
Expand Your Horizons in Kenya

*Dare to
go where
you've
never
gone
before!*

**STLAWRENCE
UNIVERSITY**

Setting

Kenya is a unique and varied land. The tropical Indian Ocean belt gives way to vast, semi-arid savannas that dominate 70 percent of the country and support several pastoralist populations. Central and western Kenya are densely populated with fertile agricultural regions. Cutting a swath through the center of the country is the Great Rift Valley, flanked by magnificent



Downtown Nairobi is eight miles from the St. Lawrence Study Center at Karen.

escarpments, volcanic massifs and the snowcapped peaks of Mounts Kenya and Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest summits.

To the west the country is bounded by Lake Victoria, source of the Nile River. The cosmopolitan capital city of Nairobi, rising from the plateau of south-central Kenya, is the home base of our program. Students will also gain familiarity with many of the rural

areas, in which approximately 85 percent of the country's population resides.

Kenya is a nation woven of many cultural identities and traditions, but it also has been strongly influenced by modern technology and westernization. Kenyans are enthusiastic and friendly toward Americans, and many speak English as well as Kiswahili.

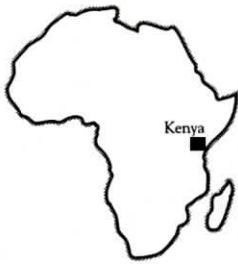
Curriculum

Students travel to Kenya at approximately the beginning of the regular St. Lawrence semester: late August for the fall, and mid- to late-January for the spring. Whichever term students choose, they will be in Kenya for about four months.

Whether matriculated at St. Lawrence or elsewhere, all students must take four courses to earn full-semester credit.

Required Courses

Students must register for two required courses: Kiswahili at the appropriate level, and an integrated field/classroom seminar that culminates in an internship, a field course or a pre-arranged independent study project.



Study in Kenya

St. Lawrence University's semester-long study program in Kenya offers a unique, multifaceted, intensive cross-cultural learning opportunity by blending classroom and academic field experiences. Students are challenged to broaden their views of the world and themselves by examining multiple cultural traditions and new values. Students of all majors are welcome, since the program is suited to a broad-based liberal arts undergraduate track.

The Kenya Semester consists of four components:

- **Classroom Components** offer courses on Kenyan peoples and cultures, problems of women and environmental resource management, literature, Kenyan history, sociology, and Kiswahili, the national language.

- **Field Components** are integrated with classroom work so that students learn practical approaches to biodiversity, sustainable economic development, and environmental and social issues in Kenya and Tanzania.

- **Individual Homestays** with different ethnic groups in rural agricultural, pastoralist and urban families provide direct interaction with Kenyan people and their families and present learning opportunities not possible in a classroom situation alone.



St. Lawrence students, right, meet with local elders at a rural village.



Paul Robinson leads a field course seminar discussion beside a tributary of the Turkwell River in the Pokot District of Kenya.

- **An Internship, Independent Study or Field Course** during the last month will help students put their semester's learning experiences to work in a focused context.

Most internships are developed after students have arrived in Kenya and have discussed, in depth, their interests with the program directors. Certain internships require students to have substantial academic or practical experience, especially in the sciences and business.

Depending on schedules and student interests, field courses are offered and taught by the program's directors. One course offered in the past analyzed development initiatives among pastoralist groups in northern Kenya. An anthropology field course introduced students to Kenyan archaeology with an emphasis on the integration of archaeology with human evolution. A field course on traditional African religions will be offered in the coming semesters. These courses allow rigorous investigation of selected topics of historical, cultural, religious or developmental import in a field context.

The two homestays and field study components ensure extended and continuing contacts within which to organize the many impressions gained from living in a new environment. The internship or field course complements the first section of the program by encouraging students to apply their experiences in a focused setting during a four-week period.

Elective Courses

The remaining two courses are electives chosen from among the following:

Anthropology 302: Seminar in Cultural Anthropology

English 348: Literature of East Africa

Environmental Studies 348: Women, Environment and Development
in Kenya

History 337: Introduction to the History of Kenya: 1895-Present

Sociology 326N: Critical Issues in Socio-Economic Development
in Kenya

Not every course is offered each semester. The curriculum in each term reflects the interests of the selected participants and the availability of instructors.

The teaching faculty are from St. Lawrence University, the University of Nairobi and Kenyatta University, and international organizations operating in East Africa. All faculty possess advanced academic degrees.

For research and study, students use the University of Nairobi library, where reading and reserve book privileges have been extended to participants in the St. Lawrence program. We also maintain a small but comprehensive library at our study center in Karen, a Nairobi suburb (see below). We encourage students to make extensive use of other resource centers and libraries in Nairobi.

