). I highly recommend doing a faculty-led program with AIFS - they truly are life-changing experiences."

Erin Mueller, Concordia University,
Portland, OR

STUDYING SUSTAINABILITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA



Academic integrity

Cape Town serves as an important starting point in examining the environmental, political and cultural factors impacting sustainability in South Africa and beyond. AIFS has recently supported a number of program itineraries similar to the one outlined in this brochure. We begin to develop your program by learning about your academic focus and the outcomes you have established for your course. We work with you to create an itinerary to include the sites you choose, while ensuring that the arrangements go smoothly.

Other academic themes in South Africa include history and politics, gender studies, criminal justice and service learning.



Experiential learning

AIFS seeks to engage students on faculty-led courses wherever possible. This means site visits and expert-guided tours are combined with events such as meetings at NGO's to examine current issues and proposed solutions to meeting the demands of South Africa's population with regard to water and other resources. AIFS can offer internships/service learning or volunteer placements as well as homestays in Cape Town with the collaboration of a registered non-profit organization; inquire about the feasibility for including these components in your program (as a minimum program length is required).



Collaborative

Whether you have previously led a program abroad or are traveling with students for the first time, AIFS will provide the support your group needs – with our goal being to offer a comprehensive program while working collaboratively to fully support your academic objectives and logistical needs.



YOUR VISION, AIFS EXPERTISE

AIFS Customized Faculty-Led Programs are formal arrangements with educational institutions which enable you to teach your course while we provide academic and logistical support, cultural activities, student services, classroom and housing facilities at a location abroad, plus student medical and fee refund insurance along with \$50M of liability coverage for your institution. This allows you to conduct your academic program at minimal expense and without the financial risk involved in making your own arrangements and commitments.

Over the past 50 years, the American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS) has provided cultural exchange and international opportunities for more than 1.5 million participants. We were among the very first organizations to support U.S. faculty with options to teach their students abroad; we take pride in our decades-long history and experience with faculty-led programming.

"I would highly recommend the services of AIFS to faculty planning tours that require a responsive logistics partner rather than a "do-it-all-for-you" tour company that doesn't really understand the nature of genuine collaborations. They have staff who know how to support a tour according to the faculty's artistic and curricular hopes and dreams, with professionalism, flexibility, and unflappability."

– Thomas Lloyd, Haverford & Bryn Mawr Colleges Berlin Program,

Below you will see a sample itinerary for a program focused on sites, visits and activities commonly requested for this topic. We know that faculty seek to include program components that allow for an exploration of sustainability in a number of ways and regarding a variety of resources. You may wish to tailor your itinerary; our intention here is to give you an idea of the range of programming AIFS can provide. "Customized" means that you can include the features you want while tapping our expertise to create an itinerary that means your needs, while also being cost-conscious. Our program fees are guaranteed in U.S. dollars so you need not worry about fluctuating exchange rates.

AIFS arranges study abroad programs in locations around the world. Ask about the list of destinations, and know that we are open to suggestions for new programming. Our network of on-site staff and resources in nearly 30 countries serves as a strong base for our customized programming.



South Africa Sustainability and Environmental Studies Sample Itinerary

Day 1-2

Arrive in Cape Town. Orientation, including safety and security, cultural adjustment and program overview, guided sightseeing tour of Cape Town by private minibus, traditional group dinner with drumming lesson and live entertainment.

Day 7-8

Tour and talk with an ex-resident at the District Six Museum. Full-day excursion to Langa Township with a local certified guide including pottery making experience and dance workshop with local school children.

Day 16-19

Garden Route Tour including 4x4 Game Drive, winetasting and vineyard tour, overnight on Myoli Beach, visit to Addo Elephant Park, Canoeing on the lagoon in the Wilderness Nature Reserve and hike to waterfall, visit to the Heads at Knysna, overnight in Oudtshoorn, visit to an Ostrich Farm, tour of Cango Caves, scenic drive along the famous Cape Route 62

Day 3-4

Site visit to Lynedoch Eco Village with a tour, talk and volunteering project and a local, sustainable lunch followed by a visit to Solms-Delta Wine Estate for a social history & heritage tour and wine tasting. Visit to the V&A Waterfront and ferry ride to Robben Island for a guided tour

Day 9-10

Guided excursion to the Cape of Good Hope including entrance to the Cape Point Nature Reserve and Boulder's Beach penguin colony. Tour and gardening/harvesting session with Oranjezicht City Farm.

Day 5-6

Hike up Table Mountain with a Ranger Guide including biodiversity and ecology talk on the Fynbos. Aerial Cableway ride back down Table Mountain, visit to the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, Talk on the water crisis in Cape Town and water conservation.

Day 11-15

Week-long Service Learning Placements with a community organization, including placement orientation workshop and post-program debrief session.

Day 20-21

Final day in Cape Town including farewell dinner, and departures

WHAT'S INCLUDED

→ Academic components

- Site visits to a selection of historical and cultural sites and organizations relevant to issues of sustainability and the environment; may include but is not limited to those featured in this sample itinerary.
- Guest speakers with knowledge and expertise or who have advocacy roles in promoting the sustainability of natural resources.
- Visits to museums, geographical and historical sites with relevance to the natural resources of South Africa and relevant environmental issues.
- Classroom (meeting) space if needed for faculty-led classes and discussions.
- Individual or group volunteering Service Learning Placements in a range of fields.
- Cross-cultural experiences to provide deeper examination to the host culture(s).



"The AIFS Tour Manager in Cape Town was absolutely fantastic. She was extremely professional, always one step ahead of the weather- making any necessary adjustments to the itinerary. She always went above and beyond. She even provided our students with a lecture on contemporary politics in South Africa!"

Jarret Lovell, California State University, Fullerton Faculty in Cape Town

→ Logistical components

- Faculty participation costs may be included in the student fee, or separated out if you prefer.
- Dedicated local AIFS staff onsite with 24-hour emergency support.
- Student accommodation. Options may include homestays, student residences, shared apartments, hostels or hotels.
- Cultural and group activities such as meals, tourist sights, museum and gallery visits, sporting and music events and food tours.
- Student medical and program fee refund insurance policies, as outlined in the AIFS insurance brochure. Coverage includes \$100,000 accidental death payment plus 24-hour emergency case assistance during the program and repatriation in cases of verified emergency beyond the students' control.
- \$51,000,000 liability insurance naming your college or university as co-insured.
- AIFS can also arrange an optional group flight with a minimum of 10 passengers.

→ AIFS commitment

For over 50 years, our aim has been to bring the world together by enabling students to experience different cultures and societies. With this in mind, our aim is for each student on our program to:

- Explore, connect and engage with the host culture in a meaningful way
- Develop skills including leadership, teamwork, critical thinking and intercultural communication
- Gain a deeper understanding and awareness of the challenges facing the host country and its diverse communities
- Build relationships across different cultures, ethnicities and religions both within their student cohort and within their host country

**Contact an AIFS representative today
or visit www.AIFScustomized.com
for more info**

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