

Summerterm '98 Offers Five Off-Campus Programs for SLU Students

Rachael Leiserson
A & E Editor

Still thinking about your summer plans?

How about getting involved in a program which combines adventure and academics?

This summer, St. Lawrence University will offer five off-campus courses through the Philosophy, Geology, Government and African Studies Departments.

In a letter sent to parents of SLU students, Donna Fish, the Associate Dean for Academic Administration, outlined numerous reasons why students should take advantage of these programs.

Not only could students enjoy lower tuition costs, make up credits, and gain practical experience through an internship, but the programs invite students to travel to Zimbabwe, Colorado, Asia, or remain in the North Country.

For students interested in Asian studies, the course "In Search of Asian Values" will be offered May 26 through June 19. The focus will be on topics such as the political

institutions, cultural traditions, the physical environment and religious institutions of Southeast Asia. Government professor Bob Wells will lead the program. The itinerary of the trip includes travel to Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and China.

For those interested in African Studies, a two-unit, interdisciplinary course will be taught in Zimbabwe from May 20 to July 2. Professors Louis Trémaine of the University of Richmond and Patricia Alden from St. Lawrence's English and African studies programs will coordinate the program.

The course will concentrate on nation-building, race relations and ethnicity, economic development, political culture and the preservation of environmental and archeological resources.

The program is packed with opportunities to explore African culture from language instruction in Shona to rural homestays. Two excursions are also included, one to a national park and game reserve, the other to the archeological site

of the Great Zimbabwe. The program also features an independent-study project on a topic of the student's choice.

Professor of Philosophy Baylor Johnson and Professor Laura Fredrickson from the Environmental Studies Department will coordinate the program called "In Pursuit of Happiness: Ethics of wisdom." Students who enroll will be part of an extended field trip to the Colorado wilderness where they will explore the dynamics of a community.

For nine days students will stay at St. Lawrence and then head out into the San Juan Mountains of southwestern Colorado for ten days.

Two geology courses will also be offered during the summer, "Getting Down to Earth: North Country Geology" and "Field Methods in Geology." The former is a two-credit course led by Professors Cathy Shrady and John Burnsall. Students will travel northern New York and the Adirondacks, to examine land forms, industrial devel-

opment and energy supply systems, among other things. Geology professor Jim Willemin will instruct the latter course.

"Field Methods in Geology" will provide hands-on experience as students collect and process geological data and samples. Excursions may be in the mines or quarries in the Adirondack lowlands, Adirondack mountains and southern Ontario.

Last summer, anthropology professor John Barthelme led a field course in Kenya last semester called "Archaeology in Kenya: In Search of our Ancestors." Barthelme referred to the program as a "joint course" because it was in collaboration with a professor at Kenyatta University.

Barthelme said the Summerterm course was a "wonderful program" because it is often "difficult for undergraduate students to get hands on experience" in archaeology field work in Kenya. The three students who participated in the program were taught to survey, make maps, excavate, and study the ge-

ology of specific sites. Barthelme said students "work[ed] 8 to 10 hours a day in 100-degree heat, actually learning and discovering things for themselves."

Although the course will not be offered this summer, Barthelme said "it wasn't a one-time deal" and plans on returning every second or third year to Kenya.

The success of programs like the one offered last summer in Kenya suggest that the five mentioned above will be a remarkable experience. More information about the programs will be available in the Summerterm 1998 catalogue, due out in the next few weeks.

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