Kiswahili is spoken by about 45 million people in eastern and central Africa. Although prior study of the language is not required, learning Kiswahili is one of the most important ways of gaining access to the people and their cultures. Students may choose one of the following:

Modern Languages 101:

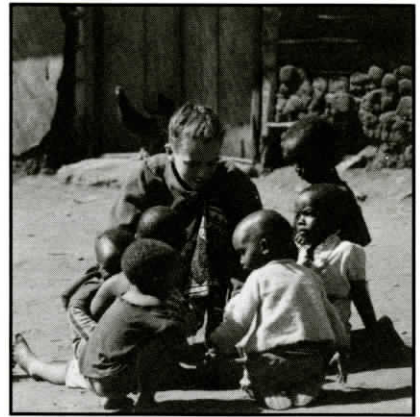
Elementary Kiswahili

Modern Languages 102:

Advanced Kiswahili

Modern Languages 289:

Special Topics in Kiswahili



During their rural homestay, students may take a moment out to play with some Taita children.

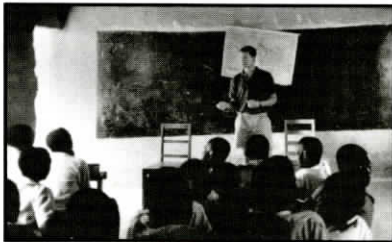
Integrated Field Study aims to help students absorb, analyze and synthesize diverse experiences while also pursuing projects of individual interest. It includes two major components:

1. Semester-long common readings, seminar discussions, individual projects, rural homestay (1 week), urban homestay (4 weeks), Tanzania and Samburu field study components (2 weeks each) and continuously-assessed field journals.
2. A major paper on the internship, independent study or field course during the final month of the program. Students register for one of the following:

Interdisciplinary Studies 337: Integrated Field Study in East Africa
(internships & independent study) *or*

Anthropology 448: Field Course: Belief & Practice in African Religions

In the internship students are placed with an agency or organization related to their interests for four full weeks. Opportunities for practical experience are extensive. Students have worked in teaching, general medicine, pre-



St. Lawrence students have the chance to teach English and other subjects in rural schools.

and post-natal care, specialty medicine, veterinary medicine, financial management and planning, marketing research and development, animal behavior, ranch management, ecology, geology, archaeology, aquaculture, rural development and land use. In each case, an effort is made to have the internship contribute to a project of importance to the sponsoring host, and, by extension, to Kenya's development.

Cost

The basic charge per semester is the same as the St. Lawrence comprehensive fee for a semester (in 1994-95, \$12,225). This covers tuition, room and board, and all program activities throughout the semester. It does not include airfare (approximately \$1,700 in 1994-95), fees for passports, visas, insurance (see below) and personal spending and travel money. In past years students' personal expenses during the term have averaged \$900, but this amount clearly depends upon the individual.

Insurance

St. Lawrence University's Accident and Sickness Insurance provides worldwide coverage and offers the same benefits overseas that a student would receive on campus or in the U.S. and Canada. They may also choose to have their own insurance or be covered under their family's plan. Students who do not purchase the St. Lawrence insurance must provide proof of coverage by another insurance plan.

Students who have had the accident insurance requirement waived on the basis of family coverage should consult with their family or insurance advisor to determine whether coverage is worldwide. If not, they should purchase the St. Lawrence University coverage.

Financial Aid

Since the Kenya Semester is a regular St. Lawrence University program, financial aid for St. Lawrence students is automatically applied. There is no financial aid offered to non-St. Lawrence students. They should check with their home university's financial aid office. An alternate source of funding may be found through the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE), which offers travel grants for educational programs in the Third World and other scholarships. Call 212-661-1414 for more information.

Additional information is available from:

Office of International Education
St. Lawrence University
Canton, New York 13617
(315) 379-5991

When not involved in classroom or field-based study, students are free to travel on their own. They must travel with at least one companion from the program, and the program staff must be informed of all travel plans. Extracurricular weekend trips may also be organized by the program staff, expenses being shared by all who participate.

Living Accommodations

The St. Lawrence University Study Center is located on 5 1/2 acres in the Nairobi suburb of Karen, eight miles from the city center. It's convenient to city bus lines, and transportation to and from the city is also provided by program vehicles. For the brief periods during which all students are together at the beginning and end of the program, and surrounding the homestay periods, they live in a large dormitory. The program director, administrative coordinator and field/operations coordinator and their families live on the property and are easily accessible. Linens, blankets and morning and evening meals are provided, as are weekly lunch stipends. Laundry services are included in the student activities fee.



One of the buildings in the Karen Center is this student dorm that can house up to 30 students.

Eligibility

Qualified sophomores and juniors from any accredited American college or university are eligible to apply for this program. Participants are selected from applicants who show by their academic and extra-curricular interests and their attitude that they will benefit from study abroad and that they are sufficiently mature to assume the responsibility required to adjust satisfactorily to the environment. Preference will be given to students who have completed at least one course with significant Africa or Diaspora content. An overall grade point average of 2.8 (B-) should have been maintained. An on-campus interview is strongly recommended; if this is not possible, candidates are expected to participate in a detailed telephone interview. Students on disciplinary probation are not eligible